



# Lincoln University

## Econ 20A – Principles of Economics: Macroeconomics

COURSE SYLLABUS

Spring 2017

- Professor:** Prof. Sergey Aityan, PhD, DSc  
**Lecture Schedule:** Wednesday, 12:30 PM – 3:15 PM  
**Additional Classes:** Students are advised to keep Fridays, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM time open for optional additional classes if students need more explanations to catch up with the course. Most students will most likely need it.
- Credits:** 3 units (45 lecture hours)  
**Office Hours:** Monday 11:15 AM – 12:15 PM  
Wednesday 11:45 AM – 12:30 PM  
Students are advised to schedule appointments by signing their names on the appointment list which is located on the information board next to the professor's office that will ensure exact appointment time without waiting.  
**e-mail:** [aityan@lincolnuca.edu](mailto:aityan@lincolnuca.edu)  
☎: (510) 628-8016
- Assistant to the Instructor:** Olesya Agafontseva  
**e-mail:** lesechkin@gmail.com
- Textbook:**       **1. Supporting Textbook:**  
N. Gregory Mankiw (2014).  
*Principles of Macroeconomics*, 7th Edition, South-Western College Pub  
ISBN-10: 128516590X  
ISBN-13: 978-1285165905  
\*\*\* previous editions of this book are okay too \*\*\*

**Last Revision:** December 26, 2016

### CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Survey is made of American economic institutions; introduction to the methods of economic analysis, fundamental concepts, and discussion of current economic problems. The course considers institutions, national income analysis, money and banking, fiscal policy, markets, income distribution, and international trade. (3 units)

**REQUIREMENTS**

Continuous assessment is emphasized. Written or oral quizzes will be given every week. Reading and writing home tasks, problem solving, and “business case study” assignments will be made throughout the course. Students must complete all home tasks, other assignments, and take all quizzes, mid-term exam and final exam on the dates due. Zero tolerance to plagiarism and cheating is enforced. Plagiarism or cheating will result in grade “F” (with zero points) and a report to the administration.

**ATTENDANCE**

Students are expected to attend each class session. If you cannot attend class due to a valid reason, please notify the instructor prior to the class.

**EXAMS**

Both, midterm and final exams are structured as written essay to answer the given questions. Each exam includes six questions. The essay must be written clearly and easy to read, structurally with clear logical presentation of the answers. Graphs, charts, tables, and other supporting illustrations are required if needed. Examples to illustrate the answers are required.

Exams will cover all assigned chapters, any additional readings or supplementary materials covered in class. The final exam is comprehensive, i.e. includes the whole course. The exams are neither “open book” nor “open notes.”

Cheating in exam results in immediate termination of the exam, grade “F” with ZERO points, and report to the dean.

**GRADING AND SCORING**

All activities will be graded according to the points as shown below.

Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	F
Points	93-100	90-92	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69	60-66	0-59

In exams, every answer is graded by points from 0 to 100 and the total points for an exam are calculated as the average of the points received for all answers in the exam.

The final grade for the course will be given as the total weighted score for all activities according to the percentage shown in the table below.

Activity	Time	Percent
Quizzes, home tasks, and classroom activities	Every week	30%
Mid-term exam	In the middle of the course	35%
Final exam	Last week of the course	35%

If both grades for the midterm and final exams are “F” the term grade for the course is “F” regardless of the grades for other activities.

**MAKE-UP WORK**

Assignments are to be completed on time during the course. Late assignments will result in a reduced grade. Mid-term and final exams and group presentations cannot be made up if missed unless there is a documented emergency.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

Lectures		Topic	Chapters
#	Date		
1	18-Jan	(a) About the Course (b) Ten Principles of Economics	Ch. 1
2	25-Jan	(a) Thinking Like an Economist (b) Interdependence and the Gains from Trade	Ch. 2 Ch. 3
3	1-Feb	(a) The Market Forces of Supply and Demand (b) Elasticity and Its Application	Ch. 4 Ch. 5
4	8-Feb	Supply, Demand, and Government Policies	Ch. 6
5	15-Feb	Consumers, Producers, and the Efficiency of Markets	Ch. 7
6	22-Feb	(a) Application: The Cost of Taxation (b) Application: International Trade	Ch. 8 Ch. 9
7	1-Mar	(a) Measuring a Nation's Income (b) Measuring the Cost of Living	Ch. 10 Ch. 11
8	8-Mar	Production and Growth	Ch. 12
	15-Mar	Easter Break – No classes	
9	22-Mar	Midterm Exam	Ch. 1-12
10	29-Mar	Savings, Investment, and the Financial System	Ch. 13
11	5-Apr	The Basic Tools of Finance	Ch. 14
12	12-Apr	Unemployment	Ch. 15
13	19-Apr	The Monetary System	Ch. 16
14	26-Apr	Money Growth and Inflation	Ch. 17
15	3-May	Comprehensive Final Exam	Ch. 1-17

**OTHER COMMENTS**

- Please participate. What you put into the class will determine what you get out of it – and what others get out of it.
- Please come on time. Late arrivals disturb everyone else.
- If you miss a class, you are responsible for getting notes/slide printouts on the material covered from a classmate or the instructor.
- To avoid distracting noise in class, cellular phones must be turned off or the ringing mode silenced.
- Questions and comments during the class are welcome. Do not hesitate to ask questions – do not leave anything unclear for you.

**MODIFICATION OF THE SYLLABUS**

The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus at any time during the semester. Announcements of any changes will be made in a classroom.