

ECON 304: Intermediate Macroeconomics Syllabus

Instructor: Sayorn Chin

Fall 2020

E-mail: Sayorn.Chin@ColoState.edu

Office Hours: M/W 01:00PM – 02:30PM

Office: via Zoom

Course Webpage: <http://canvas.colostate.edu>

Class Hours: T/TR 12:30PM – 01:45PM

Class Room: via Zoom

1 Course Description

This course builds on students' previous knowledge of introductory macroeconomics in order to: (a) develop competence in using macroeconomic models to explain the determination of aggregate output, prices, employment, and growth; (b) analyze the impact of monetary and fiscal policy in the macroeconomy. Essential elements of the course are extensive references to current macroeconomic developments, as well as applications of macroeconomic models to current policy issues.

2 Course Objectives

By the end of the semester students should be able to develop competence in the following areas:

1. The measurement of GDP as expenditure, income, and output.
2. The measurement and cost of unemployment
3. The measurement and cost of inflation
4. The analysis of the macroeconomy in the short-run through the use of the IS-LM model.
5. The analysis of the macroeconomy in the medium-run through the Aggregate Demand/Aggregate Supply model.
6. The analysis of the macroeconomy in the long-run through the Solow growth model, and modern endogenous growth models.
7. The analysis of open economy macroeconomies and exchange rates determination.
8. The effect of monetary and fiscal policy.

3 Required Text and Course Material

- **Textbook:** Blanchard, Olivier (2017) Macroeconomics (7th Edition). Pearson Custom Business Resource Book, Pearson. ISBN-13: 9780133837995. Please note: **this is a custom book, and it will be available for purchase only at CSU Bookstore.**
- Course material will be made available through Canvas (see course webpage), and you are required to know such material.

4 Course Prerequisites

Principles of Macroeconomics (ECON 204) and Calculus (MATH 141 or MATH 155 or MATH 160)

5 Lectures

The class will meet two days a week: T/TR 12:00PM - 01:45PM Mountain Time (MST) via Zoom. **Instructions for registering for this course on Zoom will be posted on Canvas.** Students are responsible for the material covered in class, the material in the assigned chapters of the text, and additional material posted on Canvas. The Power Point lecture will be provided on the Canvas course webpage, and a link to the Zoom presentation will also be provided on the Canvas course webpage.

5.1 Attendance Policy/Class Participation

Attending lectures is encouraged because it is in your best interest. In order to encourage you to come to class, I will take attendance at the beginning of each lecture.

If for any reason you know you will not be able to come to class, please let me know at least one day in advance, and provide written evidence for any medical or family emergency that prevented you from coming to class. On the other hand, if you are absent and fail to communicate it to me without the required ex-post evidence, you will receive zero extra credit points (see below).

Class participation is strongly encouraged, because it raises the level of the discussion, resulting ultimately in a better learning experience.

6 Announcements and Communication/Office Hours

Announcements of importance to the class will be posted on Canvas. It is your responsibility, other than being in your best interest, to be aware of the announcements in timely fashion. This means that you must check the course webpage on Canvas periodically. Failure to be aware of announcements that results in missing parts of the required work for this course will not be tolerated

The **best way** to reach me is to send me an email at Sayorn.Chin@ColoState.edu. **Please do not send emails through Canvas**, because responding to emails coming from Canvas is cumbersome. Use your school email instead, and send me an email directly: this way, I will be able to get back to you faster.

I will have **scheduled office hours** two days a week, M/W 01:00PM – 02:30PM Mountain Time (MST) via Zoom. You are encouraged to talk to me regarding any issue you have in the course. If the time slot I allotted for office hours does not work for you, please send me an email, or talk to me in class, and we will schedule an appointment.

7 Required Work

This section lists expectations about contact hours, grading policies, weekly reading discussion posts, problem sets and exams for this class.

Activity	Contact Hours Per Week
Attend class	2.5
Read assigned readings	2.0
Discussion posts	1.0
Review class notes	0.5
Work on problem sets	1.5
Study for exams	1.5
Total	9.0

7.1 Grading Policy

The final grade in this class will be distributed from weekly reading discussion posts, and electronically submitted problem sets, midterm exams, and a final exam.

Letter grades are assigned on a straight scale: **A** is 90–100 percent, **B** is 80–89 percent, **C** is 70–79 percent, **D** is 60–69 percent, and **F** is 59 percent or less. There will be no curving of grades in this course.

Assignment	Frequency	Grade Percentage
Weekly Reading Discussion Posts	12	5%
Problem Sets	4	20%
Midterm Exams	3	30%
Final Exam	1	45%
Total		100%

7.2 Introductory Test [2% Extra Credit]

The goal of this test is to check how you master the prerequisites for this class, namely the material you learned in ECON204 and either one of MATH141, MATH155, or MATH160. This test is worth 2% as an extra credit. **This is not a part of the final grade.** The test will be useful both for you and for me. For you, because it will give you a sense of how much extra work you

will need to do in order to keep up with the pace of the class. For me, because it will help me better tailor the course to the level of the class.

7.3 Class Participation [3% Extra Credit]

You are encouraged to attend lectures and participate in the discussion about the assigned reading materials. I will usually ask questions to the general audience, and sometimes cold-call individual students on specific issues. Thus, you should read the assigned topics before coming to class. Class participation is worth 3% as an extra credit. **This is not a part of the final grade.**

7.4 Weekly Reading Discussion Posts [5%]

You must complete the week's required reading before class on Tuesday. To encourage this habit, students must post at least one well-articulated question pertaining to the readings on the discussion board on Canvas before class on Tuesday. You may, alternatively, answer a question posed by another student on the discussion board. We will occasionally address your questions in class discussion. **Students who choose to participate only on the final day that the discussion is open (Tuesday) will not receive full points since this sort of participation does not give other students sufficient time to meaningfully respond and generate discussion.**

7.5 Problem Sets [20%]

Problem sets are designed to prepare you for the midterm and final exams. A problem set will be posted on Canvas two weeks before each exam. It is due two days before each exam, except for the final exam (see the schedule section). I will post the answers on that same day for your reference. **You are encouraged to work together but you must submit your own original work.** There are four (4) problem sets in total. Each problem set is worth 5% for a total of 20% of the final grade. You must submit your assignment electronically; missing submissions by the due date will count 0 points. Missing assignments cannot be made up for, and you will receive zero points for all assignments you missed. You are responsible to keep hard copies, or PDF version of your problem sets for your reference. **No late submissions will be accepted, for any reason.**

7.6 Midterm Exams [30%]

There will be three (3) midterm exams consisting of 30 multiple choice questions each. Each midterm exam is worth 10% for a total of 30% of the final grade. **You must be able to provide written evidence of any medical or family emergency which causes you to unexpectedly miss any of the midterm exams as scheduled.** In case no such evidence is provided, and you miss one midterm, you will receive 0 points for it.

Tentative dates and topics for the midterm exams are:

- Midterm 1: Thursday, 10/08/20: Chapters 1 through 6.
- Midterm 2: Thursday, 10/29/20: Chapters 7 through 9.
- Midterm 3: Tuesday, 12/01/20: Chapters 10 through 12.

I will promptly communicate in class and through Canvas variations in the dates and/or the topics included in the midterms, in order to accommodate for the actual progress made in the class.

7.7 Final Exam [45%]

The final exam will be cumulative and will consist of fifty (50) multiple choice questions. The final exam is worth 45% of your final grade. **You must be able to provide written evidence of any medical or family emergency which causes you to unexpectedly miss the final as scheduled.** In case no such evidence is provided, and you miss the final exam, you will receive 0 points for it. The final exam will take place according to the university exam schedule, available at the **Office of the Registrar: Wednesday, December 16th, 2020, 06:20PM–08:20PM Mountain Time (MST).**

8 Make-Up and COVID-19 Policy

Makeup weekly reading discussion posts, problem sets, and exams are not permitted. The only exceptions are in case of documented medical emergencies (e.g. COVID-19) or conflicts with University sanctioned activities. In these cases, you must provide me with appropriate documentation as soon as possible. Except for the case of medical emergencies, make-ups must be requested prior to the due date.

9 Canvas Information and Technical Support

Canvas is where course content, grades, and communication will reside for this course.

- Login: <http://canvas.colostate.edu>
- Support: <https://canvas.colostate.edu/support>

For passwords or any other computer-related technical support, contact the **Central IT Technical Support Help Desk**.

- Phone Number: (970) 491–7276
- Email: help@colostate.edu

The **Technical Requirements** page identifies the browsers, operating systems, and plugins that work best with Canvas. If you are new to Canvas, quickly review the **Canvas Student Orientation** materials.

10 Academic Integrity and CSU Honor Pledge

This course will adhere to the CSU **Academic Integrity/Misconduct** policy as found in the General Catalog and the **Student Conduct Code**. Academic integrity lies at the core of our common goal: to create an intellectually honest and rigorous community. Because academic integrity, and the personal and social integrity of which academic integrity is an integral part, is so central to our mission as students, teachers, scholars, and citizens, I will ask that you affirm the CSU Honor Pledge as part of completing your work in this course.

11 Universal Design for Learning/Accommodation of Needs

I am committed to the principle of universal learning. This means that our virtual spaces, our practices, and our interactions be as inclusive as possible. Mutual respect, civility, and the ability to listen and observe others carefully are crucial to universal learning. If you are a student who will need accommodations in this class, please contact me to discuss your individual needs. Any accommodation must be discussed in a timely manner. A verifying memo from **The Student Disability Center** may be required before any accommodation is provided. The Student Disability Center (SDC) has the authority to verify and confirm the eligibility of students with disabilities for the majority of accommodations. While some accommodations may be provided by other departments, a student is not automatically eligible for those accommodations unless their disability can be verified and the need for the accommodation confirmed, either through SDC or through acceptable means defined by the particular department. Faculty and staff may consult with the SDC staff whenever there is doubt as to the appropriateness of an accommodative request by a student with a disability. The goal of SDC is to normalize disability as part of the culture of diversity at Colorado State University. The characteristic of having a disability simply provides the basis of the support that is available to students. The goal is to ensure students with disabilities have the opportunity to be as successful as they have the capability to be. Support and services are offered to student with functional limitations due to visual, hearing, learning, or mobility disabilities as well as to students who have specific physical or mental health conditions due to epilepsy, diabetes, asthma, AIDS, psychiatric diagnoses, etc. Students who are temporarily disabled are also eligible for support and assistance. Any student who is enrolled at CSU, and who self-identifies with SDC as having a disability, is eligible for support from SDC. Specific accommodations are determined individually for each student and must be supported by appropriate documentation and/or evaluation of needs consistent with a particular type of disability. SDC reserves the right to ask for any appropriate documentation of disability in order to determine a student's eligibility for accommodations as well as in support for specific accommodative requests. The accommodative process begins once a student meets with an accommodations specialist in the SDC.

12 Third-Party Tools/Privacy

Please note that this course requires you to use third-party tools (tools outside of the Canvas learning management system), such as Zoom and others. Some of these tools may collect and share information about their users. Because your privacy is important, you are encouraged to consult the privacy policies for any third-party tools in this course so that you are aware of how your personal information is collected, used and shared.

13 Copyrighted Course Materials

Please do not share material from this course in online, print, or other media. Course material is the property of the instructor who developed the course. Materials authored by third parties and used in the course are also subject to copyright protections. Posting course materials on external sites (commercial or not) violates both copyright law and the CSU Student Conduct Code. Students who share course content without the instructor's express permission, including

with online sites that post materials to sell to other students, could face appropriate disciplinary or legal action.

14 Undocumented Student Support

Any CSU student who faces challenges or hardships due to their legal status in the United States and believes that it may impact their academic performance in this course is encouraged to visit **Student Support Services for Undocumented, DACA & ASSET** for resources and support. Additionally, only if you feel comfortable, please notify your professor so they may pass along any additional resources they may possess.

15 Title IX/Interpersonal Violence

For the full statement regarding role and responsibilities about reporting harassment, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and the retaliation policy please go to: **Title IX – Sexual Assault, Sexual Violence, Sexual Harassment**. If you feel that your rights have been compromised at CSU, several resources are available to assist:

- Student Resolution Center, 200 Lory Student Center, (970) 491-7165
- Office of Equal Opportunity, 101 Student Services, (970) 491-5836

A note about interpersonal violence: If you or someone you know has experienced sexual assault, relationship violence and/or stalking, know that you are not alone. As instructors, we are required by law to notify university officials about disclosures related to interpersonal violence. Confidential victim advocates are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to provide support related to the emotional, physical, physiological and legal aftermath of interpersonal violence. Contact the Victim Assistance Team at: (970) 492-4242.

16 Religious Observances

CSU does not discriminate on the basis of religion. Reasonable accommodation should be made to allow individuals to observe their established religious holidays. Students seeking an exemption from attending class or completing assigned course work for a religious holiday will need to fill out the **Religious Accommodation Request Form** and turn it in to the Division of Student Affairs, located on the second level of the Administration building. Once turned in, the Division of Student Affairs will review the request and contact the student accordingly. If approved, the student will receive a memo from the Dean of Students to give to their professor or course instructor. Students are asked to turn in the request forms as soon as the conflict is noticed. Similarly, unanticipated conflicts requiring a religious observance, such as a death in the family, can also be reviewed.

17 CSU Principle of Community

- **Inclusion:** We create and nurture inclusive environments and welcome, value and affirm all members of our community, including their various identities, skills, ideas, talents and

contributions.

- **Integrity:** We are accountable for our actions and will act ethically and honestly in all our interactions.
- **Respect:** We honor the inherent dignity of all people within an environment where we are committed to freedom of expression, critical discourse, and the advancement of knowledge.
- **Service:** We are responsible, individually and collectively, to give of our time, talents, and resources to promote the well-being of each other and the development of our local, regional, and global communities.
- **Social Justice:** We have the right to be treated and the responsibility to treat others with fairness and equity, the duty to challenge prejudice, and to uphold the laws, policies and procedures that promote justice in all respects.

18 Diversity and Inclusion

The **Mission, Vision, and Focus** webpage of the Vice President for Diversity includes a comprehensive statement of CSU's commitment to diversity and inclusion.

19 Course Withdrawal Policy

Any student who wishes to withdraw from the course must submit a request directly to Division of Continuing Education. For complete information, please visit their website at <http://www.learn.colostate.edu/help/creditstudents/registration/drop-policy.dot>

20 Technological Requirements

All courses will require that students have online access and a computer. Students can check out an iPad from the library (**Library Site**) or use a computer in a computer lab. Exams can also be scheduled at the CSU Testing Center (costs about \$5/30 minutes/exam cost to CSU students).

The technology requirements for this course are listed below:

Hardware (see **recommendations from CSU**)

- A Windows or Macintosh computer with at least 2 GB of RAM and a fast, reliable broadband Internet connection (e.g., cable, DSL).
- Recommended computer monitors and laptop screen size be 13-inches or larger for optimum visibility of course material.
- Computer speakers or headphones to listen to recorded content. A webcam or other camera may also be necessary if proctoring services are used in this course.
- Enough space on your computer for install the required and recommended software and, save your course assignments.

Software (see **recommendations from CSU**)

- Web browsers: Firefox generally works well with CSU website (**free download**) or Google Chrome (**free download**).
- Adobe Acrobat Reader (**free download**).
- Flash Player (**free download**).
- Microsoft Office (**free download** through CSU).

21 Disclaimer

All of the information in this course syllabus is subject to change when deemed necessary by the instructor. Students will be notified verbally in class, via postings on the class homepage, or by email if such changes occur.

22 Schedule

Week	Chapter Topic	Graded Assignments
Introduction		
1	A Tour of the World: US, China, Europe (Chapter 1).	Discussion 1, due by 08/31/20 at 11:59PM (MST).
2	A Tour of the World: Basic Macroeconomic Variables (Chapter 2).	Discussion 2, due by 09/07/20 at 11:59PM (MST).
The Short-Run		
3	The Goods Market (Chapter 3).	Discussion 3, due by 09/14/20 at 11:59PM (MST).
4	Financial Markets I (Chapter 4).	Discussion 4, due by 09/21/20 at 11:59PM (MST).
5	Goods and Financial Markets Together: The IS-LM Model (Chapter 5).	Discussion 5, due by 09/28/2020 at 11:59PM (MST).
6	Financial Markets II (Chapter 6).	Discussion 6, due by 10/05/2020 at 11:59PM (MST). Problem Set 1, due by 10/06/2020 at 11:59PM (MST).
10/08/20		Midterm Exam 1
The Medium-Run		
7	The Labor Market (Chapter 7).	Discussion 7, due by 10/12/20 at 11:59PM (MST).
8	The Phillips Curve, the Natural Rate of Unemployment, and Inflation (Chapter 8).	Discussion 8, due by 10/19/20 at 11:59PM (MST).
9	Putting All Markets Together: From the Short to the Medium-Run (Chapter 9).	Discussion 9, due by 10/26/20 at 11:59PM (MST). Problem Set 2, due by 10/27/20 at 11:59PM (MST).
10/29/20		Midterm Exam 2

10	The Long-Run The Facts of Growth (Chapter 10).	Discussion 10, due by 11/02/20 at 11:59PM (MST).
11	Saving, Capital Accumulation, and Output (Chapter 11).	Discussion 11, due by 11/09/20 at 11:59PM (MST).
12	Technological Progress and Growth (Chapter 12).	Discussion 12, due by 11/16/20 at 11:59PM (MST). Problem Set 3, due by 11/17/20 at 11:59PM (MST).

11/21–11/29 Thanksgiving's Break

12/01/20

Midterm Exam 3

12/03–12/11 Final Exam Review

Problem Set 4, due by 12/11/20 at 11:59PM (MST).

12/16/20

Final Exam, 06:20PM–08:20PM (MST).
