

Principles of Macroeconomics

ECON 2020 - Fall 2015

University of Colorado, Boulder

Instructor: Prof. Giacomo Rondina

email: giacomo.rondina@colorado.edu

Office Hours: Thursdays 2:30pm-4:30pm, Economics 14A

Syllabus

Why are standards of living high in some countries and desperately low in others? Why do some countries have high rates of inflation while others have stable prices? And why does the inflation rate matter anyway? Why are jobs easy to find in some years and hard to find in others? Can policymakers do anything about it? These are the type of fundamental questions that underlie the economic and political debate both within and across countries.

The discipline of Macroeconomics provides a structured framework where such questions can be addressed and, at times, unambiguously answered. Over the next fifteen weeks we will cover the foundations of modern Macroeconomics and we will put them to use and try and shed light on important issues that although seemingly distant, end up affecting our everyday lives. So, let's get started...

[Welcome to Econ 2020, Principles of Macroeconomics!](#)

The rest of the Syllabus covers all the important organizational details. Further information if not specified here, will be given in class at the appropriate time

Logistics and Important Dates

We meet twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30pm to 1:45pm in room Chem 140. I will hold office hours on Thursdays from 2:30pm to 4:30pm (or by appointment if this time is inconvenient),

my office is in Economics 14A. Once a week you will also meet with one of the Teaching Assistants for the class during Recitation Sessions. Please check your

rst rate education through channels that complement and enhance the in-class learning experience.

University Policies

Econ 2020 - Class Schedule - Fall 2015

| Week | Date | Topic |
|------------|--------------------|--|
| Week 1 | Lec. 1 (Aug. 25) | Introduction |
| | Lec. 2 (Aug 27) | Review Lecture |
| Week 2 | Lec. 3 (Sept. 1) | Review Lecture |
| | Lec. 4 (Sept. 3) | Ch. 10: Measuring a Nation's Income |
| Week 3 | Lec. 5 (Sept. 8) | Ch. 11: Measuring the Cost of Living |
| | Lec. 6 (Sept. 10) | Ch. 12: Production and Growth |
| Week 4 | Lec. 7 (Sept. 15) | Ch. 12: Production and Growth |
| | Lec. 8 (Sept. 17) | Ch. 13: Saving, Investment, and the Financial System |
| Week 5 | Lec. 9 (Sept. 22) | Ch. 13: Saving, Investment, and the Financial System |
| | Lec. 10 (Sept. 24) | Midterm 1 (class time) |
| Week 6 | Lec. 11 (Sept. 29) | Ch. 14: The Basic Tools of Finance |
| | Lec. 12 (Oct. 1) | Ch. 14: The Basic Tools of Finance |
| Week 7 | Lec. 13 (Oct. 6) | Ch. 15: Unemployment |
| | Lec. 14 (Oct. 8) | Ch. 15: Unemployment |
| Week 8 | Lec. 15 (Oct. 13) | Experiment Quiz (class time) |
| | Lec. 16 (Oct. 15) | Ch. 16: The Monetary System |
| Week 9 | Lec. 17 (Oct. 20) | Ch. 16: The Monetary System |
| | Lec. 18 (Oct. 22) | Ch. 17: Money, Growth and Inflation |
| Week 10 | Lec. 19 (Oct. 27) | Ch. 17: Money, Growth and Inflation |
| | Lec. 20 (Oct. 29) | Midterm 2 (class time) |
| Week 11 | Lec. 21 (Nov. 3) | Ch. 18: Open-Economy Macroeconomics: Basic Concepts |
| | Lec. 22 (Nov 5) | Ch. 18: Open-Economy Macroeconomics: Basic Concepts |
| Week 12 | Lec. 23 (Nov. 10) | Ch. 19: A Macroeconomic Theory of the Open Economy |
| | Lec. 24 (Nov 12) | Ch. 19: A Macroeconomic Theory of the Open Economy |
| Week 13 | Lec. 25 (Nov. 17) | Ch. 20: Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply |
| | Lec. 26 (Nov. 19) | Ch. 20: Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply |
| Fall Break | Nov 23-27 | |
| Week 14 | Lec. 27 (Dec. 1) | Ch. 21: Influence of Monetary and Fiscal Policy on Agg. Demand |
| | Lec. 28 (Dec. 3) | Ch. 21: Influence of Monetary and Fiscal Policy on Agg. Demand |
| Week 15 | Lec. 29 (Dec. 8) | Ch. 22: Short-Run Trade-off between Inflation and Unemployment |
| | Lec. 30 (Dec. 10) | Ch. 23: Six Debates over Macroeconomic Policy |
| Final Exam | Dec 13 | 7:30pm to 10:00pm in Chem 140 |