



Econ 2301
Principles of Macroeconomics
Spring 2022

Instructor Information

Name: Nick Bergan

Email:

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Office Hours: M W F : 8 - 11 a m Or by appointment

Course Communication: I generally respond to course messages (course emails) within 24 hours, holidays and weekends being exceptions.

Course Information

Required Text

Text: N. Gregory Mankiw, *Principles of Macroeconomics, 9e*; South- Western/Cengage Learning (digital or hard copy).

Aplia Interactive Homework System: A web-based learning tool that provides interactive chapter assignments developed specifically for introductory economics courses. *Aplia includes a digital copy of the textbook and the Study Guide*. Therefore, physical textbook is not required.

The *Study Guide for Principles of Macroeconomics* is **optional**, but highly recommended.

Aplia will be explained further in the “Assignments and Aplia” syllabus section.

Textbook Purchasing Statement

A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Course Description

This course is intended to provide students with an understanding of important macroeconomic issues. It will analyze macroeconomic foundations, covering national income theory, economic growth, business cycle theories, inflation, unemployment, money and banking, and international trade.

Determination of Grade

Course Requirements

Assignments and APLIA

During this course, to complete assignments, you will be **REQUIRED** to register for Aplia, a web-based resource of learning tools and homework problem sets dedicated to students and professors of economics. To access the website, you need to register for an account with APLIA. If you are having issues, you will need to contact the Aplia Help Desk. Please register on the website by day of 3 of Week 1.

The homework assignments are critical to learning the course materials in economics. **You will not pass this course unless you keep up with the assignments.** Your assignments will be readings and multiple choice questions corresponding to chapters of the textbook. You can also access the digital version of your text book and study guide through APLIA. Completing assignments is required in this course. **It is your responsibility to keep track of the assignments posted on APLIA. If you take the assignment multiple times, I will only take the average of your attempt, so be careful.** You should pay close attention to the day and the time the assignments are due. It is NOT possible to make up missed Aplia assignments. After a due date for a graded assignment has passed, the assignment is removed from the site. A missing assignment will be counted as zero.

Grading Formula

Your final grade will be calculated as the following:

Aplia Assignments average for each attempt on each chapter	100%
TOTAL	100%

Grading Scale

The following grade scale will be used:

A	=	90 – 100 points
B	=	80 – 89 points
C	=	70 – 79 points
D	=	60 – 69 points
F	=	59 – below

You can find the end of chapter multiple choice questions and problem sets on Aplaia in the form of assignments in the “Practice” mode, please work through them to help review materials covered in the chapter. There are also practice materials for each chapter on the “Book Companion Site” for the textbook. You should also use the Study Guide questions as self-testing tools to prepare for unit exams.

The Book Companion Site can be accessed from the "**Web Links**" course menu link.

The grade that you receive in this class will be the grade that you earn. I **will not** raise your grade because you have a reason that you need or want a higher grade, so do not even ask! If there is a grade that you expect in this class, start working now to earn that grade, so you won't be disappointed in the end.

There is **ONLY** one assignment per chapter that you are completing in Mindtap. The other work is only for practice. The grade in Mindtap is not your grade as the grade in Blackboard is your grade.

Make-Up Policy

There is no make-up work allowed in the course.

Course Schedule

MODULES	WHAT IS DUE BY 11PM ON THE DUE DATE LISTED BELOW
Module 1	1. Read Chps 1-3 2. Aplaia Work for each assigned chapter – 1/22
Module 2	1. Read Chps 4-6 2. Aplaia Work for each assigned chapter – 2/5
Module 3	1. Read Chps 7-9 2. Aplaia Work for each assigned chapter – 2/19
Module 4	1. Read Chps 10-11 2. Aplaia Work for each assigned chapter – 3/5
Module 5	1. Read Chps 12-15 2. Aplaia Work for each assigned chapter – 3/26
Module 6	1. Read Chp 16-17 2. Aplaia Work for each assigned chapter – 4/9
Module 7	1. Read Chps 18-20 2. Aplaia Work for each assigned chapter – 4/23
Module 8	1. Read Chps 21-22 2. Aplaia Work for each assigned chapter – 5/7

*It is a tentative course schedule. The dates and chapter coverage of each exam may be subject to change.

Assignment and Exam due dates are listed on the “Course Schedule” in the Learning Modules menu link “Course Documents and Overview” folder and Course Calendar.

Aplia assignment due dates are also posted on Aplia in the “Home” tab. Please log into Aplia regularly to complete the weekly graded assignments.

*The “Course Outline” chapter numbers in the parenthesis () indicate the corresponding chapters in the *Principles of Economics* book, which combines the micro and macroeconomics textbook. Unless otherwise indicated, all the chapter numbers mentioned in the course documents and course content refer to the ones in the *Principles of Macroeconomics* book.

Attendance Policy

The flexibility of an online class is not to be confused with "independent study". Students are expected to "attend" classes regularly. Online students are expected to log on **at least** four times a week. Your attendance and participation in class discussion is crucial to your learning the materials successfully.

Withdrawal Policy

The instructor reserves the right to withdraw or fail any student due to inactivity, insufficient academic progress, disruptive behavior or academic dishonesty.

A student may withdraw with a grade of “W” (Withdrawal) prior to “W Day”. It is the student’s responsibility to find out the date to drop a class and take care of all necessary paperwork before the deadline.

Technology Outage

In the event you experience a technology problem, it is your responsibility to communicate immediately with your instructor and the DE department at College of the Mainland (COM). It is a good idea to make a screenshot of the error and email it to me as well as the Distance Education Helpdesk. Contacting COM’s Distance Education department can be accomplished by submitting a ticket anytime at <http://com.parature.com> or via live chat Monday to Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM whenever the college is open.

NetTutor Online Tutoring

NetTutor offers free online Economics tutoring via: live sessions with a real tutor, access to archived sessions by topic, Q & A submissions, and proofing and suggestions for papers.

How to use NetTutor: http://www.link-systems.com/~webmaster/flash/nettutorstudentdemo/Student_NetTutor.html

COM Students can access NetTutor by simply clicking on the NetTutor link in the course menu. No log in is required.

Student Success Tips

Economics is a science. Learning economic theories requires one to apply the theories to the real world by thinking critically. Therefore, economics draws on both analytical abilities and evaluative skills. In order to master this subject, you need to make a consistent and organized effort. Memorization alone doesn't work in learning the "economic way of thinking". Remember, learning economics is by practicing economics, practicing over and over again, learning to work with graphs and striving for understanding. Cramming for exams usually results in a poor grade. An online economics course is highly intensive and challenging. It requires significant study time every day. If you are having trouble, ask for help. The time to earn a higher grade is before the final, not after.

To keep up with the course coverage and learn the material well, you are expected to:

- 'attend' class regularly by reading the new postings on the discussion board and participate in the class discussion.
- read the text book! My notes only provide an outline of the course material, in order to fully comprehend course material, you have to read the book.
- read the assigned reading. There are questions and problems at the back of each chapter of Mankiw's text. The *text website*, the study guide (can be found on Aplia if you didn't purchase a hard copy) and *APLIA include* questions and problems. You should be working through these.

ask lots of questions, make comments, observe links between the theory you are learning and what you have found in the news media and in your daily life. That is one of the things that the discussion board is for.

ADA Statement

Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact Michelle Valdes at 409-933- 8124 or mvaldes@com.edu. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center. Appropriate steps will then be taken to assist you in your needs. <http://www.com.edu/student-services/counseling.php>

Early Alert Program

The Counseling Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Counseling Department. As student success and retention is very important to us, someone from the Counseling Department will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

Classroom Conduct Policy

College of the Mainland requires that students enrolled at COM be familiar with the Standards of Student Conduct, which can be found in the on-line Student Handbook.

<http://www.com.edu/student-services/student-handbook.php>.

Students should act in a professional manner at all times. Disruptive students will be held accountable according to college policy. Any violations of the Code of Conduct will result in a referral to the Office for student Conduct and may result in dismissal from this class.

Academic Dishonesty

Any incident of academic policy will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams is an extremely serious offense and will result in a **grade of zero** on that exam and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using someone else's words or ideas and claiming them as your own. Plagiarism is a very serious offense. Plagiarism includes paraphrasing someone else's words without giving proper citation, copying directly from a website and pasting it into your paper, using someone else's words without quotation marks. Any assignment containing any plagiarized material will receive a **grade of zero** and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action. Here is the link about ways to avoid plagiarism: <http://en.writecheck.com/ways-to-avoid-plagiarism/>

Concerns/Questions Statement

If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Department Chair, Stacey Henderson at 409-933-8212.

Core Objectives

Students successfully completing this course will demonstrate competency in the following Core Objectives:

Critical Thinking Skills – to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information

Communication Skills – to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication

Empirical and Quantitative skills – to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions

Social Responsibility – to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Table Mapping SLO'S, Core Objectives and Assignments

Student Learner Outcome	Connects to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Explain the role of scarcity, specialization, opportunity cost, and cost/benefit analysis in economic decision making.	Critical Thinking /Empirical and Quantitative Skills	Aplia Work
2. Identify the determinants of supply and demand; demonstrate the impact of shifts in both market supply and demand curves on equilibrium price and output.	Critical Thinking /Empirical and Quantitative Skills	Aplia Work
3. Define and measure national income and rates of unemployment and inflation.	Empirical and Quantitative Skills	Aplia Work
4. Identify the phases of the business cycle and the problems caused by	Critical Thinking /Empirical and Quantitative Skills	Aplia Work

cyclical fluctuations in the market economy.		
5. Define money and the money supply; describe the process of money creation by the banking system and the role of the central bank.	Critical Thinking /Empirical and Quantitative Skills	Aplia Work
6. Construct the aggregate demand and aggregate supply model of the macro economy and use it to illustrate macroeconomic problems and potential monetary and fiscal policy solutions.	Critical Thinking	Aplia Work
7. Explain the mechanics and institutions of international trade and their impact on the macro economy.	Empirical and Quantitative Skills	Aplia Work
8. Define economic growth and identify sources of economic growth.	Critical Thinking /Empirical and Quantitative Skills	Aplia Work
9. (CS1) Develop, interpret, and express ideas through written communication.	Communication Skills (CS1)	Discussions
10. (SR) Demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.	Social Responsibility	Discussions

