

Economics 3 – Principles of Macroeconomics

Fall 2011

Tue, Thu 12:30 - 1:50 pm, Solis Hall 107

Instructor:

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Teaching Assistants

Charles Lin chl083@ucsd.edu
Discussion Section: Wed 4:00 - 4:50 pm
(Warren Lecture Hall 2111)
Office Hours: Tue 2-3 pm (Econ 124)

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Discussion Section: Fri 11:00 - 11:50 am
(Peterson Hall 104)
Office Hours: Thu 4-5 pm (Econ 126)

Christian Constandse chconsta@ucsd.edu
Discussion Section: Wed 5:00 - 5:50 pm
(Warren Lecture Hall 2111)
Office Hours: Mon 10-11 am (Seq 232)

Martin Tobal mtobal@ucsd.edu
Discussion Section: Fri 12:00 - 12:50 pm
(Peterson Hall 104)
Office Hours: Fri 9-10 am (Seq 232)

Course Description

Econ 3 is a sequel to Econ 1. The objective of this course is to give students the tools to help them answer questions such as: What causes recessions? What determines how much a country grows? Why do US households save so little?

Course Materials

Textbook: "Principles of Economics" by Robert H. Frank and Ben S. Bernanke, Fourth Edition, McGraw-Hill .
There is a UCSD custom version of this textbook available at the UCSD Bookstore. The UCSD custom is identical to the 4th edition in every way except that it has the indifference curve appendix added, has a different cover, and is cheaper.

Aplia Website: During this course, to complete your homework assignments, you will be required to access a website called Aplia. To access the website, you need to register for an account with Aplia at <http://www.aplia.com>. You should do this as soon as possible, as homework will soon be due. If you think you might drop the course, go ahead and register with Aplia anyway, since there is a 21-day grace period before you have to pay. In the last page of this syllabus, you will find an instruction sheet as well as a course key so that you can register with Aplia.

Course Webpage: We will use the Aplia website as our course webpage. The course webpage will contain information relevant to the course, such as homework assignments, detailed information on assignment due dates, extra practice problem sets, announcements, solutions to problem sets and exams, syllabus, and more. Please check this page regularly.

Add/Drop Policy

The instructor will not sign add cards. For any question regarding waitlist procedures, please check Triton Link or go to the Economics Student Services in Sequoyah Hall 245.

My Expectations

1. It is important to come to every lecture. If you should miss a class, it is your responsibility to get the notes and any information provided in class. There are weekly discussion sections for this course. They are not mandatory. However, it is strongly recommended you attend them since the TAs will go over practice problems, the kind of problems you will encounter on exams. Discussion sessions start the week of September 26th.
2. You are expected to keep up with the required reading on your own.
3. Complete all your homework assignments. Remember, homework is assigned to assist you in studying, and a way for you to check if you understand the material.

Grading

Homework Assignments
2 Midterm Exams
Final Exam

Homework: All homework assignments are worth the same, regardless of the number of questions in them. The normalized score for each assignment is the percentage of correct answers. The homework grade is computed by taking an average of the (normalized) scores of assignments, after dropping the **three** lowest scores. Be aware that participation in any class experiments we might have is also considered a homework assignment.

Exams: The midterm exams are scheduled to **Tuesday, October 18th**, and **Thursday, November 10th**, at lecture time. The final exam will take place on **Friday, December 9th** from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm and will be cumulative. The questions asked on exams will be based on lectures, textbook reading and assigned or practice problems.

Course Grade: We will calculate for each student one point total that puts a weight of 20% on homework assignments, 20% on the first midterm exam, 20% on the second midterm exam, and 40% on the final. We will then calculate a second point total that puts the weight on 20% on homework assignments, 20% on the best of the two midterm exams, and 60% on the final. Student's grade will be based on the higher of the two numbers. There are no make-up exams – a missed midterm exam automatically commits a student to the second option. The overall course grade will be curved. In general, the class average corresponds to the lowest B-.

Topic Outline

Part 6: Macroeconomics: Issues and Data

Chapter 16: Spending, Income and GDP
Chapter 17: Inflation and the Price Level
Chapter 18: Wages and Unemployment

Part 7: The Economy in the Long-Run

Chapter 19: Economic Growth
Chapter 20: Savings, Capital Formation, and Financial Markets
Chapter 21: The Financial System, Money, and Prices

Part 8: The Economy in the Short-Run

Chapter 22: Short-Term Fluctuations
Chapter 23: Spending and Output in the Short Run
Chapter 24: Stabilizing the Economy: The Role of the Federal Reserve
Chapter 25: Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply
Chapter 26: Macroeconomic Policy

Part 9: International Economy

Chapter 27: Exchange Rates and the Open Economy
Chapter 28: International Capital Flows (p. 824-831)

How to access your Aplia course

Econ 3, Fall 2011

Instructor: Maria Teresa Candido

Start Date: 09/22/2011

Course Key: 5FLP-WLGV-K8YC

Registration

1. Connect to <http://www.aplia.com/>
2. **If you already have an account, sign in.** Go to your My Courses page, and click the *Enroll in a New Course* button.
If you don't have an account, click the *Create a New Account* button, and choose *Student Account*.
3. Enter your Course Key when prompted: **5FLP-WLGV-K8YC**. Continue to follow the on-screen instructions to access your course.

Payment

Bookstore: In general, you can purchase access to Aplia from your bookstore, or directly online using a credit card. Your instructor will give you more information about payment.

If you choose to pay later, you can use Aplia without paying until 11:59 PM on 10/12/2011.