

BOSTON COLLEGE
Department of Economics

EC 132.04; Spring 2008
Principles of Economics II – Macroeconomics
MWF 9; Campion 231;
<http://www2.bc.edu/~djeliov/teaching.htm>

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Office Hours: Wed 12-2,
and Fri 11-1 by appt only.

Syllabus

Text: Samuelson, Paul A., and Nordhaus, William D., Macroeconomics, 18th ed., 2004 (paperback), **or** Economics, 18th ed., 2004 (hardcover).

Course Grading:

Midterm Exam I (20%)
Midterm Exam II (25%)
Final Exam (40%), on **May 9 at 9 am**
Problem sets and class participation (15%)

Course Organization and Expectations:

This is an introductory course in Macroeconomics and we will cover basic topics such as the analysis of national income, employment, income fluctuation, monetary and fiscal policy, inflation, growth, and international economics. You are expected to read the text carefully, attend all classes, work through the problem sets, and take the exams. If you have questions, feel free to email at any time, or stop by my office on Wednesdays (12 – 2 pm). If you need to see me on a Friday (11 am – 1 pm), you **must** make an appointment – email me by 6 pm on Thursday. I will also hold extra office hours before exams.

Make sure you are familiar with the policies on "Academic Integrity" at Boston College that are posted at <http://www.bc.edu/integrity>, and be aware that your instructor takes these issues most seriously.

Problem sets will be handed out in class one week before they are due, usually on Fridays, and can be turned in by the beginning of class on the due date. No late submissions will be accepted. You may work together on the problem sets, but you cannot simply copy the work from someone else, so you have to come up with own answers before turning them in.

Your work on exams is to be entirely your own. No electronic devices such as cell phones, PDAs, mp3 players, or graphing calculators will be permitted on exams – a simple calculator is the most you will need to solve exam questions. There will be **no make-up exams**. If you have to miss an exam for a legitimate reason, let me know immediately by phone or email, and you will be graded on the other exam, the final, and the problem sets. If you do poorly on one mid-term but consistently well on the other one, the final exam, and the problem sets, the one poor exam will be discounted (but not completely ignored). If you need more time on exams because of a disability, please, provide a letter to that effect from the Dean of your school.

Finally, I will assume that you have had a course in Principles of Economics I - Micro. By very early in the course you will need to know the concepts of the production-possibility frontier, supply and demand curves, etc. (covered in chapters 1-3 of the text), which we will briefly discuss in the first days of class.

Tentative Course Outline*

Date	Topics	Text Assignment	
		Paperback	Hardcover
Jan 14	Course Introduction and Background	Ch. 1,2,3	Ch. 1,2,3
	Overview of Macroeconomics	Ch. 4	Ch. 20
	Measuring Economic Activity	Ch. 5	Ch. 21
	Consumption and Investment	Ch. 6	Ch. 22
	Business Cycles and Aggregate Demand	Ch. 7	Ch. 23
Feb 13	The Multiplier Model	Ch. 8	Ch. 24
Feb 15	Midterm Exam I		
Feb 18	Financial Markets and Money	Ch. 9	Ch. 25
	Central Banking and Monetary Policy	Ch. 10	Ch. 26
	Unemployment and Aggregate Supply	Ch. 15	Ch. 31
	Ensuring Price Stability	Ch. 16	Ch. 32
Mar 28	Policies for Growth and Stability	Ch. 18	Ch. 34
Apr 2	Midterm Exam II		
Apr 4	Exchange Rates and the Int'l Financial System	Ch. 13	Ch. 29
	Open Economy Macroeconomics	Ch. 14	Ch. 30
	The Process of Economic Growth	Ch. 11	Ch. 27
	Economic Development	Ch. 12 A	Ch. 28 A
	Schools of Macroeconomics	Ch. 17 B,C	Ch. 33 B, C
Apr 30	Summary and Review		
May 9	Final Exam (Cumulative), 9 am		

Official Holidays – NO CLASS

<i>Jan 21</i>	<i>Martin Luther King Day</i>
<i>Mar 21</i>	<i>Good Friday</i>
<i>Mar 24</i>	<i>Easter Monday</i>
<i>Apr 21</i>	<i>Patriot's Day</i>

* Note: This outline is tentative and subject to change at my discretion.