

# Macroeconomics

## CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS

**Course Number and Title:** ECON 1010 N1 Macroeconomic Principles (Online)

**Semester/Year** Fall 2015

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Instructor:** Dr. Thomas Schellberg

**Office:** Room 211, Thorsen Business Building, Casper College, Casper, WY 82601

**Phone:** 307-268-2454

**Office Hours:** MWF 11:00-11:50 AM, TTh 1:00-1:50 PM, W 6:00-6:50 PM,

I will be in my office at Casper College during these hours. Feel free to call me or visit me in person during these hours.

**e-mail:** [schellbe@caspercollege.edu](mailto:schellbe@caspercollege.edu) (Note: I would strongly encourage students to use the email inside the course, i.e. "MCC Moodle Mail", if the email concerns a matter directly relating to this course.)

**Course Description:** An introduction to the economic theory of the economy in the aggregate. This course deals with issues of unemployment, price stability, and economic growth. The role of government in promoting these economic goals is discussed at length.

**Statement of Prerequisites:** The student should have computer access to Moodle and a basic knowledge of the use of the internet. Knowledge of graphing and coordinate geometry is recommended.

**General Objectives:** The student will gain an understanding of the functioning of the macroeconomy, and how it can be analyzed to evaluate the critical issues of our day.

**Specific Objectives:** See the course "calendar" and unit links. These show the units to be covered in this course.

**Methodology:** Macroeconomic Principles will be presented using a combination of textbook readings, course outlines, homework (projects), and discussions.

**The required textbook for this course is:** Arnold, Roger A, Economics 11th Edition 2015, Cengage Learning, ISBN 978-1-285-73833-8. This hardcover text includes both macroeconomics and microeconomics. The Arnold text is also available as "splits". The splits consist of a soft cover macroeconomics text and a soft cover microeconomics text. Those who purchased their text through the

Casper College bookstore obtained the hardcover text. If you plan to take microeconomics over the Internet through Casper College, you should hold onto the text. I want to stress that either the hardcover text or the macro split is acceptable.

**Recommended for this course:** Arnold, Roger A. *Macroeconomics Video Office Hours*, 12<sup>th</sup> ed. Cengage Learning ISBN 978-1-285-73829-1. This provides taped lectures, prepared by the author. Also, I have provided taped lectures, free of charge, found in each of the units of this course.

## **Important**

Earlier editions of the Arnold economics text can be used for this course. The changes in recent editions are minimal. Some students may still have the ninth edition, which has different chapter numbers, due to an addition of a new chapter in the tenth edition. If you have the ninth or earlier editions, refer to the chapter titles found in the online content. Do not waste money upgrading to the twelfth edition if you have access to an earlier edition.

Occasionally, I refer to the segments of chapters or to graphs in the text. I will cite the references for the eleventh and twelfth editions. If you need a reference for an earlier edition, please ask. These issues are minor, and do not justify upgrading to a newer edition of the text

## **General Information on the Course**

The course will be divided into seven units, each covering one to three chapters. Unit summaries can be found by visiting the links at the middle of the screen below the phrase “Welcome to Macroeconomics”. Shown will be a “General Information” link, where you found this syllabus, followed seven content units plus a section reserved for the final exam. Within each unit are links to discussion (forum) questions, power point lectures, quizzes, and assignments. Discussion forums can also be accessed through the “Navigation” block on the left-hand-side of the screen. Also found on the left-hand-side is a link entitled "Grades" and an email link entitled “MCC Moodle Mail”. These links allow you to check your course grade and to email messages to the instructor or other students individually or to the entire class. On the right-hand side are the calendar and a list of upcoming events. Familiarize yourself with each of these by clicking on the appropriate links. When done, click on Moodle4me and the course link at the top of the screen and then “Syllabus” to get back to this page.

If you find all this moving around inside Moodle confusing, you may wish to print this document.

These will be no formal in-class lectures in this course, so you are responsible for learning the material using a combination of textbook readings, course outlines, recorded lectures, homework assignments, and required discussions with other class members. My job as an instructor is that of a facilitator and evaluator. I will be available to answer any questions posed either publicly or privately, provide individual help, read your assignments and discussion postings, and evaluate your work.

The major difference between an online course of this form and traditional classes is the absence of an in-class lecture. You are expected to learn the material using the alternative methods discussed above. For this three credit course, I recommend you put in at least nine hours of work per week. This is the time spent reading and studying, preparing assignments, taking tests, and contributing to class discussions.

Although the nine hours is the same as is recommended in a traditional class (three lecture hours and six of outside study), it is easy to get behind in an online course. To succeed in this course, you must keep up with the work.

### **Evaluation Criteria:**

The course will cover eleven chapters in the textbook. An online quiz will be required for each chapter. The quizzes will be open book and open note, although I recommend reading and digesting the material before attempting the quiz. The quizzes are accessed through the appropriate link under the "Units" icons in the middle of the screen.

The course will be divided into seven units, each covering one to three chapters. For each unit, you must make three significant and timely postings to the class discussions.

There will be five graded homework assignments. Your work on the homework assignments is expected to be your own.

To access the homework assignments, click on the desired assignment link found within the current unit. Download and complete the assignment. You may submit the assignment using the assignment link, by email ("MCC Moodle Mail"), through the US or intercampus mail, or by depositing it in the drop slot in my office door. (Thorsen Business Building, Room 211). Do not post your work on the class discussion area; you will receive a zero on the assignment if you do.

There will be a midterm exam and a final exam. These will be closed-book and closed-note, and will be proctored. Those in the Casper area may take these exams at the Casper College testing center located in the Thorsen Business Building. Those using the CC testing center must make a reservation 24 hours in advance. Those out of town must make arrangements to have the exam proctored by a disinterested third party.

### **The course grade is figured as follows:**

Seven discussion grades: 30 points each... Total 210.

Eleven quizzes: 30 points each... Total 330

Five homework assignments: 60 points each..... Total 300

Midterm exam: 180 points

Final Exam: 180 points

Total: 1200 points, with the following grading scale:

A = 1080 points or more

B = 960-1079 points

C = 840-959 points

D = 720-839 points

F = below 720 points

These totals correspond to 90%, 80%, 70%, and 60% for the grades of A, B, C, and D, respectively.

### **Deadlines:**

It is important (and required) that you keep up in this course. For that reason, there are deadlines after which work will not be accepted, or will receive reduced credit.

Refer to the online calendar. This shows seven things.

- (1) The date that each unit begins
- (2) The date that each quiz is made available
- (3) The date that the midterm and the final exam are made available
- (4) The date that each homework assignment is made available
- (5) The date that each homework assignment is due
- (6) The date that each quiz or test ends
- (7) The date that each unit closes

The discussion questions, quizzes, exams, and homework assignments can be accessed through Moodle on the dates shown on the calendar, but not before the opening dates or after the deadlines.

### **Deadlines are as follows:**

- (1) Units discussion postings must be completed before the new unit begins. For example (refer to the calendar), Unit 1 begins on August 24, and ends September 8. Unit 2 opens the following day. After September 8, all discussion for unit 1 will be closed off, and no further postings can be made. You may, however, read the postings of closed discussions at any time during the course. Unit 7, the last unit, closes on Monday, December 14 at 11:55 PM. These dates are shown on the "Calendar".

(2) Quizzes must be completed within one month of the date they are made available. For example, quiz 1 opens on August 24, and closes at 11:55 PM on September 23. The exception to this rule applies to the last three quizzes of the semester. Quizzes 9 and 10 close on Monday December 14, and quiz 11 closes on Tuesday December 15. These dates are shown on the “Calendar” and can also be found by clicking on the link to the relevant quiz under the “Units” icons.

(3) The midterm exam is available on Friday, October 9 and closes Friday October 16 at 12:00 PM. The final exam is available from Thursday, December 10 through Thursday December 17 at 11:55 PM. These dates are shown on the “Calendar” and can also be found by clicking on the appropriate link under the "Units" icons.

(4) The first four homework assignments must be submitted to the instructor within one month of the date they are made available. For example, the first assignment opens on August 25. For full credit, your completed assignment must be submitted, emailed, dropped in my drop box, or postmarked by 11:55 PM September 24. Late assignments will be assigned a ten point penalty. The fifth homework assignment must be submitted by Monday December 14 at 11:55 PM. These dates are shown on the “Calendar”, and can also be found by clicking on the link to the relevant assignment under the “Units” icons.

#### **General Casper College Policies:**

**Last date to change to an Audit status or Withdraw with a W grade:** Thursday November 12, 2015.

**Student Rights and Responsibilities:** Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

**Official Means of Communication:** Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly.

**ADA Accommodations Policy:** If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college’s Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, [bheuer@caspercollege.edu](mailto:bheuer@caspercollege.edu) . The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.