

REEDLEY COLLEGE

ECON 1A INTRODUCTION TO MACROECONOMICS # 51853

Spring 2010 TTH 12:00-1:15pm ROOM: BUS 42

INSTRUCTOR: David Meier
OFFICE HOURS: MW 10:00-11:00
TTH 1:30-2:30pm

OFFICE: SOC 37
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REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: The Economy Today, Bradley R. Schiller 11th Edition
McGraw-Hill

BASIC SKILLS ADVISORIES : Eligibility for English 125,126 and Math 101
(A, CSU-GE, UC, I)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: An introduction to macroeconomic theory covering the banking system, the international economy, economic policy, national income accounting, unemployment and inflation, and economic growth.

COURSE OUTCOMES: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to: identify market indicators, evaluate a business cycle, identify causes of inflation and unemployment, evaluate fine tuning by the Federal Reserve Board and illustrate the cause and effect of changes by government or business.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: In the process of completing this course, students will: explain Keynesian and Classical economic theory, explain monetary and fiscal policy, describe quantity and price changes that occur when supply and demand change, recognize what happens in the economy during a business cycle.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class period. Regular attendance is expected. Economics is a cumulative discipline. This means if you do not attend class on Tuesday, you will likely not understand the material presented on Thursday. You are responsible for all material presented which you miss. Moreover, the attached schedule is tentative and events beyond my control may require me to modify it. **It is the student's responsibility to keep up with schedule changes.** These changes will be announced in class. There will be NO MAKE-UP TESTS unless there has been A MAJOR CATASTROPHY OR YOU ARE PART OF A SCHOOL FUNCTION and only if the instructor is notified IN ADVANCE.

Class activities and participation are mandatory. It is expected that you will do the reading before class and be prepared to discuss the chapter during class. A student with more than FIVE ABSENCES may be dropped from the course. If you are habitually tardy or leave class early, your grade will be affected.

EXAMS: There will be at least 6 examinations including the Final examination. ALL EXAMINATIONS ARE REQUIRED. Exams will consist of any or all of the following question types: multiple choice, short answer, true/false, fill-in the blank, and essay. In addition to the material in the textbook, this course incorporates current events that unfold in the economic and business world. As such, the dates for the exams prior to the final exam are not predetermined. I will notify the class at least 1 week in advance prior to an examination.

ARTICLE REPORTS: Two short (2-3 pages) reports dealing with contemporary economic issues may be required. These reports are worth 50 points each. Please see details under Written Assignments.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS, QUIZZES, AND CLASS

PRESENTATION/ANALYSIS: There will be a minimum of 15 homework assignments, quizzes, and/or class presentations. THESE ASSIGNMENTS MAY BE ANANNOUNCED. Each will be worth 5 points.

GRADING: The total number of points you accumulate over the semester will determine your grade. The total possible points are:

Exam 1-6	= 600 points
2 Article Reports x 50	= 100 points
15 Assignments x 5	= <u>75 points</u>

775 TOTAL POSSIBLE

- 90% = A
- 80 % = B
- 70 % = C
- 60 % = D
- 59 % or less = F

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS: The general objectives of economic writing assignments are to encourage you to think and communicate clearly in writing and to express economic thoughts clearly, coherently, concisely and sensibly. You will be required to:

- a) Apply economic concepts that you have learned in class to current real world situations
- b) Read business and economic articles analytically and critically
- c) Evaluate and analyze economic ideas and facts and arrive at conclusions

ARTICLE REPORT # 1: Type a 2 page, double spaced report about any article from popular media dealing with a contemporary economic issue (Macro or Micro). First, summarize the article using your own words. Second, explain and analyze the article using economic theories learned in class. Third, state your position on the issue(s)

raised in the article. A copy of the article must be handed in with your report. Additionally, you should be able to verbally summarize the article and your work as well. Further details regarding this assignment will be given in class.

ARTICLE REPORT # 2: Follow the same guidelines as in # 1.

For your paper to be graded, IT MUST BE TYPED AND DOUBLE SPACED USING TIMES NEW ROMAN 12 FONT WITH 1 INCH MARGINS AND IT MUST BE HANDED IN ON TIME. Well-written papers include focus, logic, organization, and ideas that are well developed and supported. They are grammatically correct with proper punctuation and spelling. Poorly written assignments will be marked “unacceptable” and will be returned to you without credit.

Emphasis is on your thought process and your ability to convey these thoughts clearly. Well-written papers are most often achieved only after a great deal of editing and revision. Grades will reflect the quality of both the content and the presentation of your writing. Choose appropriate topics that interest you. Contact me well in advance of the deadline if you are not sure of the appropriateness of your topic.

All written assignments must include the following information on a COVER SHEET: Name of Instructor, Course Name and Code, Title of Paper, Student Name, Student Number, Publication, and Due Date. Your 2-page paper should be divided into approximately 1/3 summary, 1/3 analysis and 1/3 conclusion.

Please site your references using APA or MLA Citation Style.

Papers turned in may not be returned. If you wish to see your paper after it is graded, please make an appointment during my office hours.

DROP POLICY: If you decide to drop this course, YOU ARE RESONSIBLE FOR FILLING OUT ALL OF THE NECESSARY PAPERWORK. For more details on dropping a class, please refer to the admissions and records office, the Reedley College catalogue or the Reedley College Class Schedule. The final drop date for full term Spring 2010 classes is March 12.

CONDUCT: PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. IF YOU ARE SUSPECTED OF PLAGIARIZING OR CHEATING, YOU WILL RECEIVE A ZERO FOR THE RESPECTIVE ASSIGNMENT, EXAM, ETC. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE YOU WILL FAIL THE COURSE.

CLASS DISRUPTIONS: No food or drink in the classroom. If you have pagers, cell phones, etc. please turn them off unless there is a verifiable reason that necessitates otherwise. A ringing cell phone or pager will negatively affect your participation points and may initiate a pop quiz or additional assignment for the entire class.

APPAREL: If you are wearing any headgear or sunglasses, please take them off.

ACCOMMODATIONS: If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation, or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE; SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Chapter 1 Economics: The Core Issue
Chapter 2 The U.S. Economy
Chapter 3 Supply and Demand
Chapter 4 The Public Sector

EXAM 1

Chapter 5 National Income Accounting
Chapter 6 Unemployment
Chapter 7 Inflation

EXAM 2

Chapter 8 The Business Cycle
Chapter 9 Aggregate Demand
Chapter 10 Self-Adjustment or Instability

EXAM 3

Chapter 11 Fiscal Policy
Chapter 12 Deficits, Surpluses, and Debt

EXAM 4

Chapter 13 Money and Banks
Chapter 14 The Federal Reserve System
Chapter 15 Monetary Policy

EXAM 5

Chapter 16 Supply Side Policy
Chapter 17 Growth and Productivity
Chapter 18 Global Macro
Chapter 19 Theory Versus Reality

EXAM 6

MAY 18, 12:00 -1:50pm FINAL EXAM

THIS SYLLABUS AND THE ACTIVITIES FOR THE COURSE ARE SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION AS THE INSTRUCTOR DEEMS NECESSARY.

I HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO READ THE ABOVE SYLLABUS AND TO ASK QUESTIONS CONCERNING ITS CONTENTS BY WAY OF EXPLANATION AND CLARIFICATION.

STUDENT SIGNATURE

STUDENT NAME PRINTED

ECON 1A FALL 2009 FULL TERM