Course Syllabus

Course Information:
Principles of Macroeconomics, ECON 201

Contact Information:
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Office Hours: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM Tuesday and Thursday or by Appointment

Required Text:
Krugman in Modules 3e macro with LaunchPad: ISBN- 978-1-319-05041-2
LaunchPad: You will register through the blackboard course site to obtain this application. Follow the instructions in the welcoming message and in the Getting Started folder to register for this application.

Other readings or sources will be provided in Course Information on Blackboard

Technical Equipment and Skills:

- A computer running any of these certified or compatible operating systems.
- Access to the Internet through a high speed network connection or a broadband Internet Service Provider.
- One of the Web browsers listed in this matrix of certified or compatible browsers.
- NOTE: If you don’t have the items described above at home, you can use a computer in an on-campus lab.
- An e-mail account and the ability to send and receive e-mail and e-mail file attachments. The default e-mail account used by Blackboard is your Boise State e-mail account. You cannot change to another account in Blackboard; however, you can have mail sent to your Boise State account forwarded to another account, such as a Hotmail.com or Yahoo.com account.
• The ability to use a browser to navigate the Web, the ability to navigate among multiple open windows, and the ability to open, close, and save files and attachments.

• A Blackboard User Account. If you register for a course that uses Blackboard, a Boise State Blackboard Administrator will automatically create your account. Your username will be your BroncoWeb login ID. Your password will be your BroncoWeb password.

• Any additional requirements as requested and specified by the course instructor, such as access to Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Acrobat Reader, Real Player, or other specialized hardware or software.

Course Description:

Principles of Macroeconomics (ECON 201) is one of a two-course sequence of introductory economics courses. In ECON 201 we will define economics, explore the underlying fundamentals common to all economic systems, and develop and examine a basic framework for analysis of the overall economic interactions that take place in our economy. In the first weeks of the course we will examine the problems caused by scarcity, how prices in our economy act effectively to allocate scarce resources between all participants in our economy. Building on these fundamentals, we will then explore the measurement of aggregate economic activity, unemployment, and the price level (inflation). This will lead to the exploration of theories regarding overall economic activity and the policies that decision-makers use to control economic activity.

Having developed these fundamental theoretical tools, we will then focus upon the role that money plays in our economy, the importance of the banking system, and the important role that the Federal Reserve Banking System has in maintaining economic stability and growth. Lastly, we will explore some areas of current macroeconomic interest such as the Federal Budget deficit/surplus, economic growth, and international trade.

Objectives:

It is the objective of this course to provide a understanding of how the interactions of varied economic units (the individual, household, or firm) weave together to influence the overall economic system. It is expected that the student will come away from ECON 201 with a new appreciation of the economic interactions that they observe and are participants in each day. But most importantly, it is hoped that the student will acquire the skills to critically analyze economic phenomena or economic policy decisions.

COBE Core Curriculum Student Learning Goals and Objectives

Students in this class will learn or practice the following COBE Core Curriculum concepts, methods, and skills:
1. Understand and apply analytical and disciplinary concepts and methods related to business and economics:

1.3. Economics

1.6. International environment of business

2.1. Communicate effectively: Write messages and documents that are clear, concise, and compelling

2.2. Communicate effectively: Give oral presentations that use effective content, organization, and delivery

3. Solve problems, including unstructured problems, related to business and economics

4. Use effective teamwork and collaboration skills

5. Demonstrate appropriate principles of responsible business practices

Teaching Philosophy:

This is an online course. You will read selections from the textbook and other material provided to you online, participate in online discussions, take online quizzes and tests.

For the most part, you can participate in these activities on your own schedule, right up to the deadline for each activity. You may complete the online activities from wherever you choose -- from home, from work, or from a campus computer lab. However, this course will be conducted on a fixed schedule, meaning that you will be unable to work ahead and complete the course before the semester ends. Instead, I will make available portions of the course on a modular basis, right up to the end of the semester. Modules are designed to cover a span of a few days while Sections may require a week or more to complete.

The reading assignments and materials within LaunchPad will assist in your learning experience and will help you focus on the material we are discussing each week. If you have questions about what you've read, please ask them; chances are, other students will have the same questions. I've created a discussion forum specifically for your use to ask questions about assignments and readings. On most occasions, I will respond to your email questions within 24 hours. Questions over the weekend will be responded to by Monday if not an emergency.

Student Responsibilities:

You are expected to visit the course site each day; making Blackboard your home page in your Web browser which will help you to remember to visit the site. It is also expected that you will participate in all activities, including any ungraded discussions; failure to do so will place you in academic jeopardy. Failing to participate in a substantial number of activities may mean that you
do not pass the course. **Failure to complete Assignments (in the "Modules" area of the course site) will result in a loss of points for that assignment.**

You must stay current with the class. At the very least this means that you are responsible for any assignments arising from the activity. More broadly, it means that you must somehow become knowledgeable about the content of the activity. With a few exceptions, quizzes and exams cannot be made up. You must provide me with advance notice or send me an email stating the emergency that will prevent you from taking a quiz or exam. Group Discussions will not be made up.

**Grading Method and Scale:**

There will be four (4) midterm exams, weekly group assignments and a final comprehensive exam in this course that will be on blackboard. Only 3 midterm exams will be counted for grading purposes (your lowest score will be thrown out). *The midterm exams and the final exam are proctored exams to be taken at the BSU testing center or at approved proctoring locations.* You will also have weekly assignments in LaunchPad to complete that have grade implications (Learning Curve, Business Cases, Student Tutorials, and Graded Homework). Your semester grade will be based upon the sum of the scores received on the exams, group assignments and assignments in LaunchPad which will total 984 points.

Blackboard Requirements: (650 points)
- 3 Midterms 100 points each = 300
- 15 Group Assignments 10 points each = 150
- Final Exam = 200

LaunchPad Requirements: (332 points)
- 48 Learning Curve 2 points each = 96
- 12 Business Cases 5 points each = 60
- 18 Student Tutorials 2 points each = 36
- 14 Graded Homework 10 points each = 140

Grade Total based on 982 points

*In addition; practice homework and self-tests in LaunchPad, as well as the evaluations in blackboard will not be part of the final score but will influence your final grade based on participation in these assignments. These assignments may have points assigned but only for purposes of acknowledging them as assignments and for tracking your participation level.*

**One important caveat:** What you will see in your gradebook may not be the grade total that you have based on the above information. Blackboard counts all points and does not count assignments that are missed in determining percentages. I suggest you keep a separate count based on the above information given you concerning your grades. I will be happy to assist you if you have questions at any time during the semester about your standing in the class. Also, there are hidden points that I consider extra credit that will also be added to your total points earned but not to the graded total.
Letter grades will be based upon the “Traditional” 89.1+% of the total points equals an “A”; 79.1 – 89% equals a “B”; 69.1 – 79% equals a “C”; 59.1 – 69% equals a “D”; <59% equals an “F”.

All quizzes and exams, including a comprehensive final, will be on blackboard. There will be no exceptions for the times of exams and quizzes.

Group Assignment Grading Rubric:

Group assignments will be graded using the following rubric:

1. Actively participate in the group assignment and help to make sure it was submitted by the due date each week. Non participation will result in a zero for each individual who does not participate.
2. Write a high-quality response that followed all of the assignment guidelines including word count requirements and careful analysis of the subject.
3. Fully answer the questions asked.
4. Follow the conventions of professional writing in group response. Used correct syntax, grammar, and punctuation, include appropriate tone and level of formality for academic writing.

Communication Journal:

You are required to set up a folder and submit journal entries every two weeks so that we can discuss your progress and any assistance that would facilitate your chances for success in this course. Details can be found by clicking on the Communication Journal Entry tab located on the left hand column of the course site. Though there are no points associated with your journal entries, your grade will be impacted if you do not participate. I will not be able to show consideration for non-participation.

Resources for Students:

Go to the following site for a detailed listing of support services that can be found under the ecampus center resources: http://ecampus.boisestate.edu/students/support/boise-state-resources/

See the main Boise State web site (www.boisestate.edu) for contents regarding academic resources, library resources, administrative resources, opportunities for students, and other useful information.

Statement of Shared Values

Boise State University upholds the following values as the foundation for a civil and nurturing environment. Campus community members and all who are part of COBE are expected to adhere to the following values.

- **Academic Excellence** – engage in our own learning and participate fully in the academic community’s pursuit of knowledge.
- **Caring** – show concern for the welfare of others.
- **Citizenship** – uphold civic virtues and duties that prescribe how we ought to behave in a self-governing community by obeying laws and policies, volunteering in the community, and staying informed on issues.
- **Fairness** – expect equality, impartiality, openness and due process by demonstrating a balanced standard of justice without reference to individual bias.
- **Respect** – treat people with dignity regardless of who they are and what they believe. A respectful person is attentive, listens well, treats others with consideration and doesn’t resort to intimidation, coercion or violence to persuade.
- **Responsibility** – take charge of our choices and actions by showing accountability and not shifting blame or taking improper credit. We will pursue excellence with diligence, perseverance, and continued improvement.
- **Trustworthiness** – demonstrate honesty in our communication and conduct while managing ourselves with integrity and reliability.

**Netiquette**

- Discussion via Blackboard is open to all students and faculty enrolled in this course. All communication between students and faculty should remain professional and courteous. This is true of both Blackboard and email communications. Language and grammar matters so be careful on how you phrase your communication. Simplicity and directness are helpful in getting your message across (directness does not mean rudeness or angry responses to either students or faculty). It is possible to receive a failing grade (‘F’) for the Class Participation portion of the course if rude and unseemly communications via Blackboard and email become an issue and are not corrected. The following is a link on netiquette: [http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)

**Essential Policy Information:**

Revisions to the Syllabus and Schedule:

I reserve the right to modify the syllabus and schedule at any time. Revisions will be documented in an announcement on the Blackboard course site.

Disability Services:

Students with disabilities needing accommodations to fully participate in this class should contact the Educational Access Center (EAC). All accommodations must be approved through the EAC prior to being implemented. To learn more about the accommodation process, visit the EAC’s website at [https://eac.boisestate.edu/new-eac-students/](https://eac.boisestate.edu/new-eac-students/).
The Educational Access Center is located on the first floor of the Lincoln Parking Garage, on the corner of Lincoln Ave. and University Dr. We are available Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
PHONE: 208.426.1583
FAX: 208.426.3785
EMAIL: eacinfo@boisestate.edu

Academic Dishonesty:

Plagiarism occurs when a person passes in another person's work as his or her own or borrows directly from another's work without documentation. It doesn't matter if the work is that of a published author, an unpublished co-worker, or another student. Plagiarism also occurs when a person passes off another person's ideas as his or her own; merely casting another writer's ideas in different words doesn't free one from the obligation to document one's source. Finally, plagiarism occurs when graphic images are borrowed without attribution.

A student who plagiarizes will be excluded from the course, will receive a final grade of F, and may be referred to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities for disciplinary action. Other penalties may include academic probation, suspension, or expulsion from school. With this in mind, keep all preliminary work you do for each assignment. For instance, you should print hard copies of each draft or make separate electronic files. Should you turn in an assignment that appears to me to have been plagiarized, you will want to be able to show evidence of your work: notes, outlines, drafts, and other such material. If you are unable to do so, then we have a serious problem.

If you have any questions about plagiarism, talk to me. You can also find further clarification in A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations; the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers; the Boise State Student Code of Conduct; the Student Conduct Program; and the Student Online Privacy Notice.

Privacy Notice:

Please take a few minutes to read the Student Online Privacy Notice, which describes in general terms your rights and responsibilities while participating in an Internet-enhanced course, and discusses such topics as e-mail, personal disclosures, data retained about students, acceptable use, online behavior, academic dishonesty, and publication and distribution of student work.
http://itc.boisestate.edu/BbSupport/BbDocs/general/PrivacyNotice.htm