

# ECON 3080 Intermediate Macroeconomics

University of Colorado Boulder  
Department of Economics  
Fall 2019

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<b>Instructor:</b>	Ge Song	<b>Time:</b>	TTH 08:00 { 09:15 AM
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:Ge.Song@Colorado.EDU">Ge.Song@Colorado.EDU</a>	<b>Place:</b>	ECON 117
<b>Office:</b>	ECON 14	<b>Office Hours:</b>	M 03:00 { 05:00 PM

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**Course Pages:** <https://cuboulder.instructure.com/courses/55941>

The course syllabus, handouts, supplementary materials, and homework assignments will be posted on Canvas. Please check the course webpage frequently as I will be updating it with materials and assignments. You are responsible for checking the canvas webpage regularly to avoid missing any assignments or announcements.

**Office Hours:** Monday 03:00 { 05:00 PM, or by appointment.

**Course Description:** This is an one-semester theory course on intermediate macroeconomics. With aid of quantitative instruments from a rich set of tool kit, the course aims to push up understandings of macro stylized facts as well as policy discussions to a more rigorous level. For purpose of teaching convenience, the course is dichotomized into classical theories of long-run growth and short-run fluctuation. The long-run part mainly deals with theoretical decipherment of empirical evidences that countries diverge, by income per capita or by other measures of individual well-beings, and cluster into different "clubs"; The short-run part, on the other hand, switches focus on business cycles, digging deeper by employing appropriate neoclassical models that might potentially do a good job in accounting for volatilities of key variables of interest. At very end of the day, the course is ambitious enough to touch upon one computational toy model, in addition with approaches to map the model to the real world data. Hopefully, this course is going to arouse your interest, and cement a good foundation for more advanced ECON courses.

**Main References:** This is a restricted list of various interesting and useful books that will be touched during the course. You need to consult them occasionally.

N. Gregory Mankiw, *Macroeconomics*, Tenth Edition, Worth Publishers, 2018. (required)  
(you may use a previous edition - just make sure to match up the relevant chapters).

Robert J. Barro, *Intermediate Macroeconomics*



I will not give any early or make-up exams. In the case that you have to miss any of the midterms because of a family or medical emergency, and only if you provide documentation to justify that absence, the weight for the corresponding midterm will be added to the final exam. In all other cases, a missed exam will result in a grade of zero for that exam.

The final exam cannot be missed under any circumstances. During all the exams (midterms and final), the use of calculators will NOT be allowed. If I ask for any calculations, these will be easy enough. The only thing you will need for exams will be something to write (pen or pencil). I will provide paper. If you have 3 or more finals on the same day, you can arrange to take the last final at an alternate time. **However, you must notify me of this no later than the 10th weeks into the semester (before Oct 28<sup>th</sup>) and provide proof that it is your 3rd or more exam on that day.**

Cheating in any of the exams is unacceptable. Any cheating instances will result in a grade of zero and a report to the Honor Code Council.

### Email

If you have any questions about the material, send me an email. Sometimes it will be more effective to discuss those questions in office hours. If that is the case, I will ask you to come to my office. I will try to respond all emails within 24 hours. If you have any administrative issues covered in the syllabus, please check it before asking me. If after checking the syllabus you still have any questions, come directly to my office during office hours. I will not answer administrative questions over the email.

According to FERPA, we are not allowed to discuss grades via email. If you have any questions or concerns about your grade, please come to my office during office hours.

### Office Hours

At the top of this syllabus you can find when and where my office hours take place. If you cannot make it at any of those times, send me an email and we can set up an appointment outside those hours.

### Laptops/electronic devices

Laptops or other electronic devices are not allowed in class.

### University Policies:

**DISABILITY POLICY:** I am committed to providing everyone the support and services needed to participate in this course. If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to your instructor a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs can be

**RELIGIOUS OBSERVATION POLICY:** Campus policy regarding religious observances requires

**Tentative Course Outline:**

The weekly coverage might change as it depends on the progress of the class. However, you must keep up with the reading assignments.

<b>Topics</b>	<b>Approximate dates</b>	<b>Reading Chapters</b>
<b>I. Introduction to Macroeconomics</b>	Week of Aug 26 <sup>th</sup> , Sep 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mankiw 1 & 2
<b>II. Classical Theory (the Long Run)</b>		
A. National Income	Week of Sep 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup>	Mankiw 3
B. Money and Inflation	Week of Sep 16 <sup>th</sup> and 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Mankiw 4 & 5
C. The Open Economy	Week of Sep 30 <sup>th</sup> and Oct 7 <sup>th</sup>	Mankiw 6
<b>Midterm 1 (In Class)</b>	<b>Tuesday, Oct 1<sup>st</sup></b>	
<b>III. Growth Theory (the very Long Run)</b>		
A. Economic Growth I (Solow Model)	Week of Oct 14 <sup>th</sup> and 21 <sup>st</sup>	Mankiw 8
B. Economic Growth II (Endogenous Growth Model)	Week of Oct 28 <sup>th</sup> and Nov 4 <sup>th</sup>	Mankiw 9
<b>Midterm 2 (In Class)</b>	<b>Tuesday, Nov 12<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>IV. Business Cycle Theory (the Short Run)</b>		
A. Economic Fluctuations	Week of Nov 11 <sup>th</sup>	