San José State University Department of Economics

ECON 102—Macroeconomic Analysis

Section 01—Class Number 30144
Summer 2018—Session One
Monday, June 4 – Friday, July 6

Instructor: Mark Brady
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Office Hours: MW 1:15 – 1:45 PM; and by appointment MTWTh

Class Days/Time: MW 9:00 AM – 1:10 PM

Classroom: DMH 165

Prerequisites: ECON 1A, or instructor's permission

Course Description (from the catalog)

Theory of aggregate demand and related topics: national income accounting, employment and inflation, monetary and fiscal policies, economic stability, growth and balance of payments equilibrium.

Course of Study: What You May Expect to Learn

- We begin by looking at the economic way of thinking with particular reference to the quantity theory of money, and how modern macroeconomics arose and evolved since John Maynard Keynes's *General Theory* (1936), including the monetarist counterrevolution (Milton Friedman, et al.) and other developments.
- Measures of output (GDP, GNP, and their components), the relationship between GDP per capita, the standard of living, and welfare, and how we calculate real variables from nominal variables using measures of price inflation.
- Economic growth, and the historical record of economic growth and development, particularly since the Industrial Revolution.
- Money, banking, and credit, and inflation/deflation.
- Business cycles (trade cycles), the experience of the Great Depression, the theories that economists have advanced to explain their occurrence, and the current debate about the Great Recession.
- We use insights from the history of economic thought—the evolution of economists' thinking about money and macroeconomics—and from U.S. and world economic history—the historical record of economic growth and business fluctuations.

Required Texts/Readings

Required Text

I require just the one book for this course. We use N. Gregory Mankiw, *Macroeconomics*, 9th ed. (New York: Worth, 2016), which is available for purchase or rental, and at a discount as a used book. It is also available as an e-book with Launchpad, which you may find helpful but which I shall not require you to use. Although the 7th edition (2010) is much cheaper, and the 8th edition (2013) is somewhat cheaper, the contents have been reordered and significantly revised. Remember that if you buy the 9th ed., you will be able to sell it back for a lot more.

We shall work our way through Chapters 1-10, the dynamic model of aggregate demand and aggregate supply (taken from Cowen and Tabarrok's *Modern Principles*), Chapters 14-20 (briefly), and the Epilogue.

Other Readings

I assign occasional supplementary readings and (short) videos on the web.

Classroom Protocol

Class attendance is not mandatory and will not directly affect a student's grade. However, students who miss even one class, in addition to dropping quizzes, will very likely consign themselves to doing poorly on their exams. I therefore strongly encourage students to attend fully every class.

Assignments and Grading Policy

There are four components to your grade: two exams (50%), your fifteen best quizzes (30%), a book review (20%), and extra credit for blogging at one of several designated blogs (2%).

The first exam (Monday, June 18) and the final comprehensive exam (Monday, July 2) are each worth 25%. Both exams consist very largely, if not entirely, of multiple choice questions.

There are at least twenty objective **quizzes** worth a total of thirty points. Each quiz is worth two points, allowing students to drop or miss at least five quizzes. Quiz scores are calculated pro rata so that 10/10 on a quiz is worth two points, 9/10 is worth 1.8 points, and 5/10 is worth one point. Quizzes are based on my lectures and the textbook, except for one quiz that is based on a video. **There are no make-ups for any quizzes.**

The **book review** (of a book that you choose from a list that I provide) is worth 20%.

Converting number grades to letter grades

| 95-100 | A+ | 90-94 | A | 85-89 | A- |
|--------|----|-------|---|-------|----|
| 80-84 | B+ | 75-79 | В | 70-74 | B- |
| 65-69 | C+ | 60-64 | C | 55-59 | C- |
| 50-54 | D+ | 45-49 | D | 40-44 | D- |
| | | 0-39 | F | | |

Although I expect to grade on a curve, I also take into account your absolute performance (as compared with your performance relative to other students) and, if everyone does first-rate work, I'd be delighted to award everyone an A.

I am happy to help you. If you experience any difficulty in this course, please do not hesitate to come to me for help. I am available not only during office hours but also by email and phone, and I am always happy to clarify difficult concepts, resolve any lingering confusion, or otherwise assist you in making this course enjoyable and rewarding.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's Catalog Policies section at http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The Late Drop Policy is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/.

University Policies

Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University's Academic Integrity policy, located at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm, requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/ to establish a record of their disability.