COURSE SYLLABUS FOR ECON-112
Principles Of Macroeconomics

**************************************************************************************************

YEAR COURSE OFFERED: 2016

SEMESTER COURSE OFFERED: SPRING

DEPARTMENT: ECONOMICS

COURSE NUMBER: ECON-112

NAME OF COURSE: Principles Of Macroeconomics

NAME OF INSTRUCTOR: Juan F. Rubio-Ramirez (email, jrubior@emory.edu)

OFFICE OF THE INSTRUCTOR: Rich Memorial Building, Room 306 (office hours, M and W from 5 to 6 pm and by appointment)

**************************************************************************************************

The information contained in this class syllabus is subject to change without notice. Students are expected to be aware of any additional course policies presented by the instructor during the course.

**************************************************************************************************

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the behavioral science of economics, which focuses on the aggregate behavior of households, firms and the government.

Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of the course, the student should be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of news relating to the economy as a whole as reported in such publications as The Wall Street Journal; the economic implications of changes in government fiscal or monetary policy; how interest rates are determined and the role of interest rates in personal and corporate decision-making; and critically apply economic concepts when participating as a citizen in a democratic society. In particular, the students should be able to calculate equilibrium national income levels, calculate and use various multipliers, convert nominal values to real values, and use a graph to explain the impact of changes in fiscal and/or monetary policy on income and price levels. In addition, students
should be able to use simple models of international trade to study the flow of goods between countries and discuss the costs of protectionism within the context of such models.

Application Objectives

This course is designed to mix basic economics theory with useful knowledge regarding how the actual economy operates. Students will obtain a better understanding regarding how the price of gas is determined and why it fluctuates, what influences the rate of interest on credit card purchases or on your student loans, and how the proposed solutions for helping the U.S. economy recover from a recession are expected to work and where they may be inefficient.

Prerequisites

Econ-101

Important Skills

This class will often use graphs to simplify economic concepts. The book gives a good review of graphing for students.

Major Assignments/Exams

We will have weekly assignments, three midterms and a final exam. I think that continuous assessment is crucial and that it is the idea behind this evaluation scheme. The final grade of the course will be calculated as follows: one third of the weight of the final grade will come from the assignments, with another third coming from the midterms, and the final third from the final exam. Each midterm will roughly cover one third of the material in the course and they will be not inclusive. The final will cover the whole course and, therefore, will be inclusive.

Required Reading

The book that we will use in this course is “Principles of Macroeconomics, 6e Edition,” by Robert H. Frank; Ben Bernanke; Kate Antonovics; Ori Heffetz. Principles of Macroeconomics, sixth edition, is thoroughly integrated with the adaptive digital tools available in McGraw-Hill’s LearnSmart Advantage Suite, proven to increase student engagement and success in the course. The homework will be posted in blackboard. When
you try to access them, the website will automatically bring you into McGraw-Hill’s LearnSmart website. There you will need to introduce your access code.

Exams

Practice midterm 1: In class 2/29/2016
Midterm 1: In class 3/2/2016
Midterm 2: In class 4/4/2016
Midterm 3: In class 4/25/2016
Final exam: 4/28/2016 from 8:00 A.M to 10:30 A.M

Tentative list of discussion/lecture topics

Part 1 Introduction

1. Thinking Like an Economist
2. Comparative Advantage
3. Supply and Demand

Part 2 Macroeconomics: Data and Issues

4. Spending, Income, and GDP
5. Inflation and the Price Level
6. Wages and Unemployment

Part 3 The Economy in the Long Run

7. Economic Growth
8. Saving, Capital Formation, and Financial Markets
9. Money, Prices, and the Financial System

Part 4 The Economy in the Short Run

10. Short-Term Economic Fluctuations
11. Spending, Output, and Fiscal Policy
COURSE SYLLABUS FOR ECON-112
Principles Of Macroeconomics

12. Monetary Policy and the Federal Reserve
13. Aggregate Demand, Aggregate Supply, and Business Cycles
14. Macroeconomic Policy

Part 5 The International Economy

Attendance

Students are not graded on attendance, however consistent attendance is crucial to success in this class. Attendance is taken every day and may be shared with athletics and student organizations that monitor attendance (with student approval).

Lateness and Courtesy

Please arrive on time to class and please turn off all cell phones. Texting during class is discouraged since it often distracts other students. Do not start getting your bags together before the end of class; it makes it hard for others to hear the end of class comments.

The Honor Code

The Honor Code is always in effect and will be enforced in this class. A copy of the Code is the Course Documents in Blackboard.

Students with Special Needs

Any student that needs more time to take an exam, distraction free environment, or note takers. In order to access the resources provided by Emory University, the student must be registered with the ADSR.