Economics 131(1) - Principles of Macroeconomics
Fall 2013

(Other important info for this course is posted on Laulima – see FAQs – you will be quizzed on the info on the syllabus and on Laulima info posted)

Instructor: David Ching   Office: Saunders Hall 535
Office Hours:  M&W 11:30-12:15 p.m., or by appt.

Email: deching@hawaii.edu

Teaching Assistant:   TBA (Please Cc all email to the TA, because they will be responsible for handling certain types of requests. Failing to do so will generally result in a non-response or a delayed response)

Course Description

Macroeconomics is the science of how the overall economy performs. This class will introduce the student to the principles of macroeconomics. These principles include but are not limited to the cause and effects of inflation, unemployment, economic growth, monetary and fiscal policy, exchange rates, balance of payments, and international trade. We will also examine and differentiate between the different macroeconomic theories in recent history that have shaped the science of economics.

There is no prerequisite for this course.

Class Resources

The following course materials are available at the university bookstore:


**Temporary FREE access is available**
Go to their website MyMath Lab and look for this option. There is no excuse (financial aid delay or etc) for not enrolling in the class online system. **Please keep screenshots or picture evidence of any problems you encounter if you hope to be granted any sort of “grace” in these instances.** Once the temp access expires, all records and scores can be reactivated once payment is ultimately made. This is a good option for students who are still deciding whether to stay in this class or not.

(If you encounter any problems with the online system, contact their 24 hr customer service provided on their website. Note: I am an end-user like yourself, so I will not be equipped to deal with tech issues. Keep screenshots or emails of correspondence to document problems and good faith efforts to resolve for deadline concessions.)
Grading Schedule

Grades will be based on the following:

Midterm 1, 2 & 3   15% (3x = 45%)
Final Exam    20% (Friday 12/20: 9:45 -11:45 a.m.- same room)
Quizzes:
- In-Class & online 15%
Homework    20%

I will be using the plus/minus system for assigning final grades. I reserve the right to make any changes to class policy and schedule. You will be informed of any changes that occur.

Midterms & Final
Midterms: will be multiple choice, T/F and short answers. There are no make-up exams unless you provide documentation from your health care professional (or other official excuse) with dates specified to cover the issue in question

Online Quizzes:
Online quizzes will be through the class textbook online program at deadlines to be announced in class, covering the chapters successfully completed. Online quizzes will be open-book and open-notes, but are to be completed individually, without assistance from others, also from separate IP addresses (different source computers). Hint: Study first… Time limitations will not accommodate a “study while taking” approach.

Online quizzes for a given section must be completed on the day of stated deadline by 11:59 p.m. (no exceptions). (Not all chapters have quizzes – I will hand-pick which sections/chapters. Announcements made in class and/or email prior. Announcements for in-class quizzes are a courtesy, and may come as late as the night before, but it is my desire to let you know the lecture prior when possible. Important: Keep up with the material!).

Attendance and Class Participation

While attendance will not be taken in class, attendance is mandatory, and if you miss any announcements (re: homework assignments, class administrative changes, etc.) there is no recourse unless you provide documentation from your health care professional (or other official excuse) with dates specified to cover the issue in question. You will be responsible for obtaining any missed info from a classmate. Establish a class contact early in the semester so you are able to get the info.

Homework
Required homework will be assigned either online through Myeconlab, or will be assigned to be turned in to be graded. All homework will be assigned either in-class or announced via email, or a combination of these. Attendance is mandatory, so failing to complete an assignment because of missing the announcement will not be a valid excuse.

Class Preparation - Please come prepared having completed the assigned reading for each class.

If you miss a deadline for any reason, you can still complete it with a 30% point deduction. It will be automatic, so no need to call, explain, or ask for leniency.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**: Please refer to this tentative course schedule.

- Midterm#1: Sep 13th, Friday
- Midterm#2: Oct 18th
- Midterm#3: Nov 15th

(These tentative midterm dates should be reliable, unless in-class announced changes are made)

**Academic Honesty**

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Failure to comply with University of Hawaii guidelines of academic honesty may result in a failing grade in the course and further action taken by the university. Please do not attempt to test this guideline.

**Cell phones and pagers**: I respect the students’ need for communication provided the following rules are followed without exception:

1. Devices are set on vibrate or silent mode.
2. Do not answer phone in class. Please leave instead of disrupting those around you.
3. All phone conversations are to be completed before reentering class.
4. Please respect these rules so no other steps need to be taken to assure compliance.

Class Preparation - Please come prepared having completed the assigned reading for each class. The textbook provides a good foundation for understanding definitions and basic concepts. Due to limited time and an abundance of material, basic material may not be covered in class however you will be responsible for this information for the exams.

The material in this course is valuable and can be very rewarding. Taking the time to learn the fundamentals will allow the student to take advantage of the knowledge when the opportunity presents itself. (If not now then in the future!)

**COURSE SCHEDULE - Fall ‘13**

Please refer to this tentative course schedule in preparation for attending each class.
Course Overview, Intro 1
Macroeconomic Issues and policy challenges 7
Scarcity 2
Demand, Supply and Equilibrium 3
Measuring Macroeconomic Performance 8
Economic Growth 9
Output and prices in the Long Run 10
Classical and Keynesian Macroeconomics 11
Consumption, Income, and the Multiplier 12
Fiscal Policy 13
Deficit Spending and Public Debt 14
Money, Banking, and Central Banking 15
Money Creation and Deposit Insurance 16
Monetary Policy 17
Stabilization in the world economy 18
Comparative Advantage & Open Economy 33
Exchange Rates and Balance of Payments 34

Final Exam: Friday 12/20: 9:45 -11:45 a.m.- same room

Please note -
Final Exam:

- Please check your schedule of courses to determine the final exam for this class.
- If you are not willing and/or able to take the final exam (or midterms) at the time indicated (due to travel arrangements, multiple exams scheduled, time conflicts, etc.), please do not take this class.
- I will not administer early or late exams.

Other Hints:

- Frequently check your UH account email and Laulima for this class. I will be frequently using this to communicate announcements or schedule updates or other hints. This is done as a courtesy, and missing these will not be allowed as excuses. (Your UH account can also be forwarded if you use another email regularly)
- This class moves fast, and can be difficult for those attempting to approach this style of material for the first time. Take note of how well you are learning the material (or methods utilizing), and see me ASAP if you have difficulty.
- In my opinion, the depth and breadth of this class is not typical of a “principles” course. It can be challenging.

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How to Register and Enroll in Your MyEconLab Course
Course Name: Econ 131 (1) Fall2013
Course ID: ching98108
To join your instructor's course, please complete the following two steps:
1. Register for MyEconLab
2. Enroll in your instructor's course

To register, you will need:

1. A valid e-mail address.
2. The access code that came with your MyEconLab/Coursecompass Kit (or a credit card or Pay Pal account if you wish to purchase access online).
3. The Course ID listed above.

Step 1: Register for MyEconLab

1. Go to http://www.myeconlab.com and click the Student button, in the Register section.
2. Enter your Course ID: ching98108
3. Choose to register an access code or to buy access.
4. Follow the instructions to set up your login and password for your course.

Step 2: Enroll in your instructor's course

1. Login to MyEconLab at http://www.myeconlab.com with your newly created Login Name and Password
2. Enter your course ID: ching98108

If you purchased access, visit the Student Center inside your Instructor's Course for additional purchase options.

Note: If you are taking two MyEconLab/Coursecompass courses simultaneously you will need two separate login accounts.

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