

3.1 MyEconLab

During this course, to complete the required problem sets, you will be required to access an on-line learning system called MyEconLab. To access the MyEconLab website, you need to register for an account at <http://www.myeconlab.com>. Registration instructions, and a PDF file that will guide you through the process of registering on the MyEconLab website, are on the course home page on RamCT. The instructor's course ID is **tavani86789**. *Please register on the website within the first week of the semester.*

4 Lectures

The class will meet twice a week: TR 9.30-10.45 in C358 Clark. Classes will be a combination of lectures and in-class exercises. Students are responsible for all the material covered in class, during in-class exercises, the material in the assigned chapters of the text, and additional material posted on RamCT. According to CSU academic calendar, **the following days are University holidays**: March 15-23 (Spring Break).

4.1 Attendance Policy. Class Participation

Attending lectures is strongly recommended because it is in your best interest. In order to encourage you to come to class, I will take attendance at random throughout the semester, for a total of *up to five* (5) times. Any time I take attendance and your name appears on the attendance sheet you will receive 20 points (1.25%) of extra credit towards your final score. This means that if your name appears on three out of five attendance sheets you will receive 60 points (3.75%) extra credit.

If for any reason you know you won't be able to come to class, please let me know at least one day in advance, or provide written evidence for any medical or family emergency that prevented you from coming to class. If you do so, even if I pass along the attendance sheet on that day, you won't lose any points because of skipping class, although you won't be getting the attendance extra credit. On the other hand, for any day I record attendance, you are absent, and fail to communicate it to me and/or provide the required ex-post evidence, 40 points (2.5%) will be cut from your total score. For example, if your name is missing on three attendance sheets out of the ones I collected, you will be marked down 120 points (7.5%) toward your final grade.

Class participation is strongly encouraged, because it raises the level of the discussion, resulting ultimately in a better learning experience. I will usually ask questions to the general audience, and sometimes cold-call individual students on specific issues. Thus, it is always a good idea to be current on the readings required for the course as outlined in Section 13.

5 Announcements and Communications, Office Hours

Announcements of importance to the class will be posted on RamCT, and/or emails sent through RamCT. **It is your responsibility to be aware of the announcements in timely fashion.** Failure to be aware of announcements that results in missing parts of the required work for this course will not be tolerated.

The quickest way to reach me is to send me an email at Daniele.Tavani@colostate.edu.

My office hours are TR 11-12. You are encouraged to come talk to me regarding any issue you have in the course. If the time slot I allotted for office hours doesn't work for you, please send me an email, or come talking to me in class, and we will schedule an appointment. I usually keep my door closed, because my office is in a busy corner of the Clark building. If the door is closed, just knock.

6 Required Work

This section lists minimal expectations about contact hours, grading policies, problem sets and exams for this class. You should expect to work for this class a minimum of 7 hours a week outside of class time.

Activity	Contact Hours/week
Attend class	2.5
Read assigned readings	2.0
Review class notes	1.0
Work on problem sets	2.0
Study for exams	2.0
Total	9.5

6.1 Grading Policy

The final grade in this class will result after summing up the scores you'll receive in electronically submitted problem sets, midterm exams, and a final exam. There are 1600 points available in total for the class, and your final letter grade will be calculated dividing the total number of points you obtained by 1600.

Letter grades are assigned on a straight scale: A is 90-100 percent, B is 80-89 percent, C is 70-79 percent, D is 60-69 percent, and F is 59 percent or less. Pluses, but not minuses, will be assigned at the discretion of the professor.

6.2 Problem Sets

(600 possible points) Weekly problem sets will be posted on MyEconLab and will be due as specified in the table below. Each problem set consists of a Homework and a Quiz. Both are mandatory. Even though the total number of points available on MyEconLab may be different than 600, your total score on the problem sets will be scaled so that 100%=600, 90%=540, and so on. You must submit your assignment electronically; missing submissions by the due date will count 0 points. You are responsible to keep hard copies, or PDF versions of your problem sets for your reference. Since problem sets are due electronically, **no late submissions will be accepted.**

Unless otherwise specified, all problem sets are due at 11.59pm. Variations on the due dates below will be communicated through RamCT.

Tentative Problem Sets due dates:

Getting Started: 1/23/14	PSet 1& 2: 1/27/14	Pset 3: 2/3/14	PSet 4: 2/10/14
PSet 5: 2/17/14	PSet 6: 3/3/14	Pset 7: 3/10/14	PSet 8: 3/24/14
PSet 9: 4/7/14	PSet 10: 4/14/14	PSet 11: 4/21/14	PSet 12: 5/5/14

6.3 Midterm Exams

(600 possible points) There will be three (3) in class midterm exams consisting of 30 multiple choice questions each. Each midterm is worth 300 points, but only the best two midterm scores will count toward your grade. **You must be able to provide written evidence of any medical or family emergency which causes you to unexpectedly miss any of the midterm exams as scheduled.** In case no such evidence is provided, and you miss one of the midterm exams, you will receive 0 points for it.

Tentative dates and topics for the Midterm Exams are:

Exam 1: Tuesday, 2/25: Chapters 1 through 5.

Exam 2: Thursday 3/27. Chapters 6 through 9.

Exam 3: Thursday, 4/29. Chapters 10 through 13.

I will promptly communicate in class and through RamCT variations in the dates and/or the topics included in the midterms, in order to accommodate for the actual progress made in the class.

6.4 Final Exam

(400 possible points) The final exam will be cumulative and will consist of fifty (50) multiple choice questions. There will be roughly 40 questions on topics pertaining to the previous midterm exams, and about 10 questions covering new material. **You must be able to provide written evidence of any medical or family emergency which causes you to unexpectedly miss the final exam as scheduled.** In case no such evidence is provided, and you miss the final exam, you will receive 0 points for it. Also, a student is not allowed to drop the grade of the final exam if it is the lowest grade s/he got. The final exam will take place according to the university exam schedule, available at <http://registrar.colostate.edu/fall-final-exam-schedule>: Monday, May 12, 2014, 2-4pm, in Clark C358.

7 Make up Policy

You must be able to provide written evidence of any medical or family emergency which causes you to unexpectedly miss any of the midterm exams. In case no such evidence is provided, and you miss any of the midterm exams, you will receive 0 points for it. Still, you can drop this score and make your other 2 midterms count towards your final grade.

If you know in advance that you are not going to be able to take one of the exams as scheduled, please notify me as soon as possible so that we can make arrangements for you to take the test at a different date. I will allow make up exams within a week after the original test date. In case you miss the final exam without notice, you will be given 0 points for it, and no make-up will be allowed, unless you are able to provide evidence of a family or medical emergency as specified above.

I am not willing to allow make up exams for students who don't show up for the exam without previous notice.

Because problem sets are due electronically, late submissions will not be allowed.

8 Flu Policy

If you have the flu, please contact me and/or your TA in advance and don't come to class. There is a Flu Self-Reporting Link on RamWeb. To self-report that you are sick, click on the link that appears at the top left of the page right after login. We will check self-reported sicknesses periodically, and we will provide all the material needed for you to keep up the pace of the course through RamCT and/or the RamCT course website. If any of the instructors catches the flu, class or recitation will be canceled for the day. Announcements will be posted promptly on RamCT and/or the RamCT course website. In case a last-minute illness occurs among any of the instructors, please don't forget to check RamCT for last-minute announcements. Signs will be put on classroom doors in case class is canceled. Slides or notes which will guide students through the missed class material will be posted on RamCT and/or the RamCT course website.

9 Academic Integrity

Academic misconduct like cheating or plagiarism will be taken very seriously in this course. Any academic dishonesty in this course may result in a grade of “F” for the course and may be reported to the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct Services.

Please be aware that the General Catalog specifically identifies the following examples of academic dishonesty: cheating in the classroom, plagiarism, unauthorized possession or disposition of academic materials, falsification, and facilitation of cases of academic dishonesty.

Plagiarism is defined as follows:

“Plagiarism includes the copying of language, structure, ideas, or thoughts of another, and representing them as one’s own without proper acknowledgment. Examples include a submission of purchased research papers as one’s own work; paraphrasing and/or quoting material without properly documenting the source.” (General Catalog 2012-2013, 1.6, p.8)

See <http://www.facultycouncil.colostate.edu/files/manual/sectioni.htm#I.5>.

At the beginning of every test, I will ask you to sign the following CSU Student Honor Pledge:

“I have not given, received, or used any unauthorized assistance.”

The honor pledge will be added to the question sheet of each exam, and I expect you to sign it. However, according to the official policy about academic integrity at CSU, “not signing the honor pledge will not be considered as evidence that a student has committed academic misconduct.” You can find further information about the Honor Pledge at <http://tilt.colostate.edu/integrity/honorpledge>.

10 Accomodation for Disability

Reasonable requests for accomodation to disabilities will be entertained. However, students are responsible for requesting accommodations in a timely manner and must be recognized as eligible for the accommodation through Resources for Disabled Students (RDS). For more information see <http://rds.colostate.edu/index.asp>.

11 Schedule Conflicts

According to the University Policy on the matter, you are required to alert me of complications about the scheduled date of the final exam, such as more than three finals the same day, *by the third week of class*. Failing to do so will result in my inability to make special arrangements, and you will have to take the exam the day it is scheduled.

12 Class Etiquette

You are expected to come to class on time and to leave when class is dismissed. If you need to leave early for any reason, please tell me at the beginning of class. In general, I will not tolerate the use of laptops, cellphones or other mobile devices during class time. I will encourage you to speak your mind during class discussions, but I will not hesitate to shut down any behavior that is not respectful of the opinions of other students.

13 Class Topics

Each numbered item corresponds roughly to a week. The following list is extremely tentative, as there are far more topics than one can comfortably cover over the course of the semester. Specific topics can be dropped or added according to the progress made in the class.

The Basics

1. The big actors on the World scene: US, China, Europe. Basic macroeconomic variables: GDP, unemployment, inflation. A quick look at the current crisis (Chapters 1 and 2).

The Short-Run

2. The goods market and the income-expenditure model (Chapter 3).
3. Financial Markets. Monetary Policy and the FED (Chapter 4).
4. Goods and financial markets: the IS-LM model, or the macroeconomy in the short-run (Chapter 5).

The Medium-Run

5. The Labor Market in the medium run. The natural rate of unemployment (Chapter 6).
6. Goods, financial, and labor markets: the AD-AS model. (Chapter 7).
7. The natural rate of unemployment and the Phillips curve. Expectations (Chapter 8).

The Economic Crisis

8. The Global Crisis. The US housing bubble of the early 2000. From a financial crisis to a global recession. Policy Responses to the crisis (Chapter 9).

The Long-Run

9. Basic Growth Facts. US long-run growth. Time-series and cross-country comparisons (Chapter 10).
10. Capital accumulation and savings. The Solow Growth Model. Human capital (Chapter 11).
11. Knowledge, Technical progress, and growth. Endogenous growth models (Chapter 12).

The Open Economy (as time permits)

12. Open economy basics. Exchange rates and interest rates determination (Chapter 18).
13. Goods market in open economy. Effects of domestic and foreign shocks on domestic output and trade balance. Effects of exchange rate depreciation/appreciation on domestic output and trade balance (Chapter 19).
14. Macroeconomic policy in open economies (Chapter 20).