

# ECON 204: Principles of Macroeconomics

---

**Instructor:** Luke Petach, Ph.D. Candidate

**Office:** Clark C311-C  
**Office Hours:** MTWRF 12:00pm – 1:00pm, or by appointment

**Email:** lapetach@rams.colostate.edu  
This is my preferred method of communication.

**Term Start:** July 11  
**Term End:** August 5  
**Course Location:** Behavioral Sciences 105

## Course Websites:

<http://info.canvas.colostate.edu/login.aspx>

- Login using your Colorado State University eID and password
- Under Course List, click “2016SM-ECON-204-003: Principles of Macroeconomics”

<http://www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpad/krugmanwellsmodulesmacro3/3489964>

(LaunchPad, see link on Canvas)

## Course Description

This course is designed as an introductory survey of economy-wide issues such as inflation, unemployment, national output, employment, and government deficits and debt. The basic aggregate demand/supply model will be introduced and used to model historical events. Monetary and fiscal policies will be surveyed where both their benefits and shortcomings will be discussed. Alternative economic theories will also be included throughout the course.

## Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, students should:

- Be familiar with the data and tools of macroeconomic policy
- Be able to describe the costs and benefits of inflation, unemployment, and government debt
- Be equipped to evaluate public policies in an informed and objective manner
- Recognize the institutional surroundings that impact macroeconomic phenomena
- Understand the determinants and consequences of certain economic crises
- Further their analytical, research, and writing skills

## Course Structure

### Prerequisites

**Principles of Microeconomics** (AREC 202 or ECON 202) **and Algebra** [MATH 117 (College Algebra in Context I) or MATH 118 (College Algebra in Context II) or MATH 141 (Calculus in Management Sciences) or MATH 155 (Calculus for Biological Scientists I) or MATH 160 (Calculus for Physical Scientists I)].

### Required Textbook

1. Your text is *Macroeconomics in Modules* (3rd Edition) *with LaunchPad* by Paul Krugman and Robin Wells.

(ISBN-13: 978319000172). Purchase options (note that LaunchPad includes an eBook):

- a. Custom CSU bundle (includes paper text with LaunchPad access) through CSU Bookstore: [www.bookstore.colostate.edu/SelectTermDept.aspx](http://www.bookstore.colostate.edu/SelectTermDept.aspx)
- b. Purchase paper text alone (ISBN: 9781319000158) and purchase access to LaunchPad separately
- c. Purchase access to LaunchPad only (\$81)

2. Launchpad is the web-based study tool that follows the Krugman text. ***LaunchPad is required.*** Your quizzes and exams are administered on LaunchPad, thus it is important to register for it ASAP. More details on registration, technical support, and this course's use of LaunchPad are provided below.

### Lectures

This class meets every day for only four weeks. **It is very important that you attend lecture every day.** Missing one day during the summer session is equivalent to missing an entire week during a standard 16 week semester! Attendance is therefore necessary, and participation is strongly encouraged.

### Coursework

This course will be graded out of 520 points. All coursework can be divided into three categories: Quizzes, Papers, and Exams.

### Quizzes

I will assign fifteen quizzes over the course of the semester. Quizzes must be completed by **midnight Thursday** of the week they were assigned. Although you can wait till the end of each week to do them, it is recommended that you follow along with these quizzes as they are assigned rather than waiting until the last minute. ***Under no circumstances will quizzes submitted after the deadline receive any credit.*** Only your highest twelve quiz scores will be counted towards your final grade. Each assignment will include questions which will require you to apply the tools learned in lecture and recitation. Go to the web address at the top of the syllabus to register with LaunchPad. Each quiz will be contained within a folder numbered by Week. The week numbers correspond to a sixteen week semester which means we will cover approximately one of these "week folders" per class day. Announcements will be made each day to update you on quizzes that you should be able to complete given the material covered.

Things to note about LaunchPad:

- You must use your CSU email when registering, otherwise your grades will not copy into Canvas.
- Run the LaunchPad system check (link is near the bottom of the page) before trying the first homework assignment and often throughout the semester.
- You must utilize their technical support if you are having any technical issues with site functionality. The phone number is on the LaunchPad home page and phone calls will get quicker responses than emails.

## Papers

Written assignments require students to respond to a provided topic centered on critical thinking, interpretation and good argument support. More details will be given for these paper prompts and students will be given time to complete these assignments with a minimum of two class periods before each due date. Students are **required** to submit their work to a plagiarism detection program to receive a grade.

## GT Pathways Writing Requirement

This course is an approved GT Pathways course which allows students to transfer the credit of this course to another institution. To help eliminate the guesswork of transferring general education course credits, Colorado has developed a statewide guaranteed transfer (GT) program. To satisfy this requirement, 25% of students' grades (155 pts) must be attributed to written work. This course satisfies this requirement through the papers (100 points) as well as the short answer sections of the first three midterm exams. To qualify for GT Pathways:

- *At least one writing assignment must be an out-of-class piece of written work.*
- *In-class written work, such as on exams, must be in the form of essays.*

In addition, expectations of written work include students demonstrating:

- *The ability to convey a theme or argument clearly and coherently.*
- *The ability to analyze critically and to synthesize the work of others.*
- *The ability to acquire and apply information from appropriate sources, and reference sources appropriately.*
- *Competence in standard written English.*

## Exams

We will have four exams over the course of the semester. Each exam will cover material for the most recent section except for the final, which is cumulative. These exams will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer. Tentative exam dates are listed below:

**Exam 1:** Friday, July 15

**Exam 2:** Friday, July 22

**Exam 3:** Friday, July 29

**Final Exam:** Friday, August 5

You are allowed to drop your lowest midterm exam (Exams 1-3) score. The final exam cannot be dropped and will cover all material from the semester but will be weighted heavier for newer material.

## Course Policies

### Grading System

Quizzes	12 @ 10 pts	= 120 pts (Note: Drop 3 lowest)	23.1%
Papers	1 @ 100 pts	= 100 pts	19.2%
Exams	3 @ 100 pts	= <u>300 pts</u> (Note: Drop lowest midterm)	<u>57.7%</u>
		<b>520 pts</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Letter Grades

Each number below represents the minimum point threshold necessary to achieve the following letter grade:

Points	Letter Grade	Points	Letter Grade
484	A	400	C+
468	A-	364	C
452	B+	312	D
432	B	0	F
416	B-		

These point thresholds are non-negotiable.

### Class Expectations

Each week, a student should commit the following hours to tasks related to class:

Task	Devoted Time
Attend lectures	8 hours
Homework	12.5 hours
Reading class material	15 hours
Exams	2 hours
<b>Total</b>	<b>37.5 hours</b>

Over the course of the semester, you should expect to spend **150 hours** working on this course.

### Make-ups and Missing Assignments

No makeup exams or homework assignments will be allowed. The only exceptions are in cases of documented medical emergencies or conflicts with University sanctioned activities.

### Academic Integrity

We take academic integrity seriously. At minimum, academic integrity means that no one will use another's work as their own. The CSU writing center defines plagiarism this way:

*“Plagiarism is the unauthorized or unacknowledged use of another person's academic or scholarly work. Done on purpose, it is cheating. Done accidentally, it is no less serious. Regardless of how it occurs, plagiarism is a theft of intellectual property and a violation of an ironclad rule demanding credit be given where credit is due.”*

—Writing Guides: Understanding Plagiarism.

<http://writing.colostate.edu/guides/researchsources/understandingplagiarism>

**Academic Dishonesty could result in expulsion from the university.** Each instance of plagiarism, classroom cheating, and other types of academic dishonesty will be addressed according to the principles published in the CSU General Catalog (see page seven, column two: <http://www.catalog.colostate.edu/front/policies.aspx>). The instructor reserves the right to assess penalties of zero grades on the assignment/exam or a failing grade in the course as appropriate.

Of course, academic integrity means more than just avoiding plagiarism and cheating. It also involves doing your own reading and studying. It includes class attendance, careful consideration of all class materials, and engagement with the class and your fellow students. Academic integrity lies at the core of our common goal: to create an intellectually honest and rigorous community. Each exam and assignment you submit, you are implicitly signing and acknowledging that you have followed the CSU student honor pledge:

*"I have not given, received, or used any unauthorized assistance."*

### **Classroom Conduct**

Students are required to act respectfully in the classroom at all times, any disruptive behavior that inhibits fellow-student learning will not be permitted and will constitute a one day removal from lecture/recitation; a second offense will require a formal meeting with the student, instructor, and GTA. Such behavior includes holding conversations during lecture/recitation, any unauthorized cell phone, laptop, or tablet use, or other behavior which detracts from the class.

### **Accommodation and Tutoring Options**

Those with need for alternative testing services or other accommodations, please visit RDS (<http://rds.colostate.edu>). Additional tutoring is available to all students through TILT (<http://tilt.colostate.edu/learning/tutoring/artSciences.cfm>). Help with written assignments can be found at the Writing Center (<http://writingcenter.colostate.edu>). All students are **highly** encouraged to take advantage of these extremely beneficial and costless resources.