



**SACRAMENTO STATE UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS  
SPRING 2010**

**ECON 1A: INTRODUCTION TO MACROECONOMIC ANALYSIS**

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**Course Description:** Introductory inquiry into the workings and interrelationships of the aggregate economic system. The primary focus is on total production and its distribution, employment and price levels, and the forces influencing them. Other considerations are the roles of government, the monetary sector, and related areas. 3 units.  
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**Instructor Information:** Timothy Ford  
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**Required Materials:** *Brief Principles of Macroeconomics*, by N. Gregory Mankiw, 5<sup>th</sup> edition

You are required to register for this course online through Aplia (\$80.00). Your registration includes an online version of the textbook. You may choose to order a hard copy of the textbook through Aplia (for an additional fee).

**APLIA COURSE KEY: TS2H-QSQB-N873**

**Class Meetings:** Tu and Th: 1:30 PM-2:45 PM Mariposa 1001

**Office Hours:** Tu and Th: 3:00-5:00 PM or by appointment. Also feel free to stop by my office or e-mail me if you have any questions.

Course websites: <http://www.iloveeconomics.com>  
and  
<http://econ.aplia.com/>

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**Grading:**

Homework	30% of final grade
Exam I	20% of final grade
Exam II	20% of final grade
Comprehensive Final Exam	30% of final grade

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## Homework Assignments

Assignments will be completed at the Aplia web site. Computer problems are not an excuse for missing assignments. All assignments are due by the stated deadline. It is not possible to extend time for assignments after the due date. If you add the course late in the semester, you cannot makeup work you have missed.

Give yourself ample time to complete the assignments. These assignments are challenging and important both for your homework grade and your performance in the class.

Answer keys for all material will be available online on Aplia immediately after the due date and time. Please be sure to review your problem sets before exams.

## Attendance

Attendance at lecture is left up to your discretion. That being said, my advice to you is to come to class, take good notes, and use your text as a secondary reference.

## Exams

I do not set specific dates for exams at the beginning of the semester because I like to have the flexibility to speed up or slow down depending on how I think the class understands the material. However, once an exam date is set there will be very few excuses for missing one. These include a death in the family, a University-sponsored event or excursion, or a serious illness documented by a doctor. You are responsible for bringing a scantron form (882-E), a pencil, and a non-cell-phone calculator to all exams. Exams are all closed-book, closed-note, and closed-friend/neighbor.

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## Additional Information

If you have a physical or learning disability that requires accommodation, please let me know as soon as possible and contact Services to Students with Disabilities at (916) 278-6955 to get the proper documentation well in advance of the first exam.

Don't cheat. Neither of us really wants to have to deal with this situation, but my job is to teach you economics and then give you a grade that reflects your knowledge of the subject. If you cheat, you force me to assume that you know zero, and that is precisely the grade you will get. Additionally, all instances of cheating and/or plagiarism will be reported to Judicial Affairs. All students are expected to adhere to the University Student Code of Conduct outlined in the *CSUS University Policy Manual*. Please read the policy manual carefully at [www.csus.edu/admbus/umannual/UMAN00150.htm](http://www.csus.edu/admbus/umannual/UMAN00150.htm).

It is useful to clarify the difference between acceptable group study and unacceptable sponging off of your unsuspecting neighbor. **I encourage you to work together on assigned practice problems and even graded homework assignments, although every student is responsible for submitting his/her own answers to each graded assignment in order to receive credit.**

**GE Area: D1A.** This course meets the GE writing requirement through brief written response questions on in-class exercises and/or on examinations. You will find that economics develops your analytical skills and the resulting analyses may involve graphical solutions, mathematical solutions, written responses, or some combination of the above. Success in this course requires that you work on all of these skills.

**TENTATIVE Course Outline (subject to change at instructor's discretion):**

<b><u>Topic</u></b>	<b><u>Chapter</u></b>
Introduction to Economics	1
Thinking Like an Economists	2
Interdependence and Gains from Trade	3
Supply and Demand	4
Measuring the Nation's Income	5
Measuring the Cost of Living	6
Exam #1	
Production and Growth	7
Savings, Investment, & the Financial System	8
Unemployment	10
The Monetary System	11
Exam #2	
Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply	15
The Influence of Monetary and Fiscal Policy on Aggregate Demand	16
The Short-Run Trade-off between Inflation and Unemployment	17
TBA	