

# Economics 2305: Macroeconomics Principles Summer IV 2005 (Section: 03321)

## *Course Syllabus*

Time: MTWTH 12:00am - 2:00pm  
Location: Science and Engineering Research Complex, 205 (SEC-205)  
Instructor: Tanya Molodtsova  
Office Hours: TTH 10.00am -11.30am or by appointment  
Office: McElhinney Hall, room 250  
Tel: (713) 743-3816  
Email: [tvmolodt@mail.uh.edu](mailto:tvmolodt@mail.uh.edu)  
Web-page: <http://uh.edu/~tvmolodt>

Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Math 1310 (or a higher Math), or consent of instructor. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that you have the necessary prerequisite.

Required Text: Mankiw, N. Gregory; Principles of Macroeconomics, 4<sup>th</sup> ed (available at Aplia)

Required supplements: paid subscription to [www.aplia.com](http://www.aplia.com) (*Aplia*)

**There are no make-up exams, so it is important that you do not miss either one. Midterm exams 1 - 4 will be held in the ordinary classroom during the ordinary class time on the designated date. One lowest grade will be dropped. You must complete weekly assignments online (typically, the due date is each Saturday 11:45pm) and, in addition, you are responsible for all lecture materials and reading assignments.**

NO MAKE UP EXAMS. Any missed exam will receive a grade of zero. There are no exceptions. You are expected to show up to the exams (and class) on time.

CLASS INFORMATION: THE SYLLABUS IS PRELIMINARY AND IS THE SUBJECT OF CHANGE. If you miss a class, you are expected to get material from another student in the course. If you work and your job is such that you are unable to attend lectures, then you should not be enrolled in this course. I will not give any information over the phone or email that you would have known had you attended class or read the web page information.

**HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS (total 25%):** There will be home assignments every week. During this course, to complete certain assignments, you will be required to access a new website dedicated to students and professors of economics. To access the website, you need to register for an account with *Aplia* at <http://econ.aplia.com>. At the end of this syllabus I have provided you with an instruction sheet as well as a course key so that you can register. Please register on the website as soon as possible. There is a grace period for payment. During this grace period you WILL BE allowed to complete all assignments even if you have not paid yet. If you don't pay by the deadline, however, you will then be locked out of the website.

Homeworks will count for 25% of your final grade. Some of the homework assignments are for practice only and will not count towards your homework grade. **Generally, graded assignments are due every Saturday by 11:45 p.m.** I advise you NOT wait until Saturday to start these assignments! Please note that these due dates are strict and NO exceptions can be made. Because of this lack of flexibility each student is allowed three free passes. This will help account for computer and other problems that may prohibit you from completing an assignment. No more than three grades will be dropped **for any reason**, so be sure you are aware of all due dates and start assignments early! Assignments and quizzes may be added later, so be sure to check often!

**GRADES:** GRADES ARE NOT NEGOTIABLE. Do not contact me after the final semester grades have been posted asking me to change your grade for any reason. [Of course, if you believe your grade was posted erroneously by all means DO contact me.] In addition, **there is NO extra credit for this course. Don't ask.**

EXAMS AND GRADING POLICY: There will be 4 EXAMS that will cover the relevant sections of the class. The lowest of your four midterm exam scores will be dropped; the other three will count for 25% each (**total 75%**). The tentative dates for exams are listed in the course outline on the attached page. If the date of exam is going to change I will announce it in advance. It is your responsibility to make sure there are no schedule conflicts with other classes you enrolled in. Grades will be calculated as follows:

Homework assignments	25%
Exam I	25%
Exam II	25%
Exam III	25%

Grade scale:

93-100	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-66	D
60-62	D-
<60	F

\*note that grades may be curved so that the class distribution is normalized (the familiar “Bell curve”). So, on midterm scores you should consider your percentage grade as your “worst case scenario”. It is possible for there to be no curve.

Important Dates:

Midterm #1: July, 12

Midterm #2: July, 24

Midterm #3: July, 31

Midterm #4: August, 9

Course Outline:

Dates	Topics Covered	Chapters	Notes
07/05	Ten Principles of Economics; Thinking like an Economist	1, 2	
07/06	Interdependence and Gains from Trade	3	HW: 2,3
07/10	The Market Forces of Supply and Demand	4	
07/11	Review: Chapters 1 - 4		
July, 12	MIDTERM EXAM #1	Chapters: 1-4	
07/13	Measuring a Nation's Income	10	HW: 4, 10
07/17	Measuring the Cost of Living	11	
07/18	Production and Growth	12	Last day to drop w/o a grade
07/19	Saving, Investment, and the Financial Systems	13	
07/20	Review: Chapters 10-13		HW: 11, 12, 13
July, 24	MIDTERM EXAM #2	Chapters: 10-13	
07/25	Unemployment and its Natural Rate	15	
07/26	The Monetary System	16	
07/27	Money Growth and Inflation	17	HW: 15, 16, 17
July, 31	MIDTERM EXAM #3	Chapters: 15 - 17	Last day to drop or withdraw
08/01	Open-Economy Macroeconomics: Basic Concepts	18	
08/02	A Macroeconomic Theory of the Open Economy	19	
08/03	Aggregate Demand & Aggregate Supply	20	HW: 18, 19, 20
08/07	The Influence of Monetary and Fiscal Policy on Aggregate Demand	21	
08/08	Review: Chapters 18-21		
August, 9	MIDTERM EXAM #4	Chapters 18-21	Last day of class

**Student Registration Instructions**  
**Principles of Macro - Summer IV 2006, Molodstova**  
Professor Tanya Molodtsova

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**\*\*DO NOT PURCHASE A TEXTBOOK AT THE BOOKSTORE UNTIL YOU READ THIS\*\***

You will be using Aplia for this course. Aplia is an online product that contains both a digital version of the textbook and online homework.

**Your course key is: 4F53-BECT-K687**

### **How to Use Aplia**

#### **Step 1: Register for Your Aplia Course**

##### **First Time Aplia Users:**

1. Connect to <http://econ.aplia.com>
2. On the Sign In page, click the Go button next to "Test Your System Configuration"; this takes just a few seconds and provides detailed information on how to update your system if necessary
3. Head back to the Sign In page and click the "Register Here" link
4. Fill out the form and click Continue
5. Enter Your Course Key (above)

##### **Returning Aplia Users:**

1. Connect to <http://econ.aplia.com> and sign in using your usual e-mail and password
2. Enter your course key (above)

Problems with registration or sign in? You can always e-mail Aplia by clicking on the "Help" link in the upper-right corner of any page or by e-mailing [support@aplia.com](mailto:support@aplia.com).

#### **Step 2: Choose Your Payment Option (You have until 07.15.06 to pay for your course and decide which option to choose)**

You have several payment options. To find the right option for you, decide whether you want to purchase a physical textbook.

**Note that your Aplia course includes a digital edition (online version) of the textbook.** The physical text is optional.

#### **Do you want to buy a physical textbook?**

##### **If No, simply pay for your Aplia course (\$60.00):**

- Instructions on the Aplia website walk you through the payment process. There are several ways to pay. You can pay online with credit, debit, or electronic check. Aplia also accepts money orders mailed to: Aplia, Inc., 959 Skyway Rd, Suite 325, San Carlos, CA 94070.

##### **If Yes, choose from these two options:**

#### **1. Purchase a physical textbook through Aplia (\$60.00 for Aplia, plus \$50.00 for the physical textbook and \$5.00 in shipping and handling)**

- **First**, purchase your Aplia course. Instructions on the Aplia website walk you through the payment process. You can pay online with credit, debit, or electronic check. Aplia also accepts money orders mailed to: Aplia, Inc., 959 Skyway Rd, Suite 325, San Carlos, CA 94070.
- **Next**, purchase your physical textbook from Aplia. After you pay for your Aplia course you can order a textbook through Aplia. Just sign into your Aplia course, click on the Bookstore link on your Home page, and

follow the prompts to place your order.

- You can view Aplia's refund policy on textbooks in Aplia's Terms and Conditions of Use: [http://econ.aplia.com/af/support/terms.jsp?](http://econ.aplia.com/af/support/terms.jsp)

**Or**

## **2. Buy your physical textbook from the campus bookstore (price determined by bookstore)**

- Textbooks from your campus bookstore come bundled with an Aplia Payment Code. Use the payment code to pay for your Aplia course online. The Aplia Payment Code covers your entire Aplia course fee. Aplia does not refund courses paid for with an Aplia Payment Code.

**Grace period for payment:** You may register and use the website until **07.15.06** without paying the fee. If you are considering dropping this course during the drop/add period, do not make a payment until you decide to stay in the course. You need to pay the full amount before the end of the grace period to continue using the site.

**Aplia assignments:** Most assignments come in pairs of practice problem sets and graded problem sets. Practice problem sets give you immediate feedback and an explanation of the correct answer. They do not count toward your homework grade. Use them to check your understanding of the material. If you feel confident about the material, you can go directly to the graded set and refer to the practice set only if you want some help.

The graded problem sets have a firm due date. You can change your answers as many times as you like before the due date passes. Once the due date passes, Aplia records your grade and you can no longer change your answers or complete the assignment. In other words, Aplia assignments must be done by the due date. The software does not understand excuses. Do your assignments early to keep last minute emergencies from getting in your way. After the due date, Aplia displays the correct answers and explanations for graded problems.

**Student benefits of Apla:** Cramming is an ineffective learning method. Apla lets you learn by doing -- you can apply what you hear and see in the classroom and what you read in the text. Think of the regular assignments on Apla as a weekly economics workout. Regular work in Apla will better prepare you for lectures and exams.

## **FAQ**

### **What is an Apla Payment Code and how can I get one?**

The Apla Payment Code is just another way to pay your Apla course fee. You can find it bundled with your text. Your Apla Payment Code is different from your Apla Course Key. The course key allows us to identify your economics class and professor; the payment code tells us that you prepaid your entire Apla course fee when you purchased the code. An Apla Payment Code follows the format of xxxxx-xxx-xxxxx-xxx and is printed on a separate card included with your textbook.

### **What if I purchase a payment code after paying for Apla with my credit/debit card or electronic check?**

We can refund your payment. To speed up the refund process, sign into your Apla course and go to the My Account tab. Click on My Courses, and enter your payment code. You will then receive an automatic refund.

### **Under what circumstances can I get a refund?**

You are entitled to a refund if you submit a refund request to Apla during the original grace period for payment. The grace period for your course expires on 07.15.06. No refunds will be granted after this date. Requests for refunds must be submitted by email or letter and received by Apla within the stipulated time period. Contact [support@aplia.com](mailto:support@aplia.com) or write to Apla, Inc., 959 Skyway Rd, Suite 325, San Carlos, CA 94070 USA, to request a refund.

Note: No refunds are issued for courses paid for with an Apla Payment Code under any circumstances.

### **How do I access my textbook on the Apla website?**

A digital version of your textbook is available in your Apla course. You can access textbook chapters on the Home page or through your weekly assignments.

**Disclaimer:** I receive no monetary benefit from requiring Apla assignments.