

ECONOMICS 201 (section 40)

INTRODUCTION TO MACROECONOMICS

Fall 2019
MW 3:30-4:50PM, HRS 107

Robert J. Gordon, office Kellogg Global Hub 3341
847-491-3616; rjg@northwestern.edu
web site: google Robert J. Gordon
Office Hours, T 4-5:30 pm or by e-m
appointment

Teaching Assistants:

Mario Cannella, MarioCannella2022@u.northwestern.edu
Gaston Lopez, GastonLopez2024@u.northwestern.edu
Jason Premo, JasonPremo2023@u.northwestern.edu

1. *The Course: Its Purpose and Prerequisites.* Economics 201 is the basic introduction to economics that must be taken by every prospective economics major. It is also taken as a distribution requirement for several other majors. ***There are no prerequisites for Economics 201.***
2. *Required Reading.* Textbook, Sapling homework problems, and course packet.
3. *Advice.* If you don't understand a particular point in the lecture, raise your hand and ask it on the spot. Or come up and ask after class. For detailed questions about the text, Sapling homework, or other textbook-related issues, talk to your TA in the section meeting or you can go to the TA's office hours. ***The TAs and I both pledge that any e-mail question will be answered within 24 hours, seven days a week.***
4. *Requirements.*
 - a. *Sapling Learning homework assignments*, 10 percent of your grade. **Note: You get three tries on each question, and your three lowest homework scores will be automatically dropped.** No extensions are given on the posted date/time deadlines for submitting the Sapling homework.
 - b. *Short Quizzes (5).* In TA sections on the dates indicated on the schedule. Counts 20 percent of grade. **Note: Your lowest quiz score will be automatically dropped.**

c. *Midterms* (2). Monday, 28 October, and Wednesday, 13 November. Each counts 17 percent of grade, total 34 percent. **MIDTERMS AND THE FINAL ARE HELD IN THE REGULAR LECTURE ROOM.**

d. *Final*. Friday, 13 December, 9-11 am. Counts 36 percent of grade.

TA SECTION TIMES AND LOCATIONS

TA sections are required for one hour per week. You have already signed up for a section in CAESAR.

41	Cannella	Friday	3:00p	WILL B72
42	Cannella	Friday	4:00p	WILL B72
43	Lopez	Friday	3:00p	TCH M177
44	Premo	Friday	4:00p	TCH L150
45	Premo	Friday	3:00p	TCH L150
46	Lopez	Friday	4:00p	TCH M177

SCHEDULE OF TA SECTIONS

27 Sep No TA Section

04 Oct	Teach graphs (Appendix to Chapter 2)
11 Oct	Practice questions; Quiz 1
18 Oct	Practice questions; Quiz 2
25 Oct	Practice questions; Quiz 3
01 Nov	Return quiz and midterm; Discuss answers
08 Nov	Practice questions; Quiz 4
15 Nov	Return quiz and midterm; Discuss answers
22 Nov	Practice questions; Quiz 5
29 Nov	No TA Section

REQUIRED READING ASSIGNMENTS

Text: Paul Krugman and Robin Wells, *Macroeconomics, 5th Edition*. Worth Publishers, 2018

Additional Reading: Course Packet for Economics 201, purchase from Economics Department Office, Kellogg Global Hub 3317, \$20 cash or check, no credit cards.

Sapling Homework: a chapter of Sapling homework is required for each textbook chapter. Deadline dates are listed on the last page of this syllabus. Prior to Chapter 1 there is a tutorial called "Using the tools of Sapling Plus" that all students should review before attempting to do the Chapter 1 homework. You get three chances on each question, and nothing is deducted for two incorrect attempts as long as you get the correct answer on your third attempt. To allow for conflicts and forgetfulness about meeting deadlines, your three lowest homework scores are automatically dropped. Further, you can review questions if you wish after the deadline. **DO NOT ASK FOR ANY PERSONAL EXTENSION OF DEADLINE DUE DATES.**

Each Sapling chapter module contains additional features that *are not required* but are provided if you would like additional study tools to improve your class performance.

**Pre-Class Tutorial (PCT).* These are short video introductions to the chapter content that will help you understand the purpose and context of each chapter.

**Work It Out (WIO).* For one of the problems at the end of the textbook chapters, this provides feedback on any mistakes you might make and provides a review video on how to answer the question.

End of Chapter Problems (EOCP).* This module allows you to work through end-of-chapter problems and provides answers. Also, you are free to work on these problems directly from the textbook after you finish each chapter. **End-of-chapter problems are optional and are not required.

PEER-GUIDED STUDY GROUPS

Quarter-Long Study Group Opportunity – Registration Required:

If you would like to study with other students in this class, consider joining a Peer-Guided Study Group. Participants will meet weekly with about 5 to 8 other students and a peer facilitator – a student who has already taken and done well in the course. During sessions, students review concepts, work through practice problems, bring their questions, and work together to develop answers. Students register for the full quarter on CAESAR and attendance is expected weekly. Study Groups sessions are listed on CAESAR below course lecture and discussion sections (ex. CHEM 131-SG – CHEM 131-SG Peer-Guided Study Group: Quantitative Problem Solving in Chemistry). Feel free to contact Borislava at borislava.miltcheva@northwestern.edu with any questions. Provided through Academic Support & Learning Advancement.

Drop-In Peer Tutoring – No Appointment Needed:

Students are welcome to stop by Drop-In Peer Tutoring to get support with a specific question or issue, or just talk through course materials with others. Covers many introductory courses in Biology, Chemistry, Economics, Engineering, Math, Physics and Stats. Tutoring takes place Sundays through Thursdays in the Shepard Engagement Center and 560 Lincoln. Snacks provided! **Check specific times, courses and locations on the Drop-In Peer Tutoring website.** Feel free to contact Una at una.mcgeough@northwestern.edu with any questions. Provided through Academic Support & Learning Advancement.

ECONOMICS 201
LIST OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topics</i>	<i>Text Chapter</i>	<i>Homework Due Dates</i>
W 25 Sep	Administrative Details; What is Economics?	Introduction	Tu 10/1
M 30 Sep	First Principles	1	Su 10/6
W 02 Oct	Economic Models: Trade-offs and Trade	2	Tu 10/8
	Note: Graphing will be taught in TA section (Friday 04 Oct)	2-Appendix	
M 07 Oct	Supply and Demand	3	Su 10/13
W 09 Oct	NO CLASS		
M 14 Oct	Meddling with Markets	4	Su 10/20
W 16 Oct	Consumer and Producer Surplus; Wage Determination	5-Appendix	
M 21 Oct	International Trade	5	Su 10/27
W 23 Oct	Intro to Macro and Tracking the Macroeconomy	6, 7	Th 10/31
M 28 Oct	FIRST MIDTERM (covers text and readings through Chapter 5)		
W 30 Oct	Unemployment and Inflation	8	Su 11/03
M 04 Nov	Long-Run Economic Growth	9	Su 11/10
W 06 Nov	Savings, Investment Spending, and the Financial System	10, skip apx	Tu 11/12
M 11 Nov	Income and Expenditure	11, skip apx	Su 11/17
W 13 Nov	SECOND MIDTERM (covers text and readings Ch 6-10)		
M 18 Nov	Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply	12	Su 11/24
W 20 Nov	Fiscal Policy	13, skip apx	Tu 11/26
M 25 Nov	Money, Banking, and the Federal Reserve System	14	Tu 12/3
W 27 Nov	NO CLASS – Enjoy the Thanksgiving Break		
W 04 Dec	Monetary Policy	15	Su 12/10
F 13 Dec	FINAL EXAMINATION (9-11 am in the usual lecture room)		