

## **Economics 100B Section 103 Syllabus Macroeconomic Analysis, Spring 2006**

### GSI Contact Information

David R. Agrawal

Email: [agrawal@calmail.berkeley.edu](mailto:agrawal@calmail.berkeley.edu)

Mailbox: 108 GSPP old building (mailboxes are above student lockers)

Office Hours: Monday from 2:00 to 3:00 (608-5 Evans) and 3:00 to 4:00 (508-3 Evans)

Website: [https://webfiles.berkeley.edu/agrawal/public\\_html/](https://webfiles.berkeley.edu/agrawal/public_html/)

### Meeting Times

Lecture: Tuesday Thursday from 8 to 9:30 in 155 Dwinelle

Discussion Section 103: Monday and Wednesday from 4 to 5 in 7 Evans

### Administrative Information

This syllabus is not the Professor's course syllabus. Consult the course syllabus on the web at <http://blackboard.berkeley.edu>.

Your requirements for the course: "Your responsibilities are to attend and participate in lecture three hours per week; attend and participate in section two hours per week; complete the assigned readings in a timely manner (allowing time to re-read difficult chapters); participate in class and in section; complete all assignments on time; and take two midterms and a final...."

### Section Details

You have two required meetings per week for this course. In general, I will spend one of those meetings going over the problem set from the week and answering any questions you may have. For the other meeting, I will come prepared with lecture and discussion material of my own. I will cover topics I feel will be helpful to your understanding of Professor Kaufman's lectures, the readings, or applications. Sessions not devoted to reviewing the problem sets may clarify some of the material Prof. Kaufman covered in lecture, covering material Prof. Kaufman did not get a chance to cover, engaging in a discussion of examples / applications, or going over something I think would be interesting. Additionally, I will often spend one-half a section each week discussing the supplemental articles on the syllabus. Therefore, it is critical for you to come to section having read the articles. Your contribution in section will influence your final grade.

You are strongly encouraged to read the news. Feel free to share any examples of macroeconomics in discussion section or to ask questions about how they relate to the course. By doing this, the theories learned in class will become more tangible to you and I think this will help you understand the material. Take advantage of the free online news sources.

### Teaching Strategies

Given diverse learners, my teaching philosophy seeks to integrate a variety of teaching methods: lectures, applications, discussions, problem workshops, group work, and the Socratic Method. Since I will not simply lecture, please come prepared to section – complete the readings, bring copies of problem set answers, and bring your textbook. Most importantly, come prepared to

participate and engage yourself with the material. However, during discussions, students should be conscious of how frequently they are talking so as not to dominate the discussion.

If you are nervous or shy about participating in class, feel free to see me in office hours so we can discuss how to make the section more comfortable for your full participation. Different people have different ways of participating, all of which are valid: active listening, thoughtful preparation, sharing a well-formulated idea, helping a classmate understand a concept, coming to office hours, or bringing news articles to class.

For my own reference, I will take attendance in section to foresee any potential problems. Additionally, I will post supplemental materials to my website and will regularly communicate with you using your email registered on BearFacts.

### Problem Sets and Discussion

There will be (approximately) bi-weekly problem sets that will be graded. In accordance with the syllabus, problem sets must be handed directly to your graduate student instructor. Problem sets cannot be left in GSI mailboxes or submitted by email. Late problem sets must be handed to your GSI within three days – thus making it hard to turn in problem sets except when due. You are encouraged to form study groups for the purpose of learning the course material. BUT, you cannot use those study groups to submit collective answers to the assigned problems. Doing so constitutes cheating. Copying problem set answers warrants a mark of zero (0) on the problem set. And it harms you in the long run because you will not learn the material.”

I will give some minor indication of what is wrong when I mark off points, but I will not indicate the correct solution; solution sets will be posted online. I, along with all 100B GSI's, will assign problem set points based on a pre-determined scale:

Your participation in section is a percentage of your final grade. I will grade you out of three points, using the following score: (3) always participates, (2) participates on average, (1) sometimes participates, and (0) never participates. Attendance is not participation.

### Re-Grading

If you feel I have incorrectly marked your problem set, let me know. However, all requests for re-grades must be made to me in writing. You must justify your grievance and why it deserves a second look, and submit it within one week. I reserve the right to re-grade it in its entirety and adjust your grade up or down.

### Students with Disabilities

If you need disability-related accommodations in this class, if you have emergency medical information you wish to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please inform me *immediately*. Please see me privately after class or in my office.

### Head GSI

I am also the Head GSI this semester. If you are contacting me in my role as Head GSI, please make this clear in your email by following the instructions outlined on the main course syllabus.

### Academic Honesty

Any test, paper, or report submitted by you and that bears your name is presumed to be your own original work that has not previously been submitted for credit in another course unless you obtain prior written approval to do so from your instructor.

In all of your assignments, including your homework or drafts of papers, you may use words or ideas written by other individuals in publications, Web sites, or other sources, but only with proper attribution. “Proper attribution” means that you have fully identified the original source and extent of your use of the words or ideas of others that you reproduce in your work for this course, usually in the form of a footnote or parenthesis.

If you are not clear about the expectations for completing an assignment or taking a test or examination, be sure to seek clarification from me beforehand.

Any problem sets that I suspect are not your own work will be treated as a violation of university academic honesty policies. Therefore, be careful with how you are working in groups – you must still do and submit your own work.

Finally, you should keep in mind that as a member of the campus community, you are expected to demonstrate integrity in all of your academic endeavors and will be evaluated on your own merits. So be proud of your academic accomplishments and help to protect and promote academic integrity at Berkeley. The consequences of cheating and academic dishonesty – including a formal discipline file, possible loss of future internship, scholarship, or employment opportunities, and denial of admission to graduate school – are simply not worth it.

### Accessibility

I am a GSI this semester because I love teaching and I love economics. I have taught Economics 100B in the past. Thus, I invite you to visit me in office hours if you have questions about the material or the major in general. I will respond to emails once a day in order to group likeminded questions together. Any emails being sent to me in my role as your GSI should have a subject of “100B Section 103,” or else I may not reply. I reserve the right not to answer some questions by email and encourage you to utilize office hours if possible.

If you cannot make my office hours due to a scheduling conflict, I am more than happy to try to arrange an alternative time to provide you help. However, if your schedule does not conflict with my office hours, please come to office hours before scheduling additional meetings with me. I am here to help. If you need more help than I can provide you in my time, the Economics department has arranged a department tutor.

Good luck this semester. By the end of the semester, I hope you have the same passion for economics and its applications that I do.