ECON 202: Principles of Macroeconomics

Instructor:

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Catalog Course Description

Credits - 4 Lecture - 4

Introduction to Macroeconomics. Focuses on the behavior of economic aggregates or the economy as a

whole. National income determination, measuring economic performance and public policy tools for

dealing with inflation, unemployment, etc. are discussed.

Prerequisites: EC201, WR060. Term Offered: Winter

Textbook

(Multiple authors), Principles of Macroeconomics 2e from OpenStax, Print ISBN-10: 1-947172-38-7,

Digital ISBN-10: 1-947172-39-5, September 2017.

Good news: your textbook for this class is available for free online, in web view and PDF format!

https://openstax.org/details/books/principles-macroeconomics-2e

You can also purchase a print version, if you prefer, from OpenStax or Amazon.com. If you buy on

Amazon, make sure you use the link on your book page on openstax.org so you get the official OpenStax

print version. (Simple printouts sold by third parties on Amazon are not verifiable and not as highquality.)

Course Overview

All work for this course is organized by Week. Each week students will find a summary “To-Do” list with

information on assignments for the week. In general, there are 1 to 2 chapters of the textbook assigned

each week, PowerPoint lectures providing a summary of the main points of each chapter. There are 10

weekly quizzes, 5 homework assignments, and 2 exams.

Quizzes

Each weekly quiz consists of 10 multiple choice or true/false questions on the assigned chapters and

PowerPoint lectures. There are a total of 10 quizzes. Two attempts allowed on each quiz; highest grade

counts.

Homework Assignments

Students will also be required to complete 8 homework assignments. There are 6 data assignments

requiring students to look up relevant economic data, plus 2 video assignments requiring a brief video

report. Students submit these assignments in Canvas by writing answers in the assignment window or

submitting a file. These assignments are designed to provide a broader context to the technical and

theoretical assignments discussed in the text. There are 2 attempts allowed on the homework – once

the first attempt is graded, you have the opportunity to correct errors and resubmit the homework for

full credit.

Exams

The midterm covers the 5 chapters assigned during the first 5 weeks (Chapters 1, 6, 8 -11). The final

exam covers the 6 chapters assigned after the midterm (Chapters 12-15, 17, 19). Each exam consists of

approximately 50 multiple choice and true or false questions. Students may complete the exam at any

time during a specified final exam period. However, once the exam is started, there is a time limit for

completion. There is only 1 attempt allowed. Please note: Both exams are completed online through

Canvas.

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Grades Grading Scale

Assignment Weight Points 90 - 100% A

10 Weekly Quizzes 20% 200 80 - 89 B

8 Homework Assignments 40% 400 70 - 79 C

Midterm 20% 200 60 – 69 D

Final Exam 20% 200 <60 F

 Total 100% 1000

Course Schedule

Week Assignments Textbook Chapters

1 Introduction to

Macroeconomics

• Macroeconomic Goals

Ch 1: Welcome to Economics (Sections 1.2 & 1.3 only)

Ch 6: The Macroeconomic Perspective

Homework #1: GDP Data

2 Unemployment

• Definitions of

unemployment

Ch 8: Unemployment

Homework #2: Unemployment Data

3 Prices and Inflation

• Consumer Price Index

• Comparing historical data

Ch 9 Inflation

Homework #3 CPI Data

4 The International Economy

• Trade Balance

• Capital Flows

Chapter 10 International Trade and Capital Flows

Homework #4 Current Account Data

5 Perspectives in

Macroeconomics:

Ch 11 Aggregate Demand/Aggregate Supply

Midterm exam: Covers 5 chapters (Ch. 6, 8, 9, 10 & 11)

6 The Keynesian Perspective

• The Great Depression

• The Great Recession

Ch 12 The Keynesian Perspective

Homework #5: “Surviving the Dust Bowl” (Video)

7 The Neoclassical Perspective

• Supply Side Perspective

• Long-run

Ch 13 The Neoclassical Perspective

8 Money and Banking

• Definition of Money

• Monetary Policy

Ch 14 Money and Banking

Ch 15 Monetary Policy and Bank Regulation

Homework #6: Federal Reserve Information

9 Government Economic Policy

• Fiscal Policy (Budgets,

Taxes, Transfers),

Ch 17 Government Budgets and Fiscal Policy

Homework #7: “Civilian Conservation Corps” (Video)

10 Macroeconomic Policy

International Perspectives

Goals of Economic Policy

Ch 19 Macro Policy around the World

Homework #8: World Economic Data

Final exam covers 6 chapters (12 – 15, 17 & 19)

The Final Exam is not comprehensive.