

ECON 201B Syllabus

Introduction to Macroeconomics

Sungcheol Kim

Email: kimsc@uw.edu
Office: SAV 319 C
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 4:30-5:30 pm or by appointment
Lectures: Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30-8:20 pm, Room MEB 242
Website: <https://canvas.uw.edu/>
Textbook: *Krugman and Wells. Macroeconomics, 4th Edition*

Introduction.

I'll be teaching our introductory course in macroeconomics, which builds on the concepts covered in your introductory microeconomics course. I prefer if you call me by my first name, "Sungcheol" or last name "Kim." Read this syllabus carefully, as it may answer many questions you have about the course. If you have questions after reading, you can contact me at the email address above.

Goals for Learning. The goals for your learning fall into a couple of categories.

< Fundamental Knowledge >

- ✓ Understand and be able to use macroeconomic terminology.
- ✓ Understand the basics of how the economy works in the aggregate level.
- ✓ Learn how the macroeconomic variables are related.
- ✓ Learn to read and interpret the empirical information in macroeconomic data, graphical displays, and tables.

< Application >

- ✓ Analyze the sources of long-term prosperity and the contributing factors to long term economic growth.
- ✓ Analyze the causes of short-term economic fluctuations (business cycles) and the mechanism of "fixing" the economy to restore full employment (low unemployment) and low inflation.
- ✓ Analyze the emergence and the effects of rising national debt
- ✓ Analyze the current international macroeconomic issues and policy debates

Office Hours.

I encourage you to come to office hours with questions related to homework or course material, or with any general questions you might have about economics as a major. Participating in office hours is particularly important if you find yourself struggling with the

material. If your schedule conflicts with the office hours specified above and you want to meet me during other times when you are available, I ask that you send me an e-mail in advance so that I could be able to accommodate your needs. There will be no office hours during the first week.

Evaluation.

Midterm 35%, Final 37%, Homework 18% and Article Responses 10%,

Exams.

There will be one midterm exam and one final exam in this course. All are closed book, closed notes, and not cumulative. You don't need a bluebook. Unless otherwise specified, you may use any simple calculator with no programming capabilities. **Please be aware that in general no makeup process will be given.** For the Midterms, we will write a make-up again with documentation from a clinic or a doctor. There is no make up for the Final Exam. If you miss the Final Exam you will earn an incomplete grade for this course without any special reason.

Homework.

You have homework every week. Homework will be announced in class or on the course website, and you must submit hard copy. I will post answer keys for homework just after you submit them. You may discuss with your classmates to solve homework, but the **homework should be done by your own word.** Assign grades for homework based on effort. **You must submit hard copy in class at the due date, and late submissions are not accepted (no exception!).**

Article Responses.

There will be 2 article responses: **1-2 page + graphs.** For it, you will find a news article from a major newspaper or periodical related to a course topic taught in the class. We will not accept articles from aggregators (Google, Yahoo, AP feeds), nor from blogs or opinion pieces, even if they are hosted on news sites. You must describe, in your own words, the issues presented in the article, and then summarize how the material taught in class explains the information, events, or phenomenon in the article. This economic explanation must relate to a theoretical graph (one with some sort of equilibrium, like Supply and Demand, the PPF). The graph must be drawn and included in your paper. **You must submit hard copy including your article. Late submissions are not accepted.** The sample article response and the form will be available at Canvas.

Grading.

The grades in this class are not curved. Rather, there is a (preliminary) grade scale on the basis of which we determine course grades. The grading policy of the Department of Economics sets the upper boundary for the Median grade in principles of economics courses at 3.1. We will maintain a median grade for this course in the 2.8-3.1 range. If the median grade for the course happens to be outside of 2.8-3.1 range on the preliminary grade scale, we will adjust the grade scale accordingly.

Participation.

Your participation is not considered for grading. However, you are strongly recommended to take part in all classes. You don't need Clicker in my class.

Tentative Reading, Teaching and Assignment Schedule.

Below is a tentative schedule to help you plan ahead and think about course readings. More than likely the dates when we cover material will shift as we get behind or ahead, so I'll update you as these things change.

Week		Schedule of Readings	Assignment (Due)
Week 1	9/28	Introduction, Ch.1, Ch.2	
Week 2	10/3, 10/5	Ch.2, Ch.3, Ch.6	HW1 (10/5)
Week 3	10/10, 10/12	Ch.7, Ch.8, Ch.9	HW2 (10/12)
Week 4	10/17, 10/19	Ch.9, Ch.10	HW3, AR1 (10/19)
Week 5	10/24, 10/26	Ch.10, Midterm Review	HW4 (10/26)
Week 6	10/31, 11/2	Midterm (10/31) , Ch.11	HW5 (11/2)
Week 7	11/7, 11/9	Ch.11, Ch.12	HW6 (11/9)
Week 8	11/14, 11/16	Ch.13, Ch.14	HW7 (11/16)
Week 9	11/21	Ch.14, Ch.15	HW8, AR2 (11/21)
Week 10	11/28, 11/30	Ch.15, Ch.16	HW9 (11/30)
Week 11	12/5, 12/7	Ch.16, Final Review	

Academic Honesty.

Academic integrity is the cornerstone of the Department's rules for student conduct and evaluation of student learning. Students accused of academic misconduct will be referred directly to the Office of Community Standards and Student Conduct for disciplinary action

pursuant to the Student Conduct Code and, if found guilty, will be subject to sanctions. Sanctions range from a disciplinary warning, to academic probation, to immediate dismissal for the Department and the University, depending on the seriousness of the misconduct. Dismissal can be, and has been, applied even for first offenses. Moreover, a grade of zero can be assigned by the instructor for the course.

Exams are individual work and cheating will not be tolerated. Students must not glance at their neighbors' exams. Students must not change their answers after they have turned their exam in.

Check the student handbook for further information about cheating, plagiarism etc. Cheating of any kind may result in expulsion from the university. The Department of Economics will follow university policy in case of academic dishonesty. These rules complement/supplement the university rules, which can be found online.