

# ECON 201 C - Spring 2015

## Introduction to Macroeconomics

MW 8:30 – 10:20 am, MEB 248

Instructor: Yang Su

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Savery Hall 319G

Office Hours: Tuesday 2:30 - 4:30 pm or by appointment

**Course Goals:** Economics 201 is an introductory course in macroeconomics theory. The goals of this class includes the follows:

### 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

**Credit Hours:** 5

**Textbook:** The textbook that I will follow in class is *Principles of Macroeconomics*, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition by G. Gregory Mankiw (ISBN-13: 978-1285165912). It should be available in course reserves of the Odegaard Undergraduate Library soon for 4- hour loans. You can purchase this book at the University Bookstore, on Amazon and from many other online sellers. Feel free to use older versions of this book, as I don't think the contents have changed much across versions. You are encouraged to use other popular intro level Macroeconomics textbooks as references, such as Paul Krugman and Robin Wells' *Macroeconomics*, or Charles Nelson's *Macroeconomics: An Introduction*. The latter is available for free at <http://faculty.washington.edu/cnelson/macroeconomics.html>. You are not required to own a textbook for this class, but having access to one of introductory textbooks is highly recommended.

**Course website:** All relevant materials of this course will be posted on Canvas. I will also post announcements in the announcement section of the website, so please check the course website

regularly. Unless it is emergency or very important, I will not send any announcement via emails.

### Grade Distribution:

Quizzes	30%
Midterm exam	30%
Final Exam	40%

Starting from the second week, 7 quizzes will be given on Wednesdays (see the schedule below), at the end of the lecture. Each quiz takes up to 30 minutes. One lowest quiz grade will be dropped. If you miss a quiz, you will automatically get a zero for that quiz. The midterm exam will be in class, on **Monday, April 27**. The final exam, which is going to be cumulative, is scheduled to be on **Tuesday, June 9, from 8:30am to 10:20am**, in our usual classroom.

### Letter Grade Distribution:

This class will be curved. Under the requirement of the Economics Department, the upper median grade for ECON 201 should be no higher than 3.1

### Course Policies:

- **General**

- Quizzes and exams are closed book, closed notes.
- You may bring a scientific or basic calculator to quizzes and exams. Graphic calculators or cellphones are not allowed. You *cannot* use the calculator app on your cellphone during quizzes and exams.
- **No make-up quizzes will be given, except for the case you miss a quiz due to medical reasons.** Please provide me with valid doctor notes, and I will arrange make-up quizzes for you.
- Makeup exams *may* be offered only for absences through sanctioned university activities or documented medical illness. If you know you are going to miss the midterm or the final, please let me know as soon as possible.
- Feel free to email me whenever you have questions. I usually reply emails very quickly on weekdays but sometimes it may take longer (1 - 2 days), please have this in mind when sending your questions.

- **Problem sets**

I will post problem sets weekly. They are not required to be handed in but should be useful for you to prepare for quizzes and exams. I will go over some of the questions in class. Please feel free to let me know if there is any specific question that you want me to explain in class.

- **Honesty policy**

**Cheating will not be tolerated.** I will refer anyone suspected of academic dishonesty to the appropriate administrative authority. There are no exceptions to this policy under any circumstances. If a student is found guilty by such authority, the student will receive a 0.0 for the course in addition to any punishment determined by that office. For more information, including which actions are considered as cheating, please take a look at the department's policy on academic conduct in here [http://econ.washington.edu/undergrad/academic\\_conduct/](http://econ.washington.edu/undergrad/academic_conduct/).

**Tentative Course Outline:**

The weekly coverage might change as it depends on the progress of the class. The dates for quizzes and exams are set.

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Day of the week</b>	<b>Quiz/Exam</b>	<b>Content</b>
Week 1	Mar 30	Mon		Review of Microecon
	Apr 1	Wed		Chapter 10
Week 2	Apr 6	Mon		Chapter 10
	Apr 8	Wed	Quiz 1	Chapter 11
Week 3	Apr 13	Mon		Chapter 12
	Apr 15	Wed	Quiz 2	Chapter 13
Week 4	Apr 20	Mon		Chapter 14
	Apr 22	Wed	Quiz 3	Chapter 15
Week 5	Apr 27	Mon	Midterm Exam	
	Apr 29	Wed	(No Quiz)	Chapter 16
Week 6	May 4	Mon		Chapter 17
	May 6	Wed	Quiz 4	Chapter 18
Week 7	May 11	Mon		Chapter 19
	May 13	Wed	Quiz 5	Chapter 19
Week 8	May 18	Mon		Chapter 20
	May 20	Wed	Quiz 6	Chapter 21
Week 9	May 25	Mon	Memorial Day, no class	
	May 27	Wed	(No Quiz)	Chapter 21
Week 10	Jun 1	Mon		Chapter 22
	Jun 3	Wed	Quiz 7	Chapter 23
Week 11 (Exams Week)	Jun 9	Tue	Final Exam (8:30 - 10: 20am)	