

Econ 201 L: Principles of Macroeconomics
Spring 2015

Instructor: Mishita Mehra
Lecture: MW 6:30- 8:20 pm, DEM 012
Office Location: Sav 319 B
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Required Material: Macroeconomics (Third Edition) by Krugman and Wells

Course Objectives: This is an introductory course in macroeconomics where the goal is to introduce you to basic macroeconomic theories in unemployment, business cycles, growth, savings and investment, money, aggregate demand and supply and government policies. The major learning objectives are :

- Understanding and being able to use macroeconomic terminology
- Understanding how the economy works at the aggregate level
- Understanding how different policies can effect aggregate variables
- Being able to think critically and use macroeconomic principles to explain actual economic events

Tentative Reading Schedule:

- Week 1: Introduction and brief review of Microeconomics (Chapters 1, 2 and 3)
- Weeks 2-3: Introduction to Macroeconomics (GDP and CPI, Unemployment and Inflation): (Chapters 6, 7 and 8)
- Week 4: Long run economic growth: (Chapter 9)
- Week 5: Savings and Investment (Chapter 10)
- Weeks 5-9: Short run economic fluctuations - Income and Expenditure, Aggregate Demand and Supply, Fiscal Policy, Money and Banking, Monetary Policy (Chapters 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 and selected topics in Ch 16)

Grading:

- **Homework:** We will have upto five homework assignments throughout the quarter. These will be graded on a 5 point scale based on how completely questions have been attempted. These will be posted on canvas and you will get a week to work on them. Your average score on the homework accounts for **10 percent** of your total grade.

- **Quizzes:** There will be two quizzes and together they will account for **20 percent** of your overall score i.e. each will account for 10 percent. The quizzes will comprise mainly multiple choice questions.
- **Exams:** There will be a Midterm and a Final Exam. The Midterm exam will constitute **30 percent** and the Final exam will constitute **35 percent** of your overall grade. So together the exams will account for 65 percent of your grade. The Midterm and Final will be non cumulative.
- **Article Response:** You need to submit one article response which is due on or before the last day of class. For this, you need to find a news article from a major daily like the Wall Street Journal or New York Times. The article should have been published any time after March 30 2015. The article must be related to a macroeconomic concept we covered in class. You are required to explain in a page how the article relates to a topic we covered in class and how you can use a concept/model studied in class to analyze the article (using graphs). This will count towards **5 percent** of your overall grade and will be graded according to the choice of the article and your ability to apply concepts we learnt to the real world.

Please Note: According to the grade policy dictated by the Department of Economics , UW, the median grade will be somewhere between 2.8 and 3.1. So the grades will be curved based on the overall median scores.

Tentative Dates for Exams and Quizzes:

- Quiz 1: April 15th 2015, DEM 012
- Midterm: May 4th 2015, DEM 012
- Quiz 2: May 20th 2015, DEM 012
- Final: June 10th 2015, DEM 012

Make-up Examination Rules: Make-up quizzes and exams will be arranged only in case of serious emergencies and **verifiable** reasons. You have to show me appropriate documents (doctor's note for medical reasons) to be eligible for make-up exams. Student athletes should talk to me in advance. There will be no makeup final exam.

Policy on Academic Conduct: Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty will be subject to sanctions, which range from a disciplinary warning to permanent expulsion from the University, depending on the seriousness of the misconduct. Looking at a neighbors exam is considered cheating. If a student is seen committing this act, they will not be allowed to continue taking their exam. Altering an exam before submitting it for a review of the grading, obtaining an advance copy of an examination, or arranging for a surrogate test-taker are all flagrant violations of University policy. The Department will follow University policy in case of academic misconduct. Please review University policy at <http://www.washington.edu/uaa/advising/help/academichonesty.php>.