

## Syllabus ~ Econ 301

When: Classes are on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:30am-12:20pm.  
Office hours are TBD, and by appointment.

Where: Class is held in Anderson Hall (AND) 008  
My office is in Savery (SAV) 319F

Who: Thor Dodson ([dobothor@uw.edu](mailto:dobothor@uw.edu)), you...

What: Intermediate Macroeconomics

Why: ...

## Overview

Our focus in this course is economic modeling. We will use algebra, calculus and graphs extensively exploring macroeconomic theories of the long, medium, and short run. We will also delve into microfoundations. If you don't feel strong in math or coding don't worry you'll learn, but you must put in the work.

## Important

The textbook we are using is available online for free, and I will show some things in R (also free), so it is recommended you have access to a computer for this course (and for life generally). The basis of our course is New Keynesian economics, covered in the primary text, and we will also discuss the book written by Keynes himself. It's highly recommended you read the material before class so your mind is primed, ready to ask questions and understand more deeply from your own perspective rather than just memorizing what I put on the board. The point is to learn how models work and how we can use them to perform economic analysis.

## Textbook

Intermediate Macroeconomics by Julio Garín, Robert Lester, and Eric Sims

[https://www3.nd.edu/~esims1/gls\\_int\\_macro.pdf](https://www3.nd.edu/~esims1/gls_int_macro.pdf)

The General Theory of Employment, Interest, and Money by John Maynard Keynes

<https://cas2.umkc.edu/economics/people/facultypages/kregel/courses/econ645/winter2011/generaltheory.pdf>

## Assignments, Response-Abilities, Grading

0% --- **8 Homeworks**, assigned exercises from the text, strictly optional, wholly recommended

15% --- **Nation Analysis** (groups of 3), presentation on a real country, see handout for details

40% --- **Midterm**, April 25

45% --- **Final**, Monday June 4, 8:30-10:20am, AND 008

**Time Table [Subject to Change]**

Class #	Day	Topic	Textbook Reference
1	Mar 26	Introduction to InterMacro	Ch 2, 3
2	Mar 28	Maths	Appendix A, B
3	Apr 2	Data, Growth	Ch 1, 4
4	Apr 4	Solow Model	Ch 5
5	Apr 9	Solow Model	Ch 5
6	Apr 11	Augmented Solow	Ch 6
7	Apr 16	Consumer Saving Model	Ch 8, 9
8	Apr 18	Neo-Precepts	Ch 11
9	Apr 23	Review	
10	Apr 25	Midterm	
11	Apr 30	MR: Neoclassical Model	Ch 15
12	May 2	Neoclassical Shocks	Ch 16
13	May 7	Fitting the Data, Criticisms*	Ch 17, 19
14	May 9	Open Economy Version	Ch 20
15	May 14	SR Model	Ch 21, 22
16	May 16	Effect of Shocks	Ch 23
17	May 21	Transition: SR → MR	Ch 24
18	May 23	Monetary Policy	Ch 25
19	May 28	TBD	
20	May 30	Review	
21	June 4	Final	8:30-10:20am, AND 008

\*presentations begin, sign up on Canvas discussion board

**Policies**

- Grading: The grading policy of the Department of Economics sets the upper boundary for the Median grade in principles of economics courses at 3.1. There is a (preliminary) grade scale, but it will be adjusted along the way to maintain a median grade for this course in the 2.8-3.1 range.

**Academic Integrity**

The University of Washington values the academic integrity of its students and faculty. For Student Academic Responsibility and the consequences of misconduct, see:

<http://depts.washington.edu/grading/pdf/AcademicResponsibility.pdf>

The following is the Economics Department policy on Academic Conduct: 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.