

ECON 301 B Winter 23: Intermediate Macroeconomics

Instructor: Terrence Dai (he/him)
Contact: tdai7@uw.edu
Class: T Th 2:30 - 4:20 PM, [Loew Hall 206](#)
OH: To be finalized
Web: <https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1612365>

Economics 301 is the second course in the undergraduate macroeconomic theory sequence. It aims to help you gain a deeper understanding of the behaviors of the economy as an aggregate, both in the short and long run. We will learn the conceptual frameworks and foundations of the theory of macroeconomics. We will also apply economic theory to analyze real-world issues, which should help you see the world through the lens of economics. The combination of both theory and application will highlight what makes economics a science. Just like college education in general, this course will not necessarily tell you *what* to think but *how* to think in order to find solutions to the problems you will encounter in the world.

There should be considerably less calculus in this class than Econ 300. We will rely more on economic intuition to drive our analysis.

The textbook for the course is [the 11th edition of *Macroeconomic* by N. Gregory Mankiew](#), with registration required for the companion Macmillan learning and *Achieve* website. The **Course ID** for it is **8r2k6c**. By purchasing access to Macmillan learning, you will also have access to the E-Book.

2. Grades

The grading of the course will be structured as follows: the 8 weekly *Achieve* homework assignments will count for 15% of the course grade, class involvement counting for up to 8% of the course grade (+ **3% additional**), and the two exams counting for 80% of the course grade. Late assignments will **not** be accepted, but your lowest homework score will be dropped when calculating the final grade. But you **must attempt all problem sets**. If you skip a homework thinking it will be dropped, then the zero score will be counted towards your final grade. The use of *Learning Curve* on *Achieve* is highly encouraged, even though it's not mandatory or graded. Past students have noted that it was extremely helpful for understanding difficult concepts and working through problems.

Exams are all **in-person**, and there will be no make-up if you miss an exam without a valid reason. So please mark the dates on your own calendar, and notify me **well in-advance** if you can't make it to an exam.

| Component | Weight | Details |
|-------------------|--------|---|
| Homework | 15% | Almost every Sunday midnight |
| Exam 1 | 40% | Chapters 1-8 |
| Exam 2 | 40% | Chapters 9-15 (no Chapter 10 and not cumulative) |
| Class Involvement | 8% | 5% for showing up in class; the 3% is EXTRA for participating in class |
| Total | 103% | |

This course will be graded on a curve, which is determined by the Department of Economics guideline. The median grade for this course will be in the 2.9-3.1 range. The good news is that if you really study and attend to the assigned problem sets, there is no way you will not do well. It is practically impossible to learn this material in a short amount of time, right before the exams (trust me, I was an undergrad myself once).

3. Classroom and Email Etiquette

Always be kind and respectful to your classmates and instructor. Read the material before class and turn your phone on silent during class.

Please use your UW Email to communicate. Private emails may be filtered into the spam folder I might miss your message. When drafting an email please always put "ECON 301B" into your subject line. Also be sure to include your full name. If you have questions on any part of the course, please be specific and describe your question in detail. Writing "I need help on homework xyz" is never helpful.

4. Class Plan and COVID Related Issues

In ECON 300B, lectures will be offered **in-person** at [Loew Hall 206](#) Tue/Thu 2:30-4:20 PM. Lectures will not be recorded, but lecture slides will be available for viewing on Canvas. Assignments must be submitted via [Macmillan Achieve](#). Office hours will be held **in person** at SAV 319C, and the exact timing will be updated soon.

Please check the most updated UW face-covering policy [here](#). Face coverings are strongly encouraged even though they're not required by UW. [Here](#) is UW eating and drinking guidance. You must stay home if you are sick, have COVID-19 symptoms, or if you test positive for COVID-19. Notify UW Environmental Health & Safety if you test positive for COVID-19 or have close contact with an individual who has tested positive. This requirement applies even if you're fully vaccinated. EH&S conducts public health follow-ups, including contact tracing. UW Medicine medical center employees should contact their respective Employee Health Center. If you have established accommodations with Disability Resources for Students (DRS), please contact me immediately to discuss these accommodations.

5. Policy on Academic Conduct

The University takes academic integrity very seriously. Behaving with integrity is part of our responsibility to our shared learning community. If you're uncertain about if something is academic misconduct, ask me. I am willing to discuss questions you might have.

Acts of academic misconduct may include but are not limited to:

- Cheating (working collaboratively on quizzes/exams and discussion submissions, sharing answers, and previewing quizzes/exams)
- Plagiarism (representing the work of others as your own without giving appropriate credit to the original author(s))
- Unauthorized collaboration (working with each other on assignments)

Concerns about these or other behaviors prohibited by the Student Conduct Code will be referred for investigation and adjudication by (include information for specific campus office). Students found to have engaged in academic misconduct will receive a **zero** on the assignment, the exam, or the course entirely, and may face additional consequences.

Cheating of any kind may result in expulsion from the University. The Department will follow University policy in case of academic misconduct. I strongly recommend that you review the Dept. of Economics policy at <https://econ.washington.edu/policy-academic-conduct>

6. Religious Accommodations Policy

Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for the accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience or for organized religious activities. The UW's policy, including more information about requesting an accommodation, is available at Religious Accommodations Policy (<https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/>). Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using the Religious Accommodations Request form (<https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/>).

7. Disability Accommodations Statement

Your experience in this class is important to me. It is the policy and practice of the University of Washington to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. If you have already established accommodations with Disability Resources for Students (DRS), please activate your accommodations via myDRS so we can discuss how they will be implemented in this course.

If you have not yet established services through DRS but have a temporary health condition or permanent disability that requires accommodations (conditions include but are not limited to; mental health, attention-related, learning, vision, hearing, physical or health impacts), contact DRS directly to set up an Access Plan. DRS facilitates the interactive process that establishes reasonable accommodations. Contact DRS at disability.uw.edu.

8. Schedule (Subject to Change)

| Class | Date | Topics |
|-------|--------|---|
| 1 | Jan 3 | Welcome & Chapter 1; Introduction |
| 2 | Jan 5 | Chapter 2: Introduction |
| 3 | Jan 10 | Chapter 3: National Income |
| 4 | Jan 12 | Chapter 4: Monetary System |
| 5 | Jan 17 | Chapter 5: Inflation |
| 6 | Jan 19 | Chapter 6: The Open Economy |
| 7 | Jan 24 | Chapter 7: Labor Market |
| 8 | Jan 26 | Chapter 8: Growth I |
| 9 | Jan 30 | Review |
| | Feb 2 | Exam 1 (in class) |
| 10 | Feb 7 | Chapter 9: Growth II |
| 12 | Feb 9 | Chapter 11: The Business Cycle |
| 13 | Feb 14 | Chapter 12: Aggregate Demand and IS-LM I |
| 14 | Feb 16 | Chapter 13: Aggregate Demand and IS-LM II |
| 15 | Feb 21 | Chapter 14: The Mundell-Fleming Model |
| 16 | Feb 23 | Chapter 14: The Mundell-Fleming Model, Cont |
| | Feb 27 | Chapter 15: Aggregate Supply |
| | Mar 2 | Chapter 15: Aggregate Supply, Cont |
| | Mar 7 | Review |
| | Mar 9 | Exam 2 (in class) |

