

Economics 201C: Principles of Macroeconomics

Spring 2020

Jackson Monroe

Office: Savery 403 (<https://washington.zoom.us/j/4770687662>)

Online Office Hours: By appointment

Email: jackcm@uw.edu

Student Learning Goals:

1. Fundamental Knowledge

- Understand and be able to use macroeconomic terminology
- Understand common macroeconomic indicators and their role in the modern economy
- Understand the different strains of thinking that have informed macroeconomics throughout the last 100 years
- Be able to read business news and comprehend the reporting

2. Application

- Use macroeconomic principles to understand and explain economic events and other social phenomena
- Discuss the economic content of articles, papers, and presentations

My Goals for the Course:

- Provide lectures that clearly dictate what I expect you to learn and study
- Help you understand important macroeconomic concepts that inform decisions in the economy

Your Expectations for the Course:

- Follow along with the material by reading the assigned portion of your textbook and other material before the lecture
- Learn how to apply concepts from lectures and the textbook
- Ask questions and engage in discussion

Textbook: The lectures will follow Principles of Macroeconomics by Gregory Mankiw (eighth edition) [Amazon link](#). There are copies available for curbside pickup at the UW Bookstore. You do not need any online material that may be sold with the book, everything will be done through Canvas.

Topics and Chapters:

- Introduction: Ten principles of economics (1/2)
- Gains from Trade (3)
- Supply and Demand (4/6)
- Elasticity (5)
- Consumers, Producers, and Market Efficiency (7/8/9)
- Measuring Output and Inflation (10/11)
- Unemployment (15)
- The Federal Reserve/Monetary Policy (16)

- Money Growth/Inflation (17)
- The Economy in the Long Run (12/13)
- The Economy in the Short Run (20/21/22)

Evaluating student learning:

- **Quizzes:** There will be nine quizzes throughout the quarter. Your lowest quiz score will be dropped, and they will collectively count for 30% of your grade. The quizzes will be released after the Wednesday lecture and be available until Friday at midnight. You will have twenty to forty minutes to complete them from the time you begin, depending on their complexity. All quizzes will be open book.
- **Class Participation:** Given that the course is online and early in the morning it is especially important for you to engage during class. Discussion helps everyone focus and gives more opportunity for questions, either aloud or in the chat. Note that attendance is only mandatory on days when an exam is given, and otherwise is not mandatory.
- **Writing Assignment:** There will be two article responses assigned. They will be one- to two-page responses to news articles about macroeconomic events in the news. You will summarize the argument of the author and then give your own analysis, whether you agree or disagree with the author. Each article response should be submitted with a digital copy of the article you are analyzing and should be submitted as a single pdf. The article should be from the [Wall Street Journal, New York Times, or Financial Times](#), and should have been printed in 2020. They will each be worth 5% of your grade.
- **Exams:** There will be five exams, the first four will be given in the last half of lecture on the Wednesday of the indicated week. The Final will be comprehensive but focus on material covered in the last half of the course (after April 29). Your Final will be held from 8:30-10:20 a.m. Tuesday, June 9. Your midterm exams are collectively worth 40% of your grade, and your lowest midterm grade will be dropped. The Final exam is worth 20% of your final grade, and cannot be dropped. All exams will be closed book and must be taken on Zoom with your camera on.
- **Grading:**
 - Midterms: 40%
 - Final: 20%
 - Quizzes: 30%
 - Article Responses: 10%

Reading Schedule (Tentative)

Date (Week)	Reading	Homework/Exams
March 30 & April 1 (1)	Syllabus, Chapters 1 and 2	
April 6 & 8 (2)	Chapters 3 and 4	Quiz 1
April 13 & 15 (3)	Chapters 5 and 6	Quiz 2
April 20 & 22 (4)	Chapters 7, 8, and 9	Exam, 9:30 a.m., Quiz 3
April 27 & 29 (5)	Chapters 10 and 11	Quiz 4
May 4 & 6 (6)	Chapter 15	Exam, 9:30 a.m., Quiz 5
May 11 & 13 (7)	Chapters 16 and 17	Quiz 6, AR 1

May 18 & 20 (8)	Chapters 12 and 13	Exam 9:30 a.m., Quiz 7
May 25 & 27 (9)	Chapters 20, 21, and 22	Quiz 8, AR 2
June 1 & 3 (10)	Chapters 14 and 23	Exam 9:30 a.m., Quiz 9
June 9 (Final)		Final, 8:30 a.m.

Grading and the grade scale:

The median grade, by department policy, should fall in the 2.8-3.1 range (inclusive). Grades will be normalized such that the median is within that range, the maximum is 4.0, and the minimum 0.0 (there can be no GPA given between 0.7 and 0.0).

Late Policy: Late quizzes and article responses will be docked 20% if turned in within 24 hours of the due date/time. No quizzes or article responses will be accepted after they are 24 hours late. If you know you will need to turn an assignment in late please email me before the assignment is posted. In the case of an emergency exceptions can be worked out.

Make-up Exams/Quizzes: If you miss one quiz, that quiz will be the one dropped as your “lowest score.” If you miss a second quiz I will make a new one and you will take it over Zoom at another time.

If you miss one exam due to sickness or family emergency, it will be dropped. If you miss a second exam we will reschedule. If you know ahead of time you will miss an exam please notify me before the exam takes place, the earlier the better.

Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability, please bring documentation from the Office of Disability Resources for Students on the first day of class so that I can make any arrangements required for accommodations.

Academic Honesty

Exams and quizzes are individual work and cheating will not be tolerated. Looking at a neighbor’s exam and collaborating are considered cheating. Cheating incidents will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct on campus for a hearing. Students facilitating cheating will also be referred.

Altering an exam before submitting it for a review of the grading, obtaining an advance copy of an exam, or arranging for a surrogate test-taker are all flagrant violations of University policy. Again, a student suspected of this act may be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

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 Department of Economics policy at:

<https://econ.washington.edu/policy-academic-conduct>

The following message is available from UW Human Resources.

UW Safe Campus

Preventing violence is everyone's responsibility. If you're concerned, tell someone.

* Always call 911 if you or others may be in danger.

- * Call 206-685-SAFE (7233) to report non-urgent threats of violence and for referrals to UW counseling and/or safety resources. TTY or VP callers, please call through your preferred relay service.
- * Don't walk alone. Campus safety guards can walk with you on campus after dark. Call Husky Night Walk 206-685-WALK (9255).
- * Stay connected in an emergency with UW Alert. Register your mobile number to receive instant notification of campus emergencies via text and voice messaging. Sign up online at www.washington.edu/alert
For more information, visit the Safe Campus website at
www.washington.edu/safecampus