

ECON 201 Syllabus

Introduction to Macroeconomics

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Office Hours: Tue, 1:00-3:00 pm or by appointment
Lectures: Tue and Thu, 3:30-5:20 pm, Room SMI 404
Website: [CANVAS](#)
Textbook: *6th Edition of Macroeconomics by Paul Krugman and Robin Wells, with Achieve. The Achieve Course ID for this ECON201 class will be provided later.*

Goals for Learning. The goals for your learning fall into a couple of categories.

< 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

Office Hours.

I encourage you to come to office hours with questions related to homework or course material. Participating in office hours is particularly important if you find yourself struggling with the material. If your schedule conflicts with the office hours specified above or you want to meet me during other times when you are available, please send me an e-mail in advance so that I could be able to accommodate your needs.

Evaluation.

Midterm 30%, Final 30%, Homework 25%, Article Response 5%, and Attendance 10%

- **Attendance (10%):** Attendance is important to follow the course because we have classes only twice a week. You are going to start with 10 points. Beginning with the fourth absence, one point will be deducted for each subsequent absence. Attendance will be checked randomly by your instructor. **Total 10% of your grade will be assigned according to your attendance.**
- **Participation:** Active class participation is encouraged for yourself as well as for our class. So, the instructor can provide incentive to those who actively participate in class. This incentive will be applied discretionally by the instructor.
- **Online Homework (25%):** There will be a set of questions titled “problem sets” (HWs) assigned in Achieve. These will be assigned approximately weekly and will be automatically graded in Achieve, the grade for the missed homework will be zero. The questions in this type of assignment check your understanding of the concepts and on a few occasions ask you to analyze a problem using the concepts you learned. Your Homework will be collectively worth 25% of your course grade. Two lowest homework scores are going to be automatically dropped for GPA. Thus, late submission won’t be accepted.
- **Article Response (10%):** You will submit one article response over the quarter. You will find a news article from a major newspaper or periodical (either in its physical format or online incarnation) that relates to a course topic taught. I will not accept articles from aggregators (Google, Yahoo, AP feeds), nor from blogs or opinion pieces, even if they are hosted on news sites. You must describe, in your own words, the issues presented in the article, and then summarize how the material taught in class explains the information, events, or phenomenon in the article. This economic explanation must relate to a theoretical graph. The graph must be drawn and included in your response. You must submit your response and the article (in physical form) before the class on due date. Late responses are not accepted. The Article Response is worth 10% of your grade.
- **Exams (60%):** There will be two exams. All tests will be conducted in the lecture hall. You will need a calculator for some of the questions on your tests. Please bring a simple 4-function or a scientific calculator to all your exams. Graphing calculators are *not* allowed in any of the exams in this course. **Your exams are collectively worth 60% of your grade; the midterm exam and the final exam are worth 30%, 30% each.**

Tentative Reading, Teaching and Assignment Schedule.

Below is a tentative schedule to help you plan ahead and think about course readings. More than likely the dates when we cover material will shift as we get behind or ahead, so I'll update you as these things change.

Week		Contents	Chapter
Week 1	1/4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Syllabus & Introduction to Economics review	Ch. 1&2
Week 2	1/9, 1/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supply and Demand• International Trade	Ch. 3 Ch. 5
Week 3	1/16, 1/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Intro to Macro & Macroeconomics Data: GDP & CPI• Macroeconomic Data: Unemployment and Inflation	Ch. 6&7 Ch.8
Week 4	1/23, 1/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Long Run Economics Growth• Saving and Investment	Ch.9 Ch.10
Week 5	1/30, 2/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Saving and Investment	Ch.10
Week 6	2/6, 2/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review• Midterm	Midterm exam (2/8)
Week 7	2/13, 2/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Income and Expenditure• AD & AS	Ch.11 Ch.11&12
Week 8	2/20, 2/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aggregate Demand & Aggregate Supply• Fiscal Policy	Ch. 12 Ch. 13
Week 9	2/27, 2/29	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Money and Banking• Monetary Policy	Ch. 14 Ch. 15
Week 10	3/5, 3/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inflation• Review	Ch.16
Week 11	3/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final exam	Final exam (3/14)

Grading.

The final grade will be curved. There is a (preliminary) grade scale on the basis of which we determine course grades. The grading policy of the Department of Economics sets the upper boundary for the Median grade in principles of economics courses at 3.0. We will maintain a median grade for this course in the 2.9-3.0 range.

Academic Honesty.

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.

Exams are individual work and cheating will not be tolerated. Students must not glance at their neighbors' exams. Students must not change their answers after they have turned their exam in.

Check the student handbook for further information about cheating, plagiarism etc. Cheating of any kind may result in expulsion from the university. The Department of Economics will follow university policy in case of academic dishonesty. These rules complement/supplement the university rules, which can be found online.