

# ECON 301 A: Intermediate Macroeconomics

Autumn 2023

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<b>Instructor:</b>	Yizhan Huang	<b>Meeting Time:</b>	TTH 1:30 - 3:20 PM
<b>E-mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:yhuang10@uw.edu">yhuang10@uw.edu</a>	<b>Location:</b>	Thomson Hall 119
<b>Office Hours:</b>	M 2:00 - 4:00 PM SAV 319F	<b>Course Page:</b>	<a href="#">UW Canvas</a>

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## Introduction

In our introductory macroeconomics course, we familiarized ourselves with the fundamental macroeconomic indicators and their basic models. As we progress to intermediate macroeconomics, we delve deeper into these variables and models. Although the core topics remain largely unchanged, our approach becomes more sophisticated. We'll use more advanced mathematical tools to further grasp and analyze these concepts and their dynamics.

As your instructor, my goal is to facilitate your learning using a variety of methods such as lectures, problem-solving exercises, and examinations. While class participation doesn't directly influence your final grade, I highly recommend attending all sessions. We will have in-class discussions and quizzes that will enrich your understanding of the course material. Additionally, we will strive to engage with current macroeconomic policy issues throughout the quarter, applying the concepts we cover in class to real-world situations.

## Textbook

The required textbook for this course is *Macroeconomics, Eleventh Edition* by N. Gregory Mankiw. You are also required to purchase the associated access to the publisher's online homework site (Macmillan Achieve). A two week free trial is available for those who are unsure about continuing in the class.

## Main Learning Objectives

- Understand key macroeconomic concepts.
- Learn to analyze macroeconomic models with mathematical tools.
- Understand the importance of microeconomics as a foundation for macroeconomics.

## Grading

I will use the higher grade from the following two calculations as your final grade:

1. Problem Sets (30%), Coding Project (20%), Midterm Exam (20%), Final Exam (30%).
2. Problem Sets (30%), Coding Project (20%), Midterm Exam (0%), Final Exam (50%).

Under this grading policy, students who may not perform well in the midterm can safely bypass its potential bad outcome. However, it does not mean you should ignore the midterm. A good performance in the midterm exam will help to bolster your overall grade.

- **Problem Sets:** There are eight problem sets. Each problem set is worth 5% of your final grade. Two lowest scores of your problem sets will be dropped from your final grade. Problem sets are due in Macmillan Achieve at 11:59 pm PST on Monday nights. You are encouraged to work as a group to solve the problem sets, however, you must submit your own work online.
- **Coding Project:** Understanding macroeconomics is deeply enriched by empirical research. In today's empirical macroeconomic studies, the role of coding software has become indispensable for handling large-scale data sets and performing sophisticated econometric analyses. To get students familiar with these important skills, a coding project is part of the course requirements. This project will account for 20% of your final grade. Comprehensive guidelines for the project can be found on Canvas.
- **Exams:** Both exams are closed-book. Final exam will be cumulative. You will be expected to take your exams live and in-person. Final grades will be curved as necessary to reach a median grade for the class between 2.9 and 3.1. I will apply a standard conversion where 80-90% is a B+/- and 90-100% is an A+/- ([Standard Grading System](#))

### **Makeup Policies and Flexibility**

- **Late Submissions:** Late submissions of problem sets will automatically receive 0. As mentioned above, two lowest scores of your problem sets will be dropped from your final grade. There will not be additional makeup policy for problem sets. Late submissions of coding project is acceptable. However, late submissions will incur a 5/20 grade penalty. The last day you can submit your coding project is Dec 12th.
- **Makeup Exams:** Makeup exams are only given under extreme circumstances, including sickness, family emergency, public safety, and you should notify me before the end of the exam day if you need a makeup. Makeup exam will be scheduled within 3 days after the regular exam.

### **Accommodations**

Students who have established services with Disability Resources for Students (DRS) should contact me about their accommodations as soon as possible. Students with disabilities who have not yet established services with DRS should email them at [uwdrs@uw.edu](mailto:uwdrs@uw.edu) or call them at (206) 543-8924 to set up an Access Plan. For more information, please visit [DRS Homepage](#).

Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for 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 how to request an accommodation, is available at [Religious Accommodation Policy](#). Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using the [Religious Accommodations Request Form](#).

### **Academic Integrity**

Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated. It is the responsibility of all students to familiarize themselves with and adhere to academic misconduct policies at the UW, as outlined in the [Student Conduct](#)

[Policy for Academic Misconduct and Behavioral Misconduct](#). Those found to have engaged in academic dishonesty will face consequences, including disciplinary warnings and potentially permanent expulsion from the university, depending on the severity of the offense.

**Tentative Course Outline**

Week	Date	Topics	Required Readings
1	Sep 28	Introduction	Syllabus
2	Oct 3	Macroeconomic Data, National Income	Chapter 2,3
	Oct 5	Monetary System	Chapter 4
3	Oct 9	Problem Set 1 Due by 11:59 PM	
	Oct 10	Inflation	Chapter 5
	Oct 12	Quiz	
4	Oct 16	Problem Set 2 Due by 11:59 PM	
	Oct 17	Labor Market	Chapter 7
	Oct 19	Open Economy	Chapter 6
5	Oct 23	Problem Set 3 Due by 11:59 PM	
	Oct 24	Quiz and Midterm Review	
	Oct 26	<b>Midterm Exam: 1:30 - 2:50 PM THO 119</b>	
6	Oct 31	Growth	Chapter 8, 9, 10
	Nov 2	Growth	Chapter 8, 9, 10
7	Nov 6	Problem Set 4 Due by 11:59 PM	
	Nov 7	Economic Fluctuations	Chapter 11
	Nov 9	Quiz	
8	Nov 13	Problem Set 5 Due by 11:59 PM	
	Nov 14	Aggregate Demand	Chapter 12, 13
	Nov 16	Aggregate Demand	Chapter 12, 13
9	Nov 20	Problem Set 6 Due by 11:59 PM	
	Nov 21	Aggregate Supply	Chapter 15
	Nov 23	Thanksgiving Break	
10	Nov 27	Problem Set 7 Due by 11:59 PM	
	Nov 28	Government Debt and Budget Deficits	Chapter 18
	Nov 30	Quiz	
	Dec 3	Coding Project Due by 11:59 PM	
11	Dec 4	Problem Set 8 Due by 11:59 PM	
	Dec 5	Modern Macroeconomics	Chapter 20 and Material on Canvas
	Dec 7	Final Exam Review	
Final Week	Dec 11	<b>Final Exam: 4:30 - 6:20 PM THO 119</b>	
	Dec 12	Last day for Coding Project Submission	