University of Washington
Econ 2011: Introduction to Macroeconomics

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Office Hours: Tuesday 10:30-11:30, Wednesday 11-12 or by appointment

Course Materials

- Aplia Online Materials: www.aplia.com
- Course homepage: https://catalyst.uw.edu/gradebook/jenmer8/84468

Aplia Online Materials

We will be using aplia.com to access our textbook, as well as the online homework. Please register as soon as possible at www.aplia.com using our course registration key: BAAN-HUZR-YZ49
The Aplia service is about $95 for the quarter and includes online access to our textbook. If you prefer to have a hardcopy, you can order our text at a reduced price through aplia.com. There is a grace period ending on 4/20/2014 before payment is required and I encourage everyone to wait at least a week to make sure they are going to take this course. If you drop the class, Aplia will not refund the $95 course fee. Again our course registration key is:

BAAN-HUZR-YZ49

Grading

- Homework (10%): You will have weekly homework assignments to be completed online, check regularly the course outline in Aplia for the exact due dates. Also, there will be two one-page writing assignments that will require you to access current news stories and relate these to your readings. Late homework will not be accepted.
- Quizzes (30%): We will have 3 short quizzes during the quarter. You will get to drop your lowest quiz score. Quizzes will be announced in advance.
- We will have two in-class exams, the second exam is not cumulative.
- Exam 1 (30%): The first exam is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, April 29.
- Exam 2 (30%): The second exam is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, June 10.
- I reserve the right to take class participation into account in determining final grades.
- In addition, I will assign non-graded problems each week which I highly recommend doing as practice for quizzes and exams.
- This course is not graded on a curve. The standards of the Economics Department state that the median grade cannot exceed a 3.1.
- You may need a calculator for some of the questions on quizzes/tests. Please bring a simple 4-function or a scientific calculator to your tests. Graphing calculators are not allowed in any of the exams in this course.
Learning Goals

- Understand how prices inform the decisions about which goods and services to produce, how to produce them, and who consumes them.
- Appreciate the usefulness of economic reasoning in personal decision making.
- Understand and be able to use basic macroeconomic terminology.
- Understand how the economy works in the aggregate form.
- Understand the sources of long-term economic growth.
- Understand and be able to analyze the causes of short-term economic fluctuations, economic downturns and recoveries.
- Learn how macroeconomic variables are related.
- Understand how macroeconomic policy attempts to prevent recessions (and unemployment) as well as inflationary spirals in an economy.
- Be able to interpret the empirical information in macroeconomic data, graphical displays, and tables.

Make-up Exams:

Except for illness or another serious unexpected happening, there will not be any kind of make-up exams or quizzes. If you are not able to make it to a quiz or exam due to a serious reason, you have to contact me on the same day and explain what happened. In any case you will have to show proper valid documentation as soon as possible after the missed quiz/exam, such as a doctor’s note.

Academic Honesty:

The Department of Economics has a policy on academic misconduct. Academic misconduct includes plagiarism, cheating on examinations or other individual projects or assignments, and the theft or alteration of other persons’ work for the purpose of gaining academic credit or of enhancing grades. While it is perfectly fine to consult other resources for studying purposes, copying answers to quiz, exam, or homework questions from another source is considered cheating. The Department of Economics will follow university policy in case of academic dishonesty. These rules are spelled out at:
http://econ.washington.edu/undergrad/academic_conduct

Tentative Course Schedule:

Week 1: April 1, 3
- Review of microeconomic principles: Ch. 4-8
- Chapter 10: Measuring a Nation’s Income

Week 2: April 8, 10
- Chapter 11: Measuring the Cost of Living
- Chapter 12: Production and Growth
- Thursday Quiz 1 on Ch. 10-11
Week 3: April 15, 17
- Tuesday: Writing Homework #1 Due
- Chapter 13: Saving, Investment, and the Financial System
- Chapter 14: The Basic Tools of Finance

Week 4: April 22, 24
- Tuesday Quiz 2 on Ch.12-14
- Chapter 15: Unemployment
- Chapter 16: The Monetary System

Week 5: April 29, May 1
- Chapter 16: The Monetary System
- Thursday, April 29: Exam 1 on Ch.10-16

Week 6: May 6, 8
- Chapter 17: Money Growth and Inflation
- Chapter 18: Open-Economy Macroeconomics: Basic Concepts

Week 7: May 13, 15
- Chapter 19: A Macroeconomic Theory of the Open Economy
- Movie: Commanding Heights, Battle for the World Economy

Week 8: May 20, 22
- Tuesday, Quiz 3: Ch. 17-19
- Movie: Commanding Heights, Battle for the World Economy
- Chapter 20: Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply

Week 9: May 27, 29
- Chapter 21: The Influence of Monetary and Fiscal Policy on Aggregate Demand
- Chapter 22: The Short-Run Trade-off between Inflation and Unemployment
- Thursday: Writing Homework #2 Due

Week 10: June 3, 5
- Movie: Commanding Heights, Battle for the World Economy
- Review for Exam

Finals Week: June 10
- 10:30 AM Exam 2