ECON 201 J: Principles of Macroeconomics

University of Washington – Winter 2014

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Savery Hall 319H
Office hour TTH 300-400 pm
class schedule MWF 830 - 950 pm MUE 155

Course Materials

- Aplia: website: http://login.cengagebrain.com/
  This is an online homework system
  Course Key: F26L-KM3E-96AB Purchasing website: http://login.cengagebrain.com/

Grading

- Homework (15%): You have to register an Aplia account, the grading will be done online.
  HW has two parts, reading and problem sets. Reading is suggested to be finished after every class and Problem sets is due every Sunday night 1145 pm. DELAY HW WILL NOT BE GRADED.
- Exams (75%): We will have 3 exams in Week 4, Week 7 and Week 10. The exact date will be announced a week before depends on the progress. Every exam has multiple choices and short answer questions. NO MAKEUP ALLOWED. If you miss the exam due to unresisted force, grading will be decided under my discretion.
- Class Participation (10%): There will be questions every class. I will have a spreadsheet to mark class participation.

Class Grades

The median grade for this class will be around 3.0. Final grades will be determined at the end of class but a general benchmark for how you are doing will be the class median for quizzes and exams. In general, a score on a quiz or exam that is around the median would correspond to a grade of around a 2.9 or 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. This grading policy is dictated by the economics department. The overall grades below 40 points will considered failed in this class.
How to success in this class

1. I will provide tools and economic interpretation in the class. *Communication* between you and me is important. Always raise your hands high when you feel unclear about anything. (It might take a while to get used to my accent.)

2. Do your homework. Experience tells me successful students always take homeworks very seriously. When you have trouble in your homework, email me, but I might not respond you immediately or ask you to come to office hour. Don’t do your homework at the last minutes.

3. Taking initiative is important. I like students coming to me ask questions. Remember learning new knowledge is sometimes frustrating and you will struggle it. It is totally normal.

4. IMPORTANT! No one will *push* you to study in college. You have to take responsibility for your grades. Try not to skip class although it is an early morning class.

Learning Goals

- Understand and be able to use macroeconomic terminology.
- Understand the basics of how the economy works at the aggregate level.
- Understand how macroeconomic variables are related.
- Understand the basics of government macroeconomic policies and the monetary system.
- Apply macroeconomic principles to analyze and explain economic events and social phenomena.

Tentative Reading Schedule

- Measuring the Economy, GDP and CPI (Ch. 10,11)
- Long Run Variables, Growth, Investment, and Unemployment (Ch. 12-15)
- Monetary Economics (Ch. 16,17)
- Open Economies and International Trade (Ch. 18-19)
- Short Run Analysis, Business Cycles (Ch. 20-22)