University of Washington
Econ 301D: Intermediate Macroeconomics

David J. Kuenzel
dkuenzel@washington.edu
Savery Hall 319C

Spring 2014
Office Hours: TTh 9:30-10:30, or by appointment

Course Materials


Class website: I will post additional reading and course materials on the class website which you can access at https://catalyst.uw.edu/workspace/dkuenzel/44172/

Grading

- Problem Sets (10%): There will be four problem sets over the quarter. Each of them will be assigned one week before the due date. Due dates will be announced in class, late problem sets will not be accepted. You are encouraged to work together on the problem sets. However, I require an individual write-up by each student.
- We will have three non-cumulative in-class exams.
- Exam 1 (30%): The first exam is tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 21.
- Exam 2 (30%): The second exam is tentatively scheduled for Monday, May 12.
- Exam 3 (30%): The third exam is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, June 10.
- I reserve the right to take class participation into account in determining final grades.

Learning Goals

- Understand the importance of microeconomics as a foundation for macroeconomics
- Understand how aggregate economic activity is measured at the level of a nation
- Understand how basic models of the economy summarize and explain the interactions between these main macroeconomic measures, output, employment, and inflation
- Understand what causes economic activity to fluctuate over the years, from recessions to full employment and back
- Understand the role of government in trying to smooth out these fluctuations
- Understand the links between the domestic economy and the rest of the world
- Understand the differences between adjustment in the short run and adjustment in the long run
- Understand the insights conveyed by the various schools of thought – Keynesian economics with sticky prices, classical economics with flexible prices, and various syntheses of the two
- Understand how the economy grows in the very long run through capital accumulation and technological progress
- Understand specific concepts like dynamics and expectations

**Make-up Exams:**

Except for illness or another serious unexpected happening, there will not be any kind of make-up exams or deadline extensions for problem sets. If you are not able to make it to an exam (or to class when a problem set is due) 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 exam/problem set due date, such as a doctor’s note.

**Academic Honesty:**

Exams and problem sets are individual work and cheating will not be tolerated. Although I encourage you to work together on problem sets, I will not tolerate if you copy answers from another student or any other source. Note that the copying of solutions from the solutions manual is also considered cheating (and easy to spot). The Department of Economics will follow university policy in case of academic dishonesty. These rules are spelled out at: https://depts.washington.edu/grading/pdf/AcademicResponsibility.pdf

**Tentative Course Schedule:**

**Week 1: March 31-April 4**
- Chapter 2: Introduction
- Chapter 3: The Goods Market

**Week 2: April 7-11**
- Chapter 3: The Goods Market
- Chapter 4: Financial Markets

**Week 3: April 14-18**
- Chapter 4: Financial Markets
- Chapter 5: The IS-LM Model

**Week 4: April 21-25**
- April 21: Exam 1
- Chapter 6: The Labor Market
Week 5: April 28-May 2
- Chapter 7: The AS-AD Model
- Chapter 8: The Phillips Curve

Week 6: May 5-9
- Chapter 8: The Phillips Curve
- Chapter 9: The Crisis

Week 7: May 12-16
- May 12: Exam 2
- Chapter 10: The Facts of Growth
- Chapter 11: Saving, Capital Accumulation and Output

Week 8: May 19-23
- Chapter 11: Saving, Capital Accumulation and Output
- Chapter 18: Openness in Goods and Financial Markets

Week 9: May 26-30
- May 26: Memorial Day – no class
- Chapter 19: The Goods Market in an Open Economy

Week 10: June 2-June 6
- Chapter 19: The Goods Market in an Open Economy
- Chapter 20: Output, the Interest Rate, and the Exchange Rate

Exam 3: Tuesday, June 10, 8:30-10:20