

ECON 1113-201 (Summer 2023): Principles of Macroeconomics (Syllabus)

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Class: Zoom, MTWRF 1 - 3:15 pm, June 12 - July 7, 2023

What is Macroeconomics all about?

Economics revolves around the concepts of *markets & choices*. Macroeconomics is the branch that focuses on aggregate/National outcomes. We will address questions like: “Why do some countries advance rapidly while others stagnate?” and “In a pandemic, how should we balance concerns for public health with pursuing economic activity?” and “Is the Economy in a Recession?” We will develop a “set of analytical tools” that facilitates a deeper understanding of these and other important questions.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, my goal is that you are able to:

1. Understand and explain basic macroeconomic concepts, laws, and theories.
2. Apply your understanding of economics to current events, distinguishing between correct and incorrect economic logic.
3. Retain a lasting interest in the field of economics.

Classroom Expectations:

Attendance will not be recorded formally, but it is highly recommended. The class format is discussion-intensive and interactive, implying that regular participation will have a significant impact on your understanding of the material and, subsequently, your class grade. Be prepared for me to actively engage students in conversation, particularly those who may not regularly participate.

Furthermore, every session will include a **class quiz** that contributes to **10% of your total grade**. Missing a class means missing the opportunity to take these quizzes, and consequently, the chance to earn these crucial points.

Specifically, my expectations are:

1. **You are expected to PARTICIPATE in lecture even know we are attending via Zoom.**
2. **You consistently check Canvas and work through all the assignments sent via Canvas.** Students that regularly schedule time to complete assignments and participate in the group discussions have repeatedly been shown to improve learning, retention, and score higher on tests.
3. **You should complete assignments on time.** There are **no do overs or re-opening the assignments, homework's, or discussions.** These are meant to help you build on your knowledge of economics and statistics and also help you build better time management skills for your careers. Every assignment is opened with a large window to complete them so you can schedule time to access them and work through them.
4. **Always show respect and courtesy to one another.** Absolutely no rude remarks directly at a classmate or other person will be tolerated. The subject matter of economics frequently leads to open discussions of controversial issues. Topics like illegal immigration, trade policy, environmental regulation, subsidies & taxes, and wealth/poverty/inequality will come up. The classroom is a place to respect all students' views on these topics. **RESPECT THE PERSON, EVEN IF YOU DO NOT AGREE WITH THE OPINION. THIS ALSO APPLIES TO COURSE DISCUSSION BOARDS – where ALL comments should be respectful and professional.**

Zoom lecture link:

Sara Asgari is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://oklahoma.zoom.us/j/6407500281?pwd=VnVGVFpHQTF3NEhtY1RjL2RiTFA3Zz09>

Meeting ID: 640 750 0281

Passcode: 40043124

Textbook:

The required text for the course is Macroeconomics: Principles, Problems, and Policies, 22nd edition, by McConnell, Brue, and Flynn. To succeed in this class, it is critical that you spend time learning inside and outside of the classroom. You must purchase the e-book with Connect!! You can do this through the Connect website, or the course website directly. When you purchase the e-book, you may also purchase the physical textbook for a reduced price. That choice is up to you.

If you have a Connect issue, please contact them at <http://mhhe.com/support> or call 1-800-331-5094 rather than me.

Canvas & Class Communication:

The Canvas website has a number of helpful resources. **The Canvas website also links directly to Connect, providing easy access to your on-line homework**, practice exams, and e-book. This gives a great platform to engage with questions that are very similar to exam questions. A document giving step-by-step instructions on how to link up directly with Connect is available on the Canvas Website.

Office Hours:

Economics is best learned by working out problems & applying the concepts. Office hours are a great chance for these activities. **I have open office hours so please email me if you need to meet.**

Student Evaluation:

Homework on Connect:

There will be a total of 11 online homework assignments, each valued at 15 points, making a total of 165 points. However, please note that only the top 10 assignments will be considered towards your final grade, allowing for the lowest score to be dropped. This effectively translates into 150 points contributing towards your final grade. These assignments account for 30% of your total grade, so their completion is crucial. Assignments will be available in a 3–5-day window. Please plan accordingly to ensure that none are missed.

These **Smart Book** activities are designed to help you learn in a manner tailored to your own style and strengths. You should score 100% on this! Smart Book HWs require a certain number of correct replies. Missed questions do not lower your grade, they just make the assignment longer. Most students report finish times between 30-75 minutes on average. You can start/stop/leave an assignment as you go, lots of flexibility.

DO NOT WAIT until the last minute to complete your HW assignments! Internet connections go down, computers crash, you may feel ill or have an emergency – plus countless other possibilities. Each HW is available for 3-5 days & can be done ANYTIME from ANYWHERE (with internet access). So, if you miss the deadline for a HW assignment, you get a 0, it's that simple. **There is NO make-ups and only one drop.** If an illness or emergency affects the MAJORITY of the week an assignment was available (i.e., at least 3-4 days), then I reserve the right to allow a student to make up that particular assignment on a case-by-case basis.

Exams:

You will have Exam 1, Exam 2, and Exam 3. Student missing Exam 1, 2 for ANY reason, must take the **Makeup Exam** to replace the missed score. The Makeup exam takes place at the same time/place as the Final Exam – NOT the week of/after the Exam in question. Additionally, any student who has taken exams 1 and 2, may – at their discretion – decide to take the Makeup Exam to replace their lowest current score on Exams 1-2.

The Makeup Exam is cumulative over Chapters 1-9. Exam 3 (The Final) is just a 3rd normal unit-based Exam and covers Chapters 10-15. **The 2-hour final exam period on Friday, July 7th, from 1-3:15pm will be used to administer both Exam #3 and the Makeup exam.**

If you have an emergency and you miss that session, contact me as soon as possible. All students who need extended testing accommodating through the ADRC are encouraged to sign up for it as soon as possible. **A 10-point curve will be added to each naturally earned Exam score. There is no other curve for the class.**

Class Participation:

Every session will include a class quiz that contributes to 10% of your total grade. Missing a class means missing the opportunity to take these quizzes, and consequently, the chance to earn these crucial points. Please keep in mind that this is a summer course, missing one or two days means missing 1-2 entire chapters.

Also, **Students who engage actively in class will be rewarded with an additional 10-point bonus to their overall score.**

Grade Calculation:

The course uses a simple POINT ACCUMULATION grading system. The steps are:

1. STEP 1: Take the 3 scores you earned on Exam 1, Exam 2, and the Makeup exam. Add the 3 scores, then drop the lowest. [The dropped score will be a 0 in many cases.]
2. STEP 2: To the total from Step 1, add your score on Exam 3 (AKA the Final Exam).
3. STEP 3: To the total from Step 2, add your total Homework points.
4. STEP 4: To the total from Step 3, add your **Class participation point**.
5. STEP 5: To the total from Step 4, add extra credit points.

Letter grades are determined as follows:

A: 450 points or more	B: 400 points or more	C: 350 points or more
D: 300 points or more	F: 299 points or less	

NO GRADES WILL BE ADJUSTED on the basis of being “close”. Earn 449.99 points from this class and your final grade is a B, end of discussion. Don’t ask about it. I always root for the student to earn the higher grade – particularly anyone I get to know over the term. However, I can’t let my hopes affect the way I implement an impartial grading system.

Tentative Schedule:

Please see the **class schedule pdf** that is on the Class Canvas page for a detailed layout of the course.

Excused absences and religious holidays:

University approved absences and absences due to religious holidays will always be accommodated. Please contact Me if you have a conflict with an exam. The end-of-term make-up Exam is almost always the solution.

Honor Code Statement:

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. I assume familiarity with the honor code. Academic misconduct is an “act that improperly affects the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement”. Violations of the code will be taken seriously. See <http://integrity.ou.edu>.

Title IX Resources & Reporting Requirement

For any concerns regarding gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence or other violent acts, stalking, mental health concerns, or any other serious issue relating to student health/well being, the University provides a variety of resources. To learn more or to report an incident, please contact the Sexual Misconduct office at 405-325-2215 (8-5 M-F) or smo@ou.edu. Incidents can also be reported confidentially to OU advocates at 405-615-0013 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week). Please be advised your instructors are required to report any incidents they are made aware of. Inquiries regarding OU’s non-discrimination policies may be directed to: Bobby J. Mason, University Equal Opportunity Officer and Title IX coordinator, at 405-325-3546 or bjm@ou.edu. For more information please consult <http://www.ou.edu/eoo.html>

Adjustments for students with DRC needs and Pregnancy/Childbirth related issues

Should you need modification or adjustments to this course or exams based on pregnancy or childbirth-related, or other issues, please contact me as well as the DRC as soon as possible. Also, see <http://www.ou.edu/eoo/faqs/pregnancy-faqs.html> for answers to any related questions.

The University of Oklahoma Foodbank:

Food insecurity refers to the lack of access to enough food or limited and uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate food. The OU Food Pantry is located at 1113 Elm Avenue, Norman, OK 73072. Free parking is available during our operation hours. All current OU students, faculty, and staff are eligible to use the OU Food Pantry. The OU Food Pantry's Fall & Spring hours are Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 10AM-6PM. <https://ou.edu/foodpantry>