

ECON 2105: PRINCIPLES OF MACROECONOMICS

Melanie Hildebrandt

UWG Spring 2015

TIME/LOCATION:

Section 01: MW 9:30-10:50am/Miller 1201
Section 02: MW 11-12:20pm/Miller 1201

PREREQUISITES:

Overall 2.0 GPA

REQUIRED TEXT:

ECON MACRO (4th edition, 2014)
William A. McEachern
ISBN: 1-2854-2362-3

CONTACT INFO:

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OFFICE HOURS 1/5-2/27:

Mon/Wed 9-9:30am and 2:30-4:30pm
Thurs 9-11:30am
Fri 9-11:30am

OFFICE HOURS 3/2-4/24:

Mon/Wed 9-9:30am
Tues 9-11:30am
Thurs 9-3:30pm

EVALUATION

Grading for this course will be on a point system based on your performance on the exams, quizzes, problem sets, and in-class and online exercises. The assessments will be based on the assigned readings, lectures, case studies, assignments and exercises.

Exams: There are **four exams** each worth a total of **75 points**, including a **Cumulative Final Exam**. **Calculators are NOT allowed during the Exams**. If you miss any exam, a make-up exam will **ONLY** be given on the following **Friday at 9am**. (You will report to the Economics department office promptly at 9am with a valid picture ID.) If you cannot come during the scheduled make-up session, your Final Exam Grade will count twice. Exam questions will be a combination of multiple choice (with the professor providing scantrons), short answer questions, math problems, and questions related to case studies.

THERE WILL NOT BE A CURVE ON ANY EXAM

Online Quizzes: There will be **four online quizzes** and each must be completed through CourseDen. The dates for each will be announced in advance during class and also posted online in CourseDen. **All quizzes end at 11pm**. Missed quizzes **CANNOT** be made up. Quiz questions will be a mix of chapter content and some related to the assigned article readings. You have 3 attempts for each quiz with the highest score counting for credit.

Problem Sets: There will be **Three Problem Sets** and these will be due at the **beginning of class** on **Exam Review Day** and **NO** late work will be accepted. Solutions to the problem sets will be posted in Course Den after class on the due date. **If you are unable to attend class, you must make prior arrangements to turn in your problem sets BEFORE the due date.** (Examples: bring to my office, scan and email, take photo and email, etc.). **Requests to turn in problem sets after the deadline will be denied NO MATTER THE REASON.**

Additionally, **bonus points** (i.e. points not included in the set 500 course points available) will be given out at the **discretion of the professor**. Bonus points will be allocated based on random attendance checks, class participation, extra questions on exams and assignments, and/or attendance at designated campus events.

If you have any questions, concerns, complaints, etc. about your grade, you **MUST** bring it to the instructor's attention within 48 hours of the grade being posted in CourseDen. **Student complaints that are not voiced until the end of the semester about missing or "incorrect" grades will not be considered.**

POINT ALLOCATION

Assessment	Points	Total	Percent		Pts Earned	Final Grade
Exams (4)	75 each	300	60%		450-500	A
Quizzes (4)	15 each	60	12%		400-449	B
Problem Sets (3)	25 each	75	15%		350-399	C
In-class & Online assignments	Vary	65	13%		300-349	D
Attendance & Participation	Vary	Bonus	Bonus		0-299	F
	TOTAL	500	100%			

Final grades for this course will be assigned using this exact point distribution, i.e. final grades will not automatically be “rounded up”. An example, if a student earns 449 points, then a final grade of “B” will be assigned for the course.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is **not** mandatory and you will not be dropped from the class due to nonattendance. It is the student's responsibility to withdraw from the class by contacting the registrar's office directly. **The last day to withdraw with a grade of W is Friday, February 27th, 2015.**

However, 13% of the course grade is in-class and online exercises. Additionally, extra credit may be available in this course from bonus points earned via RANDOM attendance checks and RANDOM in-class assignments and class participation. These points will **NOT be announced in advance and cannot be made up.**

CANCELLATION

In the event that class is cancelled, any relevant assignments or course announcements will be posted on CourseDen.

CLASS POLICIES

Like most professors, I expect you to behave professionally in this course, which means considering the effect that your behavior will have on other people involved in the course.

- Please come to class on time, and do not leave early. If you must come to class late, enter as quietly as possible to avoid disrupting class.
- Turn off cell phones and do not use them in class. This includes texting or using the internet during class.
- **CALCULATORS will NOT be permitted during any EXAM.**
- Please be sensitive of the perspectives of your classmates. Vigorous discussion of controversial issues is terrific, but we ought not to belittle the opinions of others. I expect you to disagree with me and with one another, but do so in a respectful manner.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of this course is for you to learn basic economic concepts, specifically macroeconomics, and more about the economic system in which we live. To this end, upon completion, students will:

- Be able to describe basic economic concepts such as scarcity and opportunity costs (LG4, LG7, LG8)
- Demonstrate a basic knowledge of macroeconomic concepts such as gross domestic product, inflation and unemployment (LG4, LG7)
- Demonstrate a basic knowledge of international economics including concepts such as exchange rates and net exports (LG4, LG5, LG7, LG8, LG9)

- Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the banking system, the impact of the Federal Reserve on the economy, and government taxation and spending policy (LG7)
- Be able to analyze the effectiveness of fiscal and monetary policy in combating inflation or unemployment (LG4, LG7, LG10)
- Be able to apply macroeconomic models such as aggregate supply and demand to the analysis of current economic issues (LG4, LG7, LG9, LG10)
- Demonstrate an understanding of the social, cultural, and / or political development of the people and institutions of the United States (US Perspectives Core Overlay)

Note: A complete list of expected learning goals (LG) for the Economics Department can be found at the department web site (http://www.westga.edu/econ/index_12904.php).

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Please carefully review the information at the following link:

http://www.westga.edu/assetsDept/vpaa/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf

UWG Email Policy

University of West Georgia students are provided a MyUWG e-mail account. The University considers this account to be an official means of communication between the University and the student. It is the student's responsibility to check his or her email.

Credit Hour Policy (3 CREDIT HOURS)

For approximately fifteen weeks, students in this class will generally spend 150 minutes with direct faculty instruction (either face-to-face or online) and work about 360 minutes outside of the classroom each week. This out-of-class work may include, but is not limited to, readings, assignments, projects, group work, research, and test preparation.

University of West Georgia Honor Code

At the University of West Georgia, we believe that academic and personal integrity are based upon honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students at West Georgia assume responsibility for upholding the honor code. West Georgia students pledge to refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing.

The University of West Georgia maintains and monitors a confidential Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. This database collects and reports patterns of repeated student violations across all the Colleges, the Ingram Library, and the School of Nursing. Each incidence of academic dishonesty is subject to review and consideration by the instructor, and is subject to a range of academic penalties including, but not limited to, failing the assignment and/or failing the course. Student conduct sanctions range from verbal warning to suspension or expulsion depending on the magnitude of the offense and/or number of offenses. The incident becomes part of the student's conduct record at UWG.

Additionally, the student is responsible for safeguarding his/her computer account. The student's account and network connection are for his/her individual use. A computer account is to be used only by the person to whom it has been issued. The student is responsible for all actions originating through his/her account or network connection. Students must not impersonate others or misrepresent or conceal their identities in electronic messages and actions.

Accessing Course Den:

You will need to access Course Den for this course. You can access Course Den from any computer that has Internet access, on or off campus. If you need help accessing Course Den, you may come to me for help, or you may contact the Distance Learning helpdesk (678)839-6248.

NOTE: This syllabus and schedule provide a general plan for the course. However, deviations may be necessary depending upon the progress of the class. Also, other Course Den assignments may be added throughout the semester. All Course Den assignments will be announced in class and available online. Additionally, there will frequently be in-class assignments, which may not be announced in advance.

COURSE SCHEDULE

DATE	TOPICS	ASSIGNMENTS
Jan. 5 th	Syllabus & Basic Math/Graph Review	
Jan. 7 th	Chapter 1: The Art and Science of Economic Analysis	
Jan. 11 th	Drop/Add Ends at 11:59pm	
Jan. 12 th	Chapter 2: Economic Tools and Economic Systems	
Jan. 14 th	Chapter 2 (cont.) Chapter 3: Economic Decision Makers	Q1 opens (Ch 1-3)
Jan. 19 th	NO CLASS : MLK Holiday	
Jan. 21 st	Chapter 4: Supply & Demand	
Jan. 26 th	Chapter 4 (continued)	Q1 due by 11pm
Jan. 28 th	Chapter 4 (continued) Case Study 1 Discussion	Case Study 1
Feb. 2 nd	Chapter 5: Introduction to Macroeconomics	
Feb. 4 th	REVIEW DAY for Exam 1	Problem Set 1 due in class
Feb. 9 th	Exam 1: Ch 1-5	EXAM 1
Feb. 11 th	Chapter 6: Tracking the U.S. Economy	
Feb. 16 th	NO CLASS: CD Assignment	
Feb. 18 th	Chapter 7: Unemployment and Inflation	Q2 opens (Ch 6-7)
Feb. 23 rd	Chapter 7 (continued) Case Study 2 Discussion	Case Study 2
Feb. 25 th	Chapter 8: Productivity and Growth	Q2 due by 11pm
Feb. 27 th	Last Day to Withdraw with grade of "W"	
Mar. 2 nd	Chapter 8 (continued) Case Study 3 Discussion	Case Study 3
Mar. 4 th	Chapter 9: The Consumption Function	
Mar. 9 th	REVIEW DAY for Exam 2	Problem Set 2 due in class
Mar. 11 th	Exam 2: Ch 6-9	EXAM 2
Mar. 16 th	NO CLASS: Spring Break	
Mar. 18 th	NO CLASS: Spring Break	
Mar. 23 rd	Chapter 10: Aggregate Demand & Supply	Q3 opens (Ch 10-11)
Mar. 25 th	Chapter 11: Fiscal Policy Case Study 4 Discussion	Case Study 4
Mar. 30 th	Chapter 13-15: Money & the Fed	
Apr. 1 st	Chapter 13-15 (continued)	Q3 due by 11pm
Apr. 6 th	REVIEW DAY for Exam 3	Problem Set 3 due in class
Apr. 8 th	Exam 3: Ch 10-11 & 13-15	EXAM 3
Apr. 13 th	Chapter 17 & 18: INT Economics	Q4 opens (Cumulative)
Apr. 15 th	INT Economics (continued) Case Study 5 Discussion	Case Study 5
Apr. 17 th	<i>(Optional) REVIEW Session for Final Exam</i>	
Apr. 19 th		Q4 due by 11pm
Apr. 20 th	Section 02: FINAL EXAM Day (11:00am-1:00pm)	Final Exam, Comprehensive
Apr. 22 nd	Section 01: FINAL EXAM Day (8:00am-10:00am)	Final Exam, Comprehensive