

## University of West Georgia

### Principles of Macroeconomics Econ 2105 Syllabus Spring 2017

#### Course Information

Principles of Macroeconomics

**Course Abbreviation:** Econ 2105

**Class Time and Location:** T/Th 9:30am-10:45am Miller Hall 1201

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Prerequisites:** You will need access to a computer that is capable of running CourseDen (D2L).

**Course Description:** A study of the economy as a whole including production, economic fluctuations, inflation, unemployment, public policy, and international economics. The course is intended to introduce students to concepts that will enable them to understand and analyze economic aggregates and evaluate economic policies.

**Class Type:** This is a hybrid class. Approximately 85% of class meetings will be face-to-face while 15% will be online.

#### Instructor Information

**Name:** Dr. Mary Mathewes Kassis

#### Instructor Contact Information

**On Campus Office Hours:** T/Th 8:30am-9:30am, 12:15pm–2:15pm, and by appointment

**Online Office Hours:** Wednesdays 9:30am-10:30am and by appointment.

To talk with me during the online office hours, please email me in CourseDen, and we can meet in the CourseDen chat room.

**Office Locations:** Miller Hall 1310

**Office Phone Number:** 678-839-4777

**Email:** There are two methods for contacting me by Email.

1. CourseDen mail found in your CourseDen course on the course toolbar.
2. UWG email: mkassis@westga.edu

**Please use CourseDen mail for all course correspondence.** My UWG email should be used in emergencies only. CourseDen email is the best way to reach me outside of office hours.

**Response Time:** I will respond within 1 business day (M-F) to all emails unless I inform you of any exceptions. I will expect the same response time from you.

## **Required Text**

**Required Textbook:** McEachern, *Principles of Macroeconomics 5<sup>th</sup> ed. with ECON ONLINE*, South-Western (the ISBN for the bundle is 1-337-14180-1). The textbook package can be purchased directly from Cengage at the following microsite (<http://www.cengagebrain.com/course/1682941>). To access the textbook material through the links in CourseDen, you must purchase this textbook package. (There is a 2 week grace period to pay for the package so you can begin using your online textbook even if you cannot pay for the package immediately.)

A link to the PowerPoint slides that will be used during the lecture can be found on the CourseDen course homepage.

## **Expected 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)
- Be able to apply macroeconomic models such as aggregate supply and demand to the analysis of current economic issues (LG4, LG7, LG9)
- 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

(<https://www.westga.edu/academics/business/economics/learning-goals.php>)

## **Attendance**

Students will be asked to fill out a seating chart on the third day of class (January 17) based on the seat that they have chosen for that day. Students will be asked to sit in the same seat every class period following.

## **Assessment**

You will be graded based on your performance on four tests, homework assignments, a current economic conditions assignment, and in-class exercises as described below. Extra credit is not an option in this course.

**Tests** – There will be four tests. The tests will be a combination of multiple choice, true/false questions and short answer problems. The questions will be based on reading assignments, lectures, online material, in-class exercises, homework, and class discussions. Each test is worth 19% of your grade. You are responsible for bringing a No. 2 pencil to each exam.

## **Examination Schedule:**

Exam #1 – January 31

Exam #2 – February 28

Exam #3 – April 4

Exam #4 – April 27

**Homework Assignments** – There will be homework assignments made CourseDen each week. The due date homework assignments will be announced in class and posted in the CourseDen calendar. The grades on the homework assignments will be worth 12% of your final grade. The lowest two homework grades will be dropped when calculating your final homework grade.

**Homework assignments will not be accepted late – no exceptions!**

**Current Economic Conditions Assignment:** Throughout the semester, students are expected to follow current economic events by participating in class discussions, watching the news, and reading newspaper and internet stories about the U.S. economy. At the end of the semester, students will be required to watch an online presentation on the current economy and read an article assigned by the professor on the current U.S. economy. Students then will have to write a response to questions relating the presentation and article to the material covered in class this semester. Links to the article, the narrated PowerPoint presentations, and discussion questions will be available in CourseDen by March 17. Your response to the current economic conditions questions must be typed in paragraph form and will be due in class on Thursday, April 13. Your paper should be no longer than 3 typed double-spaced pages (1 inch margins and 12 point font). The current economic conditions assignment is worth 7% of your grade.

**In-Class Exercises**– Most face-to-face classes will include in-class exercises. The lowest in-class exercise grade will be dropped in calculating your final average. In-class exercises will be worth 5% of your final grade.

**Makeup Tests** – Students will only be allowed to makeup missed tests in the case of **DOCUMENTED** medical emergencies. Students should contact the professor as soon as possible after missing the test to make arrangements for a makeup test. All makeup exams will be given on a Friday morning. Students who do not contact the professor within one week of missing a test will not be allowed to makeup the test.

## **WOLF PACT**

By enrolling and continuing in this course you agree to the following.

Having read the Honor Code for the University of West Georgia, I understand and accept my responsibility to uphold the values and beliefs described therein and to conduct myself in a manner that will reflect the values of the Institution and the Richards College of Business so as to respect the rights of all UWG community members. As a UWG student, **I will represent myself truthfully and complete all academic assignments honestly and within the parameters set by my instructor.** I understand and accept that if I am found guilty of violations (through processes due me as a UWG student and outlined in the UWG Student Handbook), penalties will be imposed. I also recognize that my responsibility includes willingness to confront members of the UWG community if I feel there has been a violation of the Honor Code. Ultimately, I will conduct myself in a manner that promotes UWG as the best place to work, learn, and succeed for my generation, and those to come!

## **ACADEMIC HONESTY GUIDELINES**

Any quiz or exam, given online or in class, is an individual assignment where collaboration is not allowed. All written assignments should be written in the student's own words and all sources should be cited. Using another person's words or ideas without citing them is plagiarism. If you have questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please review the information from the Department of English and Philosophy at the following link: [http://www.westga.edu/english/1138\\_2219.php](http://www.westga.edu/english/1138_2219.php).

## **Grading Scale**

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	59 and below

## **CourseDen (D2L)**

CourseDen (D2L) is the software used to deliver the online portion of this course. Please go to <http://westga.view.usg.edu> and then enter your username and password on the left side of the page. Log in using the default user name and password. From this page you can also do a system check, which is a useful utility if you're ever having trouble with CourseDen.

## **Help! I can't get CourseDen to work!**

If you experience problems using CourseDen don't panic! Please contact the helpdesk by phone: 678-839-6248 (M-F, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm) or by e-mail: [distance@westga.edu](mailto:distance@westga.edu). For 24 hour help, please go to <https://d2lhelp.view.usg.edu/> or call 1-855-772-0423.

UWG strives to solve all CourseDen related problems within 48 hours. While UWG will do their part to help you resolve problems and other situation regarding CourseDen, you do have some responsibilities.

1. You must seek help. See the link above.
2. Don't wait 2-3 days to report a problem. Do it immediately!
3. Notify me if your problems haven't been resolved within 2 business days.
4. Have an alternate computer access plan. If your ISP suddenly goes out of business, or your disk crashes, or your puppy chews up your modem, or you experience some other personal hardware issue, you are responsible for having an emergency alternative computer access plan. Know in advance where you can go (library, Internet cafe, friend's house, workplace) if your primary system fails!
5. If you are experiencing technical issues with CourseDen (not your computer /ISP) that are preventing you from turning in an assignment, responding to mail/discussions, or taking an assessment you have 2 responsibilities:
  - a. Contact the helpdesk by phone: 678-839-6248, or by e-mail: [distance@westga.edu](mailto:distance@westga.edu). If it's after office hours you can go to <https://D2LHelp.view.usg.edu> or call 1-855-772-0423 for additional support.
  - b. Notify me via mail, personal email, or phone

## **Cengage Customer Support Website**

If you are having problems with the online textbook (as opposed to CourseDen), please contact customer support using the link below to access technical support specifically for this course.

<http://support.cengage.com/magellanweb/ClassLandingPage.aspx?OptyId=1169386&AccountId=1-U0-13&TechCode=TPC03M%2cTPC32>

## **Class Cancellation**

In the event that classes are canceled, please check the CourseDen class homepage for assignments and course announcements. If classes are cancelled on the day of an exam or that the current economic conditions assignment is due, the exam will be given or the assignment will be due on the first class meeting following the cancellation.

## **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.

## **Official Communication**

All official communications from the university will be through campus email (MyUWG). The professor will use CourseDen for general class announcements.

## **Student Rights and Responsibilities:**

Please carefully review the information at the following link:

[http://www.westga.edu/assets/Dept/vpaa/Common\\_Language\\_for\\_Course\\_Syllabi.pdf](http://www.westga.edu/assets/Dept/vpaa/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf)

The document at this link contains important information pertaining to your rights and responsibilities in this class. Because these statements are updated as federal, state, university, and accreditation standards change, you should review the information each semester.

## **Course Outline**

Chapter 1	The Art and Science of Economic Analysis
Chapter 2	Economic Tools and Economic Systems
Chapter 3	Economic Decision Makers
Chapter 4	Demand, Supply, and Markets
Chapter 5	Introduction to Macroeconomics
Chapter 6	Tracking the U.S. Economy
Chapter 7	Unemployment and Inflation
Chapter 8	Productivity and Growth
Chapter 9	Aggregate Expenditure and Aggregate Demand
Chapter 10	Aggregate Supply
Chapter 11	Fiscal Policy
Chapter 12	Federal Budgets and Public Policy
Chapter 13	Money and the Financial System
Chapter 14	Banking and the Money Supply
Chapter 15	Monetary Theory and Policy

The Schedule for each week (reading assignments, online material and CourseDen homework) can be found in your CourseDen calendar. Please click the calendar tool on the CourseDen course toolbar.

*This course syllabus provides a general plan for the course. However, deviations may be necessary.*