

ECONOMICS 2105 – 02 (MW 9:30 am- 10:45 am)

FALL 2017

8/9/2017 Version

COURSE TITLE AND WEBSITE:

Principles of Macroeconomics. Updates to the syllabus will be posted on the CourseDen site for the course. The class will meet in the Miller Hall Lecture Hall (Room 1201).

INSTRUCTOR:

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Office: RCOB 1311 (Miller Hall)

Note: Please contact me using my campus email address (dboldt@westga.edu). I do not utilize the email in CourseDen. If I need to contact you, I will do so via your official campus email address.

OFFICE HOURS:

MW, 10:50am-11:50am, TTH, 8am-10:30am, W 4:30-5:30 pm (Newnan Center), and other times by arrangement.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK/OTHER RESOURCES:

1) McEachern, William A., *ECON Macro 5th edition*, Cengage Learning, 2017. A copy of the book has been placed on 2 hr. reserve in the UWG Library.

2) Student who buy a new copy of the book will have access to a student resource website called ECON Online. The site contains practice chapter quizzes, flashcards and other useful study resources.

3) Course lecture notes will be posted in the CourseDen site for the class (no later than 12 noon on the day prior to the class lecture).

PREREQUISITES: No course prerequisites but you must have at least a 2.0 GPA

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 of the course, the expectation is that students will be able to:

- Demonstrate a basic knowledge of macroeconomic concepts such as gross domestic product, inflation, and unemployment
- Demonstrate a basic knowledge of international economics including concepts such as exchange rates and net exports
- Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the banking system, the impact of the Federal Reserve on the economy, and government taxation and spending policy
- Be able to analyze at a basic level the effectiveness of fiscal and monetary policy in combating inflation or unemployment

EVALUATION:

Grading in the course will be based on your performance on three (3) tests and on class participation. The examinations will be composed of short answer and multiple choice questions based on class lectures/discussions and on assigned material (text chapters and other assigned resources). Each of the tests will be worth 28% of your grade. If your grade on the final examination is higher than one of your previous 3 test grades, I will count the final examination and will drop the lowest of the previous three test grades. The final examination is also the makeup examination for any missed test (there are no other makeup exams). Note: you must take Test #1. If you miss Test #1, you will earn a grade of zero and you can't replace that missed grade with the final test grade. Your class participation grade (16% of total) will be based on in-class activities (quizzes and worksheets). If you are unable to attend this class on a regular basis, I would suggest dropping this class. There are no makeups for any missed in-class activities.

EXTRA CREDIT ASSIGNMENTS:

To obtain extra credit points, you will need to submit a one-page, typed response paper on an approved lecture or career-services activity. The response paper should summarize the key points of the lecture/activity and include a brief critical analysis. Upon satisfactory completion of this response paper, 1.5 points will be added to your final average. One opportunity for extra credit will be the RCOB BB&T Lecture (Jody Foster, Tuesday, September 12, 6pm, details to follow). I will give credit for at most 2 extra credit activities.

ACADEMIC POLICIES:

Please carefully review the information in the link below concerning Academic Support Services, UWG Email Policy, UWG Credit Hour Policy, the UWG Honor Code and other topics.

<https://www.westga.edu/UWGSyllabusPolicies/>

During the semester, students in this course will generally spend 150 minutes per week of direct faculty instruction in the classroom. As a guide, students should expect to spend about 300 minutes per week outside the classroom on various assignments, reading the textbook, and in studying the course material.

COURSE OUTLINE, TOPICS AND IMPORTANT DATES:

Class	Topics	Notes
1 (8/9)	Intro to Course/ Ch. 1 Art and Science of Economic Analysis	
2 (8/14)	Ch. 2 Economics Tools and Economic Systems	
3 (8/16)	Ch. 3 Economic Decision Makers	Be prepared for a quiz on 8/16 on the film titled <i>Your Tax Dollars at Work</i> at https://wetheeconomy.com/
4 (8/21)	No Class Meeting	Watch the following videos at the St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank: Episode 1 (Supply), Episode 2 (Demand) and Episode 3 (Equilibrium). These can be found at https://www.stlouisfed.org/education/economic-lowdown-video-series . You will have a quiz on these videos on 8/23.
5 (8/23)	Ch. 4 Demand, Supply and Markets	Be Prepared for a quiz on 8/23 on the three videos from the St Louis Federal Reserve (see above)
6 (8/28)	Ch. 4 Demand, Supply and Markets	
7 (8/30)	Ch. 5 Introduction to Macroeconomics	Be prepared for a quiz on 8/30 on the film titled <i>Recession</i> at https://wetheeconomy.com/
8 (9/6)	Ch. 5 Introduction to Macroeconomics	
9 (9/11)	Test I (Chapters 1-5)*	
10 (9/13)	Ch. 6 Tracking the U.S. Economy	Be Prepared for a quiz on 9/13 on the <i>Planet Money</i> podcast titled <i>The Invention of the Economy</i> http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2017/03/15/520294083/episode-522-the-invention-of-the-economy
11 (9/18)	Ch. 7 Unemployment and Inflation	
12 (9/20)	Ch. 7 Unemployment and Inflation	
13 (9/25)	Ch. 7 Unemployment and Inflation	Be Prepared for a quiz on 9/25 on the <i>Planet Money</i> podcast titled <i>Here We Grow Again</i> http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2017/06/07/531957453/episode-776-here-we-grow-again
14 (9/27)	Ch. 9 Aggregate Demand	Note the last day to withdraw with a grade of W is Friday, Sept. 29
15 (10/2)	Ch. 11 Fiscal Policy	Be prepared for a quiz on 10/2 on the Planet Money podcast titled <i>Budget Time</i> http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2017/07/07/535987825/episode-782-budget-time
16 (10/4)	Ch. 11 Fiscal Policy	
17 (10/9)	Ch. 12 Fiscal Budgets and Public Policy	Be prepared for a quiz on 10/9 on the film titled <i>Amazing Animated Film on the Debt and the Deficit</i> at https://wetheeconomy.com/
18 (10/11)	Ch. 12 Fiscal Budgets and Public Policy	
19 (10/16)	Test II (Chapters 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12)*	
20 (10/18)	Ch. 13 Money and Financial System	
21 (10/23)	Ch. 13 Money and Financial System	Be prepared for a quiz on 10/23 on the film titled <i>The Film About Money</i> at https://wetheeconomy.com/
22 (10/25)	Ch. 13 Money and Financial System	Be prepared for a quiz on 10/25 on the film titled <i>The Second Part of the Film About Money</i> at https://wetheeconomy.com/
23 (10/30)	Ch. 14 Banking and Money Supply	
24 (11/1)	Ch. 14 Banking and Money Supply	

25 (11/6)	Ch. 14 Banking and Money Supply	Be prepared for a quiz on 11/6 on the following two videos: 1) <i>Money</i> video/reading titled <i>What Does the Federal Reserve Do, Exactly</i> http://time.com/money/4034234/federal-reserve-explained/ and 2) What is the Fed? https://www.federalreserve.gov/aboutthefed.htm
26 (11/8)	Ch. 18 International Finance	
27 (11/13)	Ch. 18 International Finance	Be prepared for a quiz on 11/13 on the film titled <i>Globalization-Who Cares?-You Do</i> at https://wetheeconomy.com/
28 (11/15)	Ch. 18 International Finance	Be prepared for a quiz on 11/15 on the video on the <i>Six Factors that Influence Exchange Rates</i> http://www.investopedia.com/articles/basics/04/050704.asp
29 (11/27)	Test III (Chapters 13, 14 and 18)*	
30 (11/29)	Review for Final Exam	
Final Wednesday, 12/6 8am-10am	Final (Comprehensive)	

*The chapters covered on each test are subject to change. The chapters to be covered on each test will be announced the class period before the test. The scheduled test dates will not change unless the university is officially closed on one of those days.