

ECONOMICS 2105 – 25H (TTH 11:00am- 12:15 pm)

FALL 2017

8/10/2017 Version

COURSE TITLE AND WEBSITE:

Principles of Macroeconomics (Honors). Updates to the syllabus will be posted on the CourseDen site for the course. The class will meet in Adamson Hall (Room 115).

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 request.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK/OTHER RESOURCES:

- 1) McEachern, William A., *ECON Macro 5th edition*, Cengage Learning, 2017. A copy of the text has been placed on 2 hour 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. The notes will be posted by 12 noon on the day prior to the lecture.

PREREQUISITES: No course prerequisites but must be honors-eligible to enroll in ECON 2105-25H.

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 the 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 reading material (text and other assigned resources). Each of the tests will be worth 25% of your grade. If your grade on the final test (Test III) is higher than one of your previous test grades, I will count the final examination 35% and the lowest test only 15%. Your class participation grade (25% of total) will be based on activities such as worksheets, in-class quizzes, presentations, class discussions and class attendance. Note: there are no makeups for any missed in-class activity. Student presentations will be made during the last two classes (before the final). Details are provided below.

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS:

Each student in the class will be making a 8-10 minute presentation on the macroeconomics conditions of a country (other than the U.S.). Each student must select a different country and research the macroeconomic conditions of that country. Countries will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Your country selection must be made no later than November 9. These presentations will be made on the last two regular class days of the semester. Additional details on the country presentations will be provided later in the semester.

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 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 (8/10)	Intro to Course/ Ch. 1 Art and Science of Economic Analysis	
2 (8/15)	Ch. 2 Economics Tools and Economic Systems	
3 (8/17)	Ch. 3 Economic Decision Makers	Be prepared for a quiz on 8/17 on the film titled <i>Your Tax Dollars at Work</i> at https://wetheeconomy.com/
4 (8/22)	Ch. 4 Demand, Supply and Markets	Be prepared for a quiz on 8/22 on the following videos produced by 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 .
5 (8/24)	Ch. 4 Demand, Supply and Markets	Be Prepared for a quiz on 8/24 on the <i>Planet Money</i> podcast on textbook pricing http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2016/09/16/494266135/episode-573-why-textbook-prices-keep-climbing
6 (8/29)	Ch. 5 Introduction to Macroeconomics	
7 (8/31)	Ch. 5 Introduction to Macroeconomics	Be prepared for a quiz on 8/31 on the film titled <i>Recession</i> at https://wetheeconomy.com/
8 (9/5)	Ch. 5 Introduction to Macroeconomics	
9 (9/7)	Test I (Chapters 1-5)	
10 (9/12)	Ch. 6 Tracking the U.S. Economy	Be Prepared for a quiz on 9/12 on the <i>Planet Money</i> podcast on GDP http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2017/03/15/520294083/episode-522-the-invention-of-the-economy
11 (9/14)	Ch. 7 Unemployment and Inflation	
12 (9/19)	Ch. 7 Unemployment and Inflation	
13 (9/21)	Ch. 8 Productivity and Growth	Be Prepared for a quiz on 9/21 on the <i>Planet Money</i> podcast on economic growth http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2017/06/07/531957453/episode-776-here-we-grow-again
14 (9/26)	Ch. 9 Aggregate Demand	
15 (9/28)	Ch. 11 Fiscal Policy	Be prepared for a quiz on 9/28 on the Planet Money podcast on the federal budget http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2017/07/07/535987825/episode-782-budget-time Note the last day to withdraw with a grade of W is Friday, Sept. 29
16 (10/3)	Ch. 11 Fiscal Policy	
17 (10/10)	Ch. 12 Fiscal Budgets and Public Policy	Be prepared for a quiz on 10/10 on the film titled <i>Amazing Animated Film on the Debt and the Deficit</i> at https://wetheeconomy.com/
18 (10/12)	Ch. 12 Fiscal Budgets and Public Policy	
19 (10/17)	Test II (Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, 11 and 12)	
20 (10/19)	Ch. 13 Money and Financial System	Be prepared for a quiz on 10/19 on the film titled <i>The Film About Money</i> at https://wetheeconomy.com/
21 (10/24)	Attend talk (which starts at 11am) titled "Build a Better Future with Your Money." Meet at Ingram Library for this talk.	
22 (10/26)	Ch. 13 Money and Financial System	Be prepared for a quiz on 10/26 on the film titled <i>The Second Part of the Film About Money</i> at https://wetheeconomy.com/

23 (10/31)	Ch. 14 Banking and Money Supply	
24 (11/2)	Ch. 14 Banking and Money Supply	
25 (11/7)	Ch. 14 Banking and Money Supply	Be prepared for a quiz on 11/7 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 (11/9)	Ch. 18 International Finance	
27 (11/14)	Ch. 18 International Finance	Be prepared for a quiz on 11/14 on the film titled <i>Globalization-Who Cares?-You Do</i> at https://wetheeconomy.com/
28 (11/16)	Ch. 18 International Finance	Be prepared for a quiz on 11/16 on the Planet Money podcast on the dollar and the global economy http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2017/04/28/526051566/episode-553-the-dollar-at-the-center-of-the-world
29 (11/28)	Student Presentations	
30 (11/30)	Student Presentations	
Final Tuesday, 12/5 11am-1pm	Test III (Chapters 13, 14, 18 and some comprehensive questions).	