

## University of West Georgia

### Principles of Macroeconomics Econ 2105 Syllabus Fall 2019

#### Course Information

Principles of Macroeconomics

**Course Abbreviation:** Econ 2105

**Class Time and Location:** T/Th 11:00am-12:15pm Miller Hall 2214

**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 8:45am-9:30am, 12:15pm–3:00pm, and by appointment

**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: Required Textbooks:** ECON MACRO, 6th edition with MindTap Printed Access Card (ISBN 9781337408738). The textbook package can be purchased directly through the link in CourseDen. You will need to purchase a new textbook, so you will have the access code needed for MindTap.

The materials required for this course and any others using Cengage products are included in ONE Cengage Unlimited subscription. For \$119.99 per semester, you get access to ALL Cengage online textbooks, platforms, study tools and more—in one place. \$7.99 print textbook rentals are also available. Ask for Cengage Unlimited in the bookstore or visit [Cengage Unlimited](#).

If you are a dual enrolled high school student, you will get your textbook through the bookstore.

## **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: The Economics Department's website has a complete list of the [Economics Department's Learning Goals](#).

## Attendance

Students will be asked to fill out a seating chart on the third day of class (August 22) 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, Aplia assignments, a current economic conditions assignment, and in-class exercises and homework 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 17% of your grade. You are responsible for bringing a No. 2 pencil to each exam.

## Examination Schedule:

Exam #1 – September 5

Exam #2 – October 1

Exam #3 – October 31

Exam #4 – December 5

**Aplia Assignments** – There will be assignments made on Aplia each week. The Aplia week begins on Monday and ends on Sunday. The due date for Aplia assignments for each week is 11:59 pm on the Sunday that ends the week, unless the professor notifies you otherwise. The grades on the Aplia homework will be worth 12% of your final grade. The three lowest assignment grades in Aplia will be dropped when calculating your final Aplia grade. **Aplia assignments will not be accepted late – no exceptions!** Instructions for how to register for and use Aplia can be found in CourseDen. All students must register for Aplia by August 18.

**Current Economic Conditions Assignment:** Throughout the semester, students are expected to follow current economic events by watching the news and reading newspaper and internet stories about the U.S. economy. In the second half of the semester, students will complete a two part writing assignment on current economic conditions. For the first part of the assignment, students will be required to watch an online presentation on the current economy and summarize what happened to GDP, employment, unemployment, and inflation during the last recession and since the recession ended. For the second part of the assignment, students will 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 article to the presentation and the material covered in class this semester. The video for part one of the assignment will be posted by Thursday, October 3, and **part one of the assignment will be due by 11:59pm on Thursday, October 17.** The article and questions for part two of the assignment will be posted by Thursday, November 7, and **part two of the assignment will be due by 11:59pm on Thursday, November 21.** Both parts of the current economic conditions assignment will be submitted as an assignment in CourseDen, and the

assignment will not be accepted late. The current economic conditions assignment is worth 8% of your grade.

**In-Class Exercises and Homework**– Most face-to-face classes will include in-class exercises and/or will have homework due. The lowest two in-class exercise/homework grade will be dropped in calculating your final average. In-class exercises and homework will be worth 12% 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**

*The Wolf Pact is a commitment by the Richards College of Business family to honesty, integrity, professionalism, accountability for ethical behavior, and to respect for the rights, differences, and dignity of others.*

*We are committed to a culture of academic integrity, where members adhere to our shared values in all academic and non-academic endeavors.*

*We believe these values are essential to student development; whether personal, academic, or professional. Most importantly- establishing yourself as an honest person of integrity, who acts in a professional and ethical manner- will be as important as the academic skills you learn in the Richards College of Business.*

## **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 about [plagiarism](#) from the UWG Writing Center.

## **Grading Scale**

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

## **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.

## **D2L/CourseDen**

D2L/CourseDen is the software used to deliver this online course. Please go to the [UWG CourseDen login page](#). Log in using your user name and password. From this page you can also use the "System Checker" tool (located below the login box), which is a useful utility if you're ever having trouble with D2L/CourseDen.

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

If you experience problems using CourseDen, don't panic! Please use the [D2L Help center support link](#).

UWG strives to solve all CourseDen related problems within 48 hours. While UWG will do their part to help you resolve problems and other situations 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 D2L/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 the [D2L Help center support link](#) or call 1-855-772-0423 (toll free) for additional support.
  - b. Notify me via email or phone **after** you contact the helpdesk.

## **Cengage Customer Support**

If you are having problems with Aplia or the online textbook material (as opposed to CourseDen), please contact Cengage customer support by calling 1-800-354-9706 or using the Cengage Technical Support link in CourseDen.

## Official Communication

All official communications from the university will be through campus email (MyUWG). The professor will use D2L/CourseDen for general class announcements.

## Student Rights and Responsibilities

Please carefully review the information at the [UWG Student Information Link](#). 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 (chapters covered, online material and videos, discussion assignments, and Aplia assignments) can be found in CourseDen under the content link.

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