

Economics 2301 Principles of Macroeconomics

Fall 2009

Instructor: Prof. Michael Forney

MW 9:10a -10:25a

Section: 012 (Rm 2211A)

Synonym 40184

Office: Room 2273A (RVS)

Office Hours: MW 12p -2:30p

TTH 12p.-2:30p

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Required Text: The Essentials of Introductory Macroeconomics, Forney, 1st Edition, 2008.

Course Description:

Principles of Macroeconomics deals with consumers as a whole, producers as a whole, the effects of government spending and taxation policies and the effects of the monetary policy carried out by the Federal Reserve Bank. Macroeconomics is concerned with unemployment, inflation, and the business cycle.

Instructional Methodology:

The instructor adheres to a lecture/discussion format. Student participation is expected.

Course Rationale:

This course is meant to give students insight into the dynamics of our national economy. The knowledge gained in the course will make students more informed citizens and allow them to follow the debates over national economic policy reported in the news media. This course is also a foundation course that will prepare students to be successful in upper division finance, marketing, business administration, economics, government, and social work courses.

Common Course Objectives/Student Outcomes: (as established by the economics department).

At a minimum, students who complete this course will be able to understand:

- the meaning of unemployment and inflation data and how that data is collected and computed;
- the meaning and components of the National Income Accounts, especially GDP;
- the meaning of the business cycle and its phases;
- and to manipulate the basic Aggregate Supply, Aggregate Demand model of the macro economy;
- how fiscal policy operates, its tools, and its advantages and drawbacks;
- how a fractional reserve banking system works;
- how monetary policy operates, its tools, and its advantages and drawbacks.

Fall 2009 Semester Course Calendar¹

August/September

24, 26	Introduction, Chapter 1 Understanding and Working with Graphs; Chapter 2 The Study of Economics: An Overview
31, 2, 9	Chapter 3 The Mechanics of Markets
14	Review
September 16th	EXAM I (Chapters 1-3)

21, 23 Chapter 5 GDP: The Barometer for Assessing Economic Growth

¹ Please note, both the dates for covering designated chapters and administering examinations are tentative. Should modifications become necessary, the instructor will inform students in a timely manner.

28, 30	Chapter 6 The Measurement of Inflation
<u>October</u>	
5, 7	Chapter 7 The Measurement of Unemployment
12, 14, 19	Chapter 9 A First Look at the Macroeconomy, Review
<u>October 21th</u>	EXAM II (Chapters 5, 6, 7, and 9)
26, 28	Chapter 10 The Keynesian Income Model: Starting with Consumption
<u>November</u>	
2, 4	Chapter 11 The Keynesian Income Model: Integrating Investment
9, 11	Chapter 12 Fiscal Policy: Enhancing the Role of the Government
16	Review
<u>November 18th</u>	EXAM III (Chapters 10-12)
23, 25	Chapter 13 Money and Banking Fundamentals
30	Chapter 14 The Federal Reserve System
<u>December</u>	
2, 7	Chapter 15 Monetary Policy in Action, Review
<u>December 9th</u>	EXAM IV (Chapters 13, 14, and 15) and EXAM I -III

<u>Grading</u>		<u>Grading System</u>
EXAM I	17%	A: 88-100
EXAM II	17%	B: 78-87
EXAM III	17%	C: 65-77
EXAM IV	25%	D: 55-64
HOMEWORK	15%	F: 0-54
ATTEND.	9%	
Total	100%	

Attendance: Attendance is critical since lectures will not necessarily be verbatim from the text. Good attendance is defined as missing no more than 4-scheduled class meetings. More than 4 absences will result in the loss of the entire attendance component (9%) of your final grade. (For more details concerning the Attendance policy, please see the "Useful Questions/Answers" document.)

Homework Assignments: The semester homework assignments are designed to facilitate your learning of economic principles. Economics, like most things, is mastered through repetition. Accordingly, it is strongly suggested that each relevant homework assignment **be done prior to taking the in-class exams**. Please note: All homework assignments should be done *but* not all assignments will be collected and graded. Typically, 5-7 assignments are collected and graded each semester. **Late Homework will not be accepted.** (For more details concerning the Homework policy, please see the "Useful Questions/Answers." document.)

Other Classroom-Related Policies: See the "Useful Questions/Answers..." document.

It is your responsibility to withdraw from the class by the established deadline. **The LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW IS MONDAY, November 23, 2009.**

Day(s) of No Class

September 7th: Labor Day

November 26th – 29th: Thanksgiving Break