Macroeconomics
Spring 2020
School of Economics
Fudan University

1   Basic Information

EMAE620005: MW 9:55 A-11:35 A   **Classroom**: H6 508

Instructor: Shi Qiu
Email: shiqiu@fudan.edu.cn
Office: 329, Building 11
Office Hour: Wednesday 1:00 P - 3:00 P, or by appointment

TA: Yi Cui
Email: cuiy15@fudan.edu.cn

Prerequisite: The prerequisite for economic knowledge is minimal. Students should have taken Introductory Macro and Intermediate Micro. Mathematical preparation is required. Students are expected to be familiar with functions (one and two dimensional), their graphical representation, the solution of simultaneous equations, taking derivatives (partial derivatives).

Textbook: The required textbook for the course is either the 5th or 6th edition of Stephen D. Williamson's Macroeconomics. You may buy which ever you prefer. The slides are the most important course material, but the textbook is necessary.

Important Note: Due to the outbreak of SARSCov2, the format of lecture, problem set and exams are subject to changes, including availability of the instructor and teaching assistants. I will communicate about these changes as we progress through the semester.

2   Course Structure and Objectives

Modern macroeconomics is the study of the allocation of scarce resources at both an individual and aggregate level. It starts from looking at how the incentives and behavior of consumers, firms, governments, and central banks impact aggregate economic activity and prices. Then, we analyze the influence of government's policy on private equilibrium and welfare. Because macroeconomics covers so many topics, we mainly focus on real models: (for those of you eager to learn monetary policy and inflation, I may disappoint you!)

More specifically, we will examine the following topics in detail:

- the measurement of economic activity,

- the stylized facts about business cycles,

- labor-leisure decisions,

- consumption-saving decisions,

- investment decision and the real business cycle model,

- government spending, debt, and fiscal policy,

- labor market search and matching

- credit market,

- modern growth theory

- international trade and capital flows.

An important aspect of cutting-edge economic research is to study frictions: financial friction, labor market search friction, nominal (monetary) friction, etc.. We are also going to survey those topics.

The goal of the course is three-fold: for you (1) to have a general understanding of how the economy works, (2) to learn how to model household, firm, and government behavior, and (3) use your models to determine how the economy might respond to changes in policy and exogenous shocks.

You are expected to attend all lectures, read the lecture material prior to class, participate in the class, and take notes as needed. The lecture will cover material in your textbook and some material that is not in your textbook. You are responsible for the supplemental material in examinations.

3 Grading Policy

Your grade is determined by your performance on graded assignments, and a final examination. The final exam will take place in class on the last day of lecture. The final course grade is composed of the following parts:

Assignments ($\times$ 5)	**50%**	100 points
Final	**50%**	100 points
Total	**100%**	200 points

Grade-scale: Your final letter grade for the course is based on the standard percentage grading scale.

4 Exams and Assignments

The examinations will be either multiple choice, or graphical/numerical problems, or short essay questions, or any combination of these three. There are two in-class midterm exams and a comprehensive final exam. The final exam is cumulative. The exam dates are TBD due to the significant adjustment in our schedule. I will try to communicate about the dates at least two weeks ahead. The final exam date and location will be decided by the school and informed before the end of the semester.

Students are responsible to arrange schedule so that you can attend all exams at the given time. If it is necessary to miss a midterm exam, please contact me at least **2 days in advance** explaining the circumstances that prevent you from taking the exam. It is up to the instructor to decide if the circumstances explained actually constitute a valid excuse for the student to miss the exam. If a student misses a session exam without the 2 days in advance notice, he/she will automatically receive 0 points for the exam. The only exception to this last remark is if the student misses the exam due to unforeseen illness/accident on the day of the exam. If this is the case, the student must present a valid doctor's notification that verifies the students' illness/accident in order to receive an official excuse from the instructor.

Assignments: There will be 6 homework assignments. You are allowed to drop the lowest homework score (or submit only 5 homework without any penalty). The graded assignment will be counted 20% or 100 points of your course grade. Late homework is not graded and will be nullified and I will follow this rule strictly. You must submit your homework at the beginning of the lecture of the due date. You are allowed or even encouraged to work with other students on assignments. However, you must submit your own solution. Problem sets are graded on accuracy as well as on effort. Answers that are vague, difficult to read, or incomplete will not receive full credit.

Attendance and Participation: It is your responsibility to attend and participate in all class periods and throughout the term. I will check attendance through the semester following the policy of Fudan University. Three or more missing class will result to automatic Failure of this course according to the school's policy.

At any time, in class or during office hours, you are more than welcome to ask questions. No question is a dumb question if something is impeding your learning. Questions will promote discussion and your insights could benefit the entire class.

5   Other Issues

Academic Integrity: Dishonesty of any kind is not tolerated in this course. Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with academic work of other students. Students who are found dishonest will receive the most severe academic sanction consistent with the university polices. A minimum penalty for any breach of academic integrity is the grade of "F" for the course.