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| **ECO 212-W01 MICROECONOMICS**  **CRN 61306 IAI S3 902**  **Spring 2025**  **Office Hours**  **M: 11:00 – 1:00 (online)**  **W: 12:00 – 4:00** |  |  |  |

## General Course Information

**Credit Hours:**  3

**Class Dates:** **January 13, 2025 – May 16, 2025**

**Meeting Times:** No required meeting times; all activities will take place online.

**Meeting Location(s):** Our course is in Harper College’s [**Blackboard website**](http://harper.blackboard.com)

**Modality:** Fully online

**Online Expectations:** This class will utilize Harper College’s [Blackboard website](http://harper.blackboard.com) for all course materials, discussions, assignments, and feedback/grading information. You should log on to Blackboard as soon as possible after the course start date.

**Last to Drop for 100% Refund: January 21, 2025**

**Last Day to Withdraw:** **April 21, 2025**

## Instructor Information

**Name:** Getachew Begashaw, PhD. Professor of Economics.

**Phone:** 847.925.6359

**Email:** gbegasha@harpercollege.edu

**Office Location:** J-270

**Office Hours:** 12:00 – 4:00 PM

**Preferred Method of Communication:** I prefer to be reached via email. If you would like to schedule an appointment or for any question (in person, phone, or online web session), please send an email to initiate the meeting. **Please clearly indicate your name and Course Number and Session – (example John Smith in ECO 212-W01) to identify yourself.**

## Course Description

**Course Description:** This course is a course in Macroeconomics. The goal of the course is to provide students with the analytical tools and intuition necessary to analyze important topics in the economics framework. The science underlying the study of economics considers how economic agents in a society as a whole make decisions and how to allocate scarce resources. The focus of this course is considering how the aggregation of households, firms, the government, and the rest of the world influence overall production, the price level, labor markets (and thus unemployment), interest rates, and exchange rates. By the end up of the course the students should be comfortable discussing how to measure and compare production across economies, what affects the cost of living, the relationship between employment and inflation, how short-run and long-run economic fluctuations differ, the role of fiscal and monetary policy in stabilizing economic output and their effects on interest rates, the price level, output, and employment. Students will develop the skills to understand and analyze current economic issues and are encouraged to apply the topics from class while reading news articles and economic research.

**TOPICAL OUTLINE**

1. An Introduction to Economics and the Economy
   1. The Nature and Method of Economics
   2. An Introduction to the Economizing Problem
   3. The Market System and Structures of American Capitalism
   4. Demand and Supply
2. National Income, Employment, and Fiscal Policy
   1. National Income Accounting: GDP, Unemployment, and Price Level Statistics
   2. The Equilibrium Levels of Output, Employment, and Income
   3. Fiscal Policy and the Public Debt
3. Money, Monetary Policy, and Economic Stability
   1. Money and Banking: Basics
   2. How Banks Create Money
   3. The Federal Reserve Banks and Monetary Policy
   4. Monetarism: An Alternative View
4. Rational Expectations, Supply-side, and Aggregate Demand Theories
5. Economic Growth: Analysis and Policy
6. International Economics
   1. Comparative Advantage, International Trade, and Protection
   2. Exchange Rates

**Course Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. understand the basic functions and operations of a capitalist economic system (review of microeconomics.) (I-A-H)
2. understand basic economic measurements. (II-A)
3. understand basic Keynesian theory. (II-B)
4. use AD/AS tools to investigate macro effects. (II-B)
5. explain the effects of fiscal policy. (II-C)
6. familiar with the origin and functions of money and banks. (III-A)
7. understand money creation by the banking system. (III-B)
8. know the functions and powers of the Federal Reserve System and the basics of monetary policy. (III-C)
9. understand the equation of exchange and the monetarist approach to policy. (III-D)
10. be familiar with alternative theories. (IV)
11. understand the basics of growth, in particular: capital formation (human and physical), technology, and political/social institutions. (V)
12. understand the principle of comparative advantage. (III-A)
13. understand the issue of free trade vs. protectionism. (III-B)
14. understand the factors determining exchange rates. (III-C)

**Expected Technical Skills:** You will be required to perform basic computer processes, such as creating and saving documents, working on basic Excel spreadsheets, and accessing Blackboard via the internet. If you need technical assistance, start with the [Technical Support Information page](http://goforward.harpercollege.edu/academics/harperonline/techsupportinfo.php) for online students.

## Instructional and Technological Information

### Required Materials

**Required Text and Access Code**: William A. McEachern. Macro ECON 6: Principles of Microeconomics. 2019. Cengage. **MindTap for ECON MACRO (6 months)** ISBN: 9781337915588

* All students in my Economics classes use Harper's Blackboard Learning Management System and MindTap Online Homework Management System. For technical support, please contact:
  + Blackboard Tutorials: <http://ondemand.blackboard.com/students.htm>
  + Tech Support (Blackboard, email, and student portal) 847-925-6866 or at studentsd@harpercollege.edu
  + MindTap is accessed through Blackboard.

**Follow these steps to access your Cengage materials!**

1. **Access your Blackboard course.**
2. **Click any Cengage content link to begin the registration process.**
3. **You will be asked to link your Cengage + Blackboard accounts. If you already have a Cengage account, click login.**
4. **Once signed in, you will be prompted to purchase access to your course at the discounted price of $44.80.**
5. **You’re all set!**
6. **Please note that you will only receive this discount if you purchase from the link in Black Board!**

## Course Assessments

### Teaching Method and Assessment Overview

This course is fully online. That means, all chapters assigned in the syllabus will be delivered online through MindTap provided through Blackboard. There are ample online supplements in the MindTap package including e-book, videos, practice quizzes, homework, and power points. MindTap, an electronic package of study materials provided by Cengage publishing, is fully integrated with Blackboard such that students would be able to sign on only once and navigate through all the materials they need to study, do problem exercises, and complete assigned homework. All students are expected to know how to use Blackboard. If not, please contact your instructor.

**Grading**

The required Homework assignments have 196 possible points. The assigned chapter homework assignments are interactive and give three chances for students to improve their answers and grades. Only the highest score will be on the last page of the syllabus recorded. The grade weight of each chapter is given in the reading list. The interactive explanations and solutions are one of the best study/tutorial methods that MindTap provides, and students are urged to utilize this feature of the MindTap. **No mid-term or final exam for this course.**

**Grading Scale:**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| % of points | Points | Grade Earned |
| 90% - 100% | 176 - 196 | A |
| 80% - 89% | 156 - 175 | B |
| 70% - 79% | 137 - 155 | C |
| 60% - 69% | 117 - 136 | D |
| 59% or below | <116 | F |

**Course Surveys (Student Opinionnaires of Instruction):**  Near the end of this course, you will be invited to participate in a survey. The feedback you provide is valuable to me, as your instructor, as well as Harper College. The comments you share are completely anonymous and the compiled confidential results will not be released until after final grades have been posted for the entire semester. You may access the survey through a link you will receive in your Harper College Gmail account or directly via Blackboard. Surveys are *usually* available three weeks before the last day of class. To check a survey’s availability in Blackboard, select the SOI- COURSE SURVEY link in the course menu. Surveys are only visible when they are available. *Note: Course surveys are administered in Fall and Spring semesters only.*

### At Our College

**Academic Dishonesty:** The College reserves the right to set and communicate reasonable standards of behavior.Students are expected to uphold college standards related to academic honesty. The following behaviors, as outlined in the [Student Code of Conduct](https://www.harpercollege.edu/catalog/current/policies/student_conduct.php)**,**are considered academic dishonesty and are prohibited. Examples are provided to illustrate the specific prohibition and are not intended to be all-inclusive.

* Cheating (accessing or using unauthorized materials or information)
* Plagiarism (reproducing someone else’s words or ideas without accurate acknowledgment)
* Falsifying information (providing untrue information)
* Unauthorized collaboration (getting assistance or sharing work without permission)
* Facilitating academic dishonesty (participating in an act that creates an unearned advantage for someone)

**Student Code of Conduct:** Harper College encourages the intellectual and personal growth of its students as scholars and as citizens. The College has both the authority and responsibility to maintain a campus community where the educational programs can flourish for all students and where individual rights, personal and collective safety, and College operations are appropriately protected. It is a choice to attend Harper College and by doing so, students assume the obligations (including standards for behavior) imposed by the College.

Harper College students and student organizations are expected to act in accordance with the policies, rules, regulations, laws, and requirements of Harper College, municipalities and counties, the State of Illinois, and the United States. The [Student Code of Conduct](https://www.harpercollege.edu/catalog/current/policies/student_conduct.php) and related information at the [Harper Student Conduct resource page](http://harpercollege.edu/conduct) outlines these expectations and provides resources and reporting options for students.

**Equal Opportunity Statement:** Harper College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disability or unfavorable discharge from military service. If you believe you have experienced discrimination or harassment (whether on or off campus) that affects your ability to participate in class or any of Harper College’s programs, please seek assistance from any of the following resources:

* For gender-based or sexual misconduct (including sexual assault and sexual harassment) by any person, visit the [Harper College Title IX resource page](http://harpercollege.edu/titleIX) to learn more about your support and reporting options.
* For any other harassment/discrimination by an employee, contact the College’s Chief Human Resources Officer at 847-925-6216.

Please be advised that faculty members are required to report to the College if they learn that a crime, harassment, or discrimination may have occurred.

**Student E-mail Notifications & Privacy:** All notifications related to student registration or other business activities are sent to students via their Harper College email account (XXXX@mail.harpercollege.edu) that is assigned to students upon registration. Students access this account via an icon in the student portal (where you registered for classes). Please check this e-mail frequently. To forward e-mails from this account to a personal email account please [follow these instructions](https://www.harpercollege.edu/sis/lum/myharperemail/forwardemail.pdf).

Please be advised that your education records are subject to a federal privacy law called the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). As a result, please be aware that you (not your parent(s), spouse, or other such person) will generally need to be the one to ask questions, file complaints, or otherwise interact with the College and faculty about your academic performance in this class.

**Blackboard Privacy and Accessibility Statements:** Blackboard is the learning management system used at Harper College. It provides a secure Web space for delivery of instructional course materials. Blackboard’s [privacy statement](http://www.blackboard.com/footer/privacy-policy.aspx) and [accessibility statement](https://www.blackboard.com/accessibility.aspx) are available for review.

**Copyright Statement:** The materials on this course website are only for the use of students enrolled in this course for purposes associated with this course and may not be retained or further disseminated. For more information, please visit the [Harper College Copyright/Fair Use resource page](https://www.harpercollege.edu/library/services/copyright.php).

## Student Support Resources

### **Student Success**

**Access and Disability Services:** Harper College strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let Access and Disability Services (ADS) know immediately at 847.925.6266.  ADS will privately discuss the options you have, including the accommodation they offer. You are welcome to register with Access and Disability Service by going to [Access and Disability Services](http://www.harpercollege.edu/ads) and filling out the application for ADS services. Once you have your accommodation approved by ADS, please make arrangements with the instructor as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion.

* Location: Building I, Room 103
* Phone: 847.925.6266
* Email: [ads@harpercollege.edu](mailto:ads@harpercollege.edu)
* To learn more visit: [Access and Disability Services](http://www.harpercollege.edu/ads)

**Military and Veteran Students:** The college recognizes the complexities of being a member of the military community and a student. If you are a member of the military community, please inform your instructor if you need accommodations. Drill schedules, calls to active duty, complications with GI Bill disbursement, and other unforeseen military and veteran related developments can complicate your academic life. If you make your instructor aware of a complication, they will do everything they can to assist you or put you in contact with college staff who are trained to assist you.

**Library:** The library provides students access to resources through searchable databases and catalogs. Students can utilize the interlibrary loan service, laptop/calculator check-out, group study areas, computer workstations, and quiet study space.

* Location: Building F
* Phone: 847.925.6184
* Email: [library@harpercollege.edu](mailto:library@harpercollege.edu)
* To learn more visit: [Harper College Library](http://dept.harpercollege.edu/library/)

**Student Service Desk (Computer Help):** The Student Service Desk assists all students by providing information and support for Harper Student E-mail Accounts, MyHarper Student Portal, and Blackboard.

* Location: Building D, Room D116
* Phone: 847.925.6866
* Email: [studentsd@harpercollege.edu](mailto:studentsd@harpercollege.edu)

**Computer Labs:** Campus labs are staffed to assist students with logging on and off, accessing specific applications and printing their work. Labs are open to all currently enrolled Harper students.

* Locations: Building I, Room I223 & Avanté Center, Room Y203
* Phones: 847.925.6000 ext. 2372 and ext. 2870 (Building I) & 847.925.6966 (Avanté Center)
* To learn more visit: [Harper College Computer Labs](http://goforward.harpercollege.edu/services/techsupport/computerlabs.php)

**Writing Center:** The Writing Center tutors offer free writing assistance via walk-in or scheduled appointment. Students are welcome to bring in their writing assignments in any stage. A computer lab is also available so you can work on your writing assignments with the tutors.

* Location: Building F, Room F110
* Phone: 847.925.6796
* To learn more visit: [Harper College Writing Center](http://goforward.harpercollege.edu/academics/academic_support/writing/index.php)

**Tutoring Center:** Tutoring services are free for Harper College students in more than 100 courses. The Tutoring Center offers walk-in tutoring, tutoring by appointment, and final reviews in some courses.

* Location: Building F, Room F110
* Phone: 847.925.6539
* To learn more visit: Harper College Tutoring Center

**Success Services:** Success Services offers free, one-hour sessions to work with you on areas such as reducing stress, dealing with anxiety, building time management skills, becoming a more effective test taker, and more. Location: Building F, Room F110

* Phone: 847.925.6715
* To learn more visit: [Harper College Success Services](http://goforward.harpercollege.edu/academics/academic_support/success/index.php)

**Job Placement Resource Center (JPRC):** Assists students to become successful in their search for employment opportunities. Help is available with resumes, interviewing, job search, co-ops and internships, and on-campus employment as Student Aides. Students can take advantage of JPRC services during walk-in hours or by scheduling an appointment.

* Location: Wojcik Conference Center, Room W207
* Phone: 847.925.6400
* To learn more visit: [Harper College JPRC](https://www.harpercollege.edu/jprc/index.php)

### Student Safety and Wellness

**Counseling Services:** Counseling Services promotes the academic success and personal well-being of students by providing personal counseling, wellness support, career and educational counseling. Services are available to currently enrolled students.  All services are free of charge.

* Location: Building I, Room I117
* Phone: 847.925.6393

**Hawks Care:** It can be hard to focus on school when you are worried about everyday life. Maybe you are not sure how you can pay for school, while also paying for everyday expenses or your monthly bills. Maybe you are worried about the cost of food, or if your car can reliably make it to and from campus. Maybe you don’t have the supplies you need for school, like a laptop or Wi-Fi internet connection, etc. Hawks Care at Harper is here to help! Visit this link to learn how Hawks Care can help you succeed: [Hawks Care](https://www.harpercollege.edu/services/involvement/hawkscare/index.php)

**Harper Early Alert Team (HEAT):** HEAT is a multidisciplinary campus threat assessment and behavioral intervention team that guides the campus community in effectively assessing and addressing threatening and/or concerning behaviors. HEAT strives to assist the campus in intervening with someone before their behaviors reach a critical level.

* To learn more or to report a threat: [Harper College HEAT](http://goforward.harpercollege.edu/about/directory/heat/)
* **Harper College Police:** Contact the Harper College Police for emergency assistance or to report a crime. Phone: 847.925.6330

**READING AND HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT**

**PART 1 INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMICS:**

Chapters 1 – 4: only recommended, not required

**PART 2 FUNDAMENTALS OF MACROECONOMICS**

**Weeks 1 - 8**

Points

Chapter 5: Introduction to Macroeconomics 13

Chapter 6: Tracking the US Economy 22

Chapter 7: Unemployment and Inflation 19

Chapter 8: Productivity and Growth 20

Chapter 9: Aggregate Expenditure and

Aggregate Demand 24

Chapter 10: Aggregate Supply 15

Chapter 11: Fiscal policy 14

**PART 3 FISCAL AND MONETARY POLICY**

**Weeks 9 – 16**

Chapter 12: Federal Budgets and Public Policy 13

Chapter 13: Money and the Financial System 8

Chapter 14: Banking and the Money supply 17

Chapter 15: Monetary Theory and Policy 21

Chapter 16: Macro Policy Debate: Active or Passive? 14

Chapter 18: International Finance 18

**All students are highly encouraged to follow this outlined schedule so that they will not be overwhelmed by the end of the semester. No excuse will be accepted unless there is a prior arrangement or official record showing the legitimacy of non-completion.**

***All chapter assignments MUST be turned in on or before 12/16/ 2025***