

University of Oregon
Department of Economics
Spring 2019

EC 202: Introduction to Macroeconomics

Contact Information:

Instructor: Ayesha Khalid

Office: PLC 407

Office hours: Monday and Wednesday: 3 – 3:50 pm, or by appointment

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Graduate Teaching Fellows:

Thomas Stockwell; office hours: Tuesday 10:30 -11:30am and Thursday 2-3pm; office:

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Class: Class meets from 4 – 5:20pm on Monday and Wednesday in McKenzie Hall 240A. Though class attendance is not mandatory, if you choose to attend please show up on time and stay for the entire class. Additionally, please put cell phones and laptops on silent and keep their use to a minimum. Moreover, you are responsible for learning the material covered in class and being aware of any announcements made.

Discussion Sections: There are weekly discussions for this class. The discussions will be used to review and discuss concepts presented in lecture, as well as give you an opportunity to ask questions about the material. Discussion leaders will also go over potential quiz questions so it is in your best interest to attend.

Course Description: Macroeconomics is concerned with some of the most important questions in economics: what causes recessions? Why do prices tend to rise every year? Why is there unemployment? Can we use government policy to lower unemployment? The issues that macroeconomists study affect a large number of people and have enormous implications for the well-being of the citizens of a nation. By the end of this class, I hope you will have a better understanding of what the macroeconomy is, as well as a framework you can use to think about how various events influence macroeconomic performance.

Textbook: There is no required textbook for this class. However, I will follow the first edition of Principles of Macroeconomics by Lee Coppock and Dirk Mateer. I strongly recommend purchasing it if you are able to.

Canvas: All assignments, announcements, grades and other materials will be posted on canvas.

Grading: The final grade depends on the following:

5 %	Class Participation
15%	Canvas Quizzes
15%	Problem Sets
30%	Midterm
35%	Final

Important Dates:

April 7 (Sunday): Quiz 1 Due
April 14 (Sunday): Quiz 2 Due
April 21 (Sunday): Quiz 3 Due
April 28 (Sunday): Quiz 4 Due

May 1 (Wednesday): Midterm

May 12 (Sunday): Quiz 5 Due
May 19 (Sunday): Quiz 6 Due
May 26 (Sunday): Quiz 7 Due

June 13 (Thursday): Final

Tentative Dates for Problem Sets:

April 22 (Monday): Problem Set 1 Due
May 29 (Wednesday): Problem Set 2 Due

Quizzes: There will be an online canvas quiz most weeks (see above for dates) to test whether you are keeping up with the material. Quizzes will be posted on Friday by 1:00 p.m. and are due by midnight on Sunday. Although completed outside of class, I expect you to complete each quiz without outside help (textbook, class notes, classmates, etc.). Quizzes will be timed so make sure you are fully prepared to take them before clicking start. Your two lowest quizzes will be dropped. No make-up quizzes will be given for any reason. Two lowest score quiz are dropped *precisely* to account for the fact that there may be lapses in memory, occasional technical glitches, or unexpected life events.

Problem Sets: There will be 2 problem sets assigned over the course of the term. Please keep in mind that doing the assigned homework yourself is an important part of learning the material and preparing for the exams. Late problem sets will not be accepted.

I expect you to solve the problem sets on your own. It is not allowed to copy answers from another student's problem set. The purpose of the problem sets is to make you practice in order to do well in exams. Copying answers instead of attempting them yourself will do you more harm than good. If I observe that you copy homework answers or answer keys in any way, I will give you a zero for the entire problem set. If it happens again after that you will fail the course. If you have questions about the boundaries

between working on homework assignments jointly and copying them, ask me for clarification.

Midterm: The Midterm will be on Wednesday May 1. It will cover all the material that has been presented up until that point. **No Make Up Midterms Will Be Given.** The midterm will be a mix of multiple-choice questions and short questions. If you miss the midterm due to an unanticipated emergency, you will be allowed to put the weight of the missed exam on the final provided you notify me as soon as possible and have documentation verifying the emergency.

Final: The final will be on Thursday June 13 at 2:45p.m. The final exam will be comprehensive. A missed final due to an unanticipated, verifiable emergency will be handled with an incomplete for the course until the student is able to make up the final.

Do not take this class if you already know you cannot make one (or more) of the scheduled exams.

Class Participation: During each class, I will ask some questions related to the material discussed in that class or to be discussed in class. You need to participate in TWO separate classes during the course to get the full 5%. Also, make sure to come to me after that class to tell me your name so I can give you credit for that day's participation. If you feel you are struggling to participate in class, please come to my office hours with course (or problem set) related questions to get credit for participation.

Academic Dishonesty Policy: Academic dishonesty (from plagiarizing work to cheating on exams) will not be tolerated. Please acquaint yourself with the Student Conduct Code, which is published in the *Schedule of Classes* each term.

Students with Disabilities: If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements with me during the first week of the term. Please request that the counselor for students with disabilities (164 Oregon Hall) to send me a letter verifying your disability and informing me what accommodations you will require.

Tentative Course Outline

1. Introduction to Macroeconomics
2. Measuring the Aggregate Economy
 - Chapter 6 - 8
3. Savings, Interest Rates, and the Market for Loanable Funds
 - Chapter 9
4. Aggregate Supply and Aggregate Demand

- Chapter 13

5. Fiscal Policy

- Chapter 15 - 16

6. Monetary Policy

- Chapter 17 - 18