

33040 MACROECONOMICS – Spring 2025

Professor Veronica Guerrieri

OFFICE: HPC 411

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OFFICE HOURS: by appointment via zoom (also available to answer questions via email)

TEACHING ASSISTANT: Nelson Vera (nvera0@chicagobooth.edu)

COURSE OBJECTIVE:

This course is designed to introduce students to classic macroeconomic issues such as economic growth, recessions, unemployment, inflation, interest rates, government deficit, international capital flows, and exchange rates. The course provides a unified framework to address these issues and to study the impact of different policies, such as monetary and fiscal policies, on the aggregate behavior of the economy. The analytical tools developed in class are used to understand the recent experience of the United States and of the world economy and to discuss current policy debates.

- COURSE MATERIAL:**
- (1) Slides, notes, and readings available on Canvas
 - (2) A subscription to the Economist (Required)
 - (3) Textbook: Abel, Bernanke, and Croushore, “Macroeconomics”, Addison Wesley, 11th edition (Recommended)

COURSE STRUCTURE:

The bulk of course materials comes from three sources: slides and notes, course readings, and the textbook. The lectures will start from basic facts about the economy in order to identify key questions; we will then develop step by step a macroeconomic model to address these questions; finally, we will use facts and model to discuss a number of topics of current interest.

I am teaching two sections this term. They meet at 8:30am-11:30am and 1:30pm-4:30pm on Thursdays in room C05 at Harper Center. If for some reason, one week you cannot attend the

section you registered for, you are welcome to attend the other section without telling me in advance.

Every week I will post on Canvas the lecture notes and sometimes some additional notes. To study for the class you should study slides, notes and do the readings. You may also benefit from studying the corresponding material in the book. The textbook is optional, but if something did not make sense to you in the lecture and after studying slides and notes, the textbook may give you another perspective.

Every Friday I will send a weekly email indicating the material that has been covered that week (in terms of slides, notes and book chapters) and the readings that you have to do for the following week. Please, complete the pre-course readings prior to week 1.

QUIZZES:

In most weeks, I will post a short online quiz on Canvas. The purpose of these quizzes is to give you an incentive not to fall behind on class material. They will be easy if you are keeping up to date with the course. You will have quizzes in weeks 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9. I will post the quizzes by Friday night of a given week and the quiz will be due by the following Wednesday night (e.g. the quiz of week 2 will be posted on Canvas on Friday of week 1 and you have to do it before Wednesday of week 2). You will have 15/20 min to do it (depending on the quiz).

MIDTERM AND FINAL:

The **midterm** will take place in the first two hours of class in week 5. The midterm is closed book, but you are allowed a single-sided cheat sheet.

The **final** will be in exam week. The final is closed book, but you are allowed a double-sided cheat sheet.

HOW TO SUCCEED IN THE COURSE:

In my weekly email, I will clarify what is expected for that week. However, I want to stress that succeeding in this course is simple: attend class, complete the quizzes, do the weekly readings and participate in the online discussions. The material is cumulative, so it is important to keep up throughout the course.

COURSE GRADING POLICY:

30% **Quizzes:** there will be 7 quizzes total, but I will drop your lowest quiz grade

70% **Midterm and Final:** the midterm counts once, the final counts twice. Take the highest two of these three grades and count 35% each – i.e., the lowest of these three grades is dropped.

Given the grading policy above, you need not take the midterm (i.e., the midterm is optional). If you do not take the midterm, 70% of your course grade will be given by the final. However, I strongly suggest you take the midterm. The midterm is easier than the final. I will not normalize the means of the midterm and final when computing the course average, as I want to reward those who take the midterm.

I do not normalize the means of the final when computing the course average. At the margin, I will count participation in class discussions.

RE-GRADING:

Any quiz/exam for which you wish to request a re-grade must be done within the seven days after I return the exam to you. The request for re-grade must be in writing and attached to the exam when submitting the exam for a re-grade. The request must include a description of what the problem is and why you think the exam should be graded differently. In such cases, I will re-grade the whole exam, not just the question you identified.

COMMUNICATION:

I will be happy to answer questions on the course material by email. I am also available for office hours on request.

On occasion, I will post some of the questions received—with my answer—on the course website. Hopefully, this will be an efficient way to disseminate information. Student identifiers will be removed if I post a question (if you do not want your question posted, just say so in your email.)

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION:

The University of Chicago believes that a culture of rigorous inquiry demands an environment where diverse perspectives, experiences, individuals, and ideas inform intellectual exchange and engagement. I concur with that commitment and expect to maintain a productive learning environment based upon open communication, mutual respect, and non-discrimination. Any suggestions as to how to further such a positive and open environment in this class will be appreciated and given serious consideration.

PROVISIONAL GRADES:

Booth students enrolled in full-time, evening, and weekend class will no longer require provisional grades for graduation. However, students from other divisions of the university will continue to require provisional grades. I will only assign provisional grades to these students. In order to receive a provisional grade, you must perform at “C” level in the quizzes and you must have not missed more than 1 quiz by the time of the provisional grade.

ACCOMMODATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DOCUMENTED DISABILITIES:

The University of Chicago is committed to ensuring the full participation of all students in its programs. If you have a documented disability (or think you may have a disability) and, as a result, need a reasonable accommodation to participate in class, complete course requirements, or benefit from the University's programs or services, please contact Student Disability Services as soon as possible. To receive a reasonable accommodation, you must be appropriately registered with Student Disability Services. Please contact the office at 773-702-6000 or disabilities@uchicago.edu, or visit the website at disabilities.uchicago.edu. Student Disability Services is located at 5501 S. Ellis Avenue.

If you have an approved accommodation from Student Disability Services that you plan to use in this course, please contact Academic Services (AcademicServices@lists.chicagobooth.edu) as soon as possible. Academic Services will provide support to you and your instructor and coordinate the details of your accommodations on your behalf.

HONOR CODE:

Even if it is not explicitly stated on each quiz or exam, the honor code is always in effect. By taking this course, you explicitly pledge your honor that you I have not violated the Chicago Booth Honor Code in any way on quizzes or exams. Any violations will be punished to the greatest extent allowed.