

Course Syllabus

Econ 100B, Summer 2025 (Session 2)

The objective of the course is to analyze the aggregate or “macro” behavior of the U.S. economy. The first part of the course will examine the economic theory of the long run. We will study the factors that determine income, savings and consumption in the long-run with a special focus on theories of economic growth. The second part of the course will consider short-run business-cycle issues, like how unemployment and inflation change during periods of unusually fast economic growth or periods of unusually slow or even negative growth. We will also examine current issues in the conduct of monetary and fiscal policy. The goals of the course is to give you the tools needed to analyze the aggregate (macro) behavior of the U.S. economy and understand it in a coherent framework, understand monetary and fiscal policy responses to short and long run economic problems, and familiarize you with macro data and their interpretations in the context of the models.

PREREQUISITES: ECON1 and ECON2; and ECON11b or AM11b or MATH22 or MATH23a or AM30.

Administrative Information

- Main Instructor: Ayden Young
- Contact: ayoung14@ucsc.edu
- Lectures: MW 1p - 4:30p PST
- Office Hours: M 10a-12p
- Course Website: Canvas (It is your responsibility to check the website regularly for updates.)

Teaching Assistant(s)

- Taisuke Kameda : takameda@ucsc.edu
 - Office hours : Tu 11a-12p PST
- Jiacan He : jhe517@ucsc.edu
 - Office hours : W 11a-12p PST

Sections

Section attendance is highly encouraged. Among other things, TAs will review problem sets during sections. Also we may not hold sections every week. Please follow closely announcements made by the TAs.

- Taisuke :

- Section A : Tu 10a-11a PST
- Section B : Tu 12p-1p PST
- Jiacaan :
 - Section C : W 10a-11a PST
 - Section D : W 12p-1p PST

Textbook

Jones, Charles. Macroeconomics, 4th or 5th edition. W.W. Norton & Company Press. (Other versions are probably fine, but use at your own risk.)

Grading

- Problem sets: 25% (the lowest score of 4 problem sets will be dropped)
- Readings/Discussions: 15%
- Midterm: 30%
- Final (non-cumulative): 30%
- There will be **no makeup** exams.
- The final grade is not negotiable and I will not engage in any discussion about it.

Problem Sets

- There will be 4 problem sets (one every non-final week). The problem sets will be graded coarsely (check plus, check, check minus) and will be based largely on the effort that you put in. Unless otherwise specified for a given problem, please handwrite all problem sets (this is also how the exam will be administered so it's good practice).
- Problem sets must be uploaded on Canvas before each class they are due. **Allow ample time to upload your problem sets to avoid being late due to, for example, internet problems. Late problem sets will not be accepted, no exceptions.**
- You are encouraged to discuss your problem sets with your classmates. However, you must write down your own solutions. In completing the problem sets, you may not consult solutions that may be available online or from classes from previous years. You may not consult AI chatbots such as Chat-GPT. A violation of this policy will be considered cheating.
- Further, you may not reproduce, distribute, or display (post/upload) any content from the class. You also may not allow others to do so. Sharing any content of the course or exam – or communicating with others during the exam – will constitute a violation of the academic integrity policy for the course and result in a failing grade.

Exams

- Exams are closed notes and closed book. Calculators are not allowed.

Re-grading Policy

If you feel that your problem sets or exams were incorrectly or unfairly graded, you have one week after the class in which it is returned to submit a **specific written request** to the TAs for a re-grading. **Verbal communications are not allowed.** When an exam is turned in for a re-grade, the entire exam will be re-graded and the scores for individual questions can be either increased or decreased. In the event of disagreements, appeals may be directed to the instructor. The same policy applies to problem sets.

Rules of Communication

- Your success is important to me. Therefore, I would like to help as much as I can so that you can understand the material we cover in this course. Since this is a very large class and my resources are limited, here are some guidelines:
- It is best to ask your questions during class because it is highly likely that if you are either confused by something, or interested to know more about something, then others are too. So, please, **interrupt me during class.**
- I am available for questions during office hours. If you cannot make it to the office hours for some reason, please send me an email to set up an appointment.
- Teaching assistants are also great resources. They are wicked smart graduate students and were studying the same subject a few years ago. For most questions that you have about the course content, they will be able to help you out.
- Please ensure that your answer cannot be answered by looking at the course website or syllabus before sending in an email question.

Disability Support Resources

If you have a disability, or think you may have a disability, you can work with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) to request disability accommodations. The Disability Resource Center is the campus office responsible for authorizing disability-related academic accommodations, in cooperation with the students themselves and their instructors. You can find more information about DRC, including contact information and the application process [here](#).

Academic Integrity Policy

All students of UCSC are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. Students who are found to be in violation of

the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and nonacademic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). In this class, the minimum sanction for violations of the honor code will be a 0 score for the work in question.

Schedule

(Except for the exam dates, schedules are tentative and are subject to change)

July 28 Syllabus,

Chapter 2: Measuring the Macroeconomy,

Chapter 3: An Overview of Long-Run Economic Growth

July 30 Chapter 4: Production Model

Aug 4 Chapter 5: The Solow Growth Model

Aug 6 Chapter 6: Growth and Ideas,

Chapter 8: Inflation

Aug 11 **Midterm** (during class time)

Aug 13 Chapter 8: Inflation,

Chapter 9: Intro to the Short Run,

Aug 18 Chapter 11: The IS Curve,

Chapter 12: Monetary Policy and the Phillips Curve

Aug 20 Chapter 16: Consumption

Aug 25 Spillover / Review

Aug 27 **Final Exam (non-cumulative)** (during class time)