

Intermediate Macroeconomics
Econ 212 – Tu, Th 1:40- 3:20
Oxford College of Emory University
Fall 2014

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MW: 10:45 a.m. –11:45 p.m.
Th: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. or by appointment

Textbook

Required: Andrew Abel, Ben Bernanke, and Dean Croushore, *Macroeconomics*, seventh edition, Pearson/Addison-Wesley, 2011

Subscription to MyEconLab (MEL) supporting the book.

Please, take a look at the buying options for the book and MEL at the end of the syllabus.

Recommended: *The Economist*

I personally believe everybody should glance through *The Economist* every week. It is an excellent news source with well-written articles on a wide range of topics. Arguments are well organized and supported with evidence.

Overview of the course

This course examines functioning of aggregate economy, including determinants of long-run growth and the nature of business cycles. Major goal is to introduce dominant models – classical and Keynesian - through which macroeconomic behavior and policy can be analyzed. More specifically, we will use framework developed in the course to analyze economic growth, productivity, full employment, and price stability in national economies. Further, attention will also be devoted to international economic issues and relevant events from the real world will be discussed.

In addition to exploring how individual economies function we will discuss implicit assumptions and questions that arise from our analysis. For example, gross domestic product (GDP) – yearly production of final goods and services is considered to be one of main indicators of the health of an economy. Growing GDP implies more consumption and higher living standards. These higher living standards are often equated with “living better”. However, very rarely in an economics class, we come to a point to think that more consumption is directly related to more time spent working and less time for other types of human activity that enrich our lives. A step further would then be to ask if there is a need for a balance between consumption and other activities that are allowing us to live better lives? In other words, a question is if higher GDP and economic growth should always be a goal to strive for, if we want to live “A Life in Balance”?

Prerequisites: Econ 101, 112 or permission of instructor.

Grading and Tests

Exam I: 20%,

Exam II: 20%,

Final exam 20%

Homework: 15%

Readings and data analysis: 10%

Attendance and participation: 7.5%

Other assignments – in class quizzes, problem solving: 7.5%

There are no make-ups for homework. One missing HW will not be counted towards your grade or lowest HW score will be dropped. There are no make-up assignments for quick quizzes or any other assignments.

Failure to take a test will lead to a score of zero for that test. No exception will be made except in medical emergencies where the other exams will be adjusted. Written verification is required in such cases.

Grades are not curved (60-69 is D, 70-79 is C, 80-89 is B and 90 and up is A with pluses and minuses in each range). Assignments will not be accepted late. You need to be in the class to submit the assignment. Homework will be assigned on MEL. Missed assignment can't be made-up.

Homework

Weekly problem sets will be assigned on MyEconLab web-site. (MEL terminology for the assignments is Test/Quizzes). If you have a new copy of the book there is an access code that you need to use when accessing MEL. If you purchased used book you will need to buy on-line access to MEL at www.myeconlab.com or from the bookstore. You can also buy access to MEL with homework and an e-book.

Readings and Data Analysis

Most Thursdays we will discuss readings/news in the class. Students will be responsible for reading, summarizing and reflecting, as well as presenting and discussing readings/news in the class. Your responses to the readings will be due before the class, posted on Blackboard.

One of the goals for this class is to get acquainted with “real world” data. Students will learn to identify sources and analyze data on economic concepts and theories studied in class. These types of assignments will be done in class and outside of the class as assignments.

Other assignments

There will be reading quizzes and problem solving exercises in class as well as take home assignments that will be graded.

Attendance and Participation

I strongly encourage you to attend class, participate in class discussions, and complete the assigned readings because it will determine how well you will be doing, not only in this area of the course but in the class as a whole.

Tuesdays will be the days usually devoted to data literacy. Details about the assignments will be explained in class and/or posted on Blackboard.

Attendance will be taken on random dates.

Expected Student Conduct

- be on time
- participate in class discussion
- read over the assigned material before the class
- study on regular basis

Please discuss with me any problems any problems you may have in the course or any suggestions to improve the course

Honor code

Honor code is strictly enforced in this class. Examples of scholastic dishonesty include (but are not limited to) receiving or giving help on exams or homework and plagiarizing or sabotaging another student's work. The usual penalty for violations of honor code is grade F in this course.

Communication

You are responsible for any announcements or assignments made in class.

Your homework assignments will be posted on *MyEconLab* (MEL), an on-line product accompanying the book.

Documents related to the class such as syllabus, as well as discussions/questions will be communicated through *Blackboard*.

Students Athletes, Students with Accommodations and Religious Holidays

If there is an interference with your class schedule because of your athletic commitments or religious reasons, please inform your instructor a.s.a.p. Also, if you have accommodations for the class, you are expected to bring in a letter from the responsible college institution a.s.a.p.

Reading list

Tentative reading list is as follows. Weekly readings will be announced on Blackboard.

I - Intro to Macro and National Income Accounting

Week 1	Chapter 1: Introduction to Macroeconomics
Week 2	Chapter 2: The Measurement and Structure of the National Economy

II-Markets and Long-run Economic Performance

Week 3	Chapter 3: Productivity, Output and Employment
Week 4	Chapter 4: Consumption, Saving and Investment
Week 5	Chapter 5: Saving and Investment in the Open Economy
Week 6	Chapter 6: Economic Growth
Week 7	Oct 9th Exam I

Week 8/Week 9	Chapter 7: The Asset Market, Money and Prices
Week 9	Chapter 8: Business Cycle

III-Short-run Fluctuations

Week 10	Chapter 9: The IS-LM/AD-AS Model
Week 11	Chapter 10: Classical Business Cycle Analysis
Week 12	Chapter 11: Keynesianism: The Macroeconomics of Wage and Price Rigidity
Week 13	Chapter 13: Exchange Rates, Business Cycles, and Macroeconomic Policy in the Open Economy

V- Fed and Government – Macro Policy Institutions

Week 14	Thanksgiving break
	Chapter 14 Monetary Policy and the Federal System (sections) .

IV-Macroeconomic Policy

Week 15	Chapter 15 Government Spending and its Financing (sections)
	Dec 4th, Exam II
Week 16	December 10 th , last day of classes

Final exam (comprehensive), Monday, Dec 15th 2:00 – 5:00.

Depending on time availability:

This schedule and the course content are tentative and the instructor reserves the right to make any changes during the course as deemed necessary.

Book buying options

1. New copy of the text with MyEconLab access or only on-line access code – please check with the bookstore.
2. If a student purchases a used copy they can purchase access to MEL online at www.myeconlab.com with or without an e-book.

How students enroll in MyEconLab

To enroll in a typical course, a student needs to have a:

- **Student access code, a valid credit card, or a PayPal account**– Students get an access code with a new book purchase or by buying the code separately in a student access kit/card at the campus bookstore. Students can also buy access to a course online with a credit card or PayPal account while they are enrolling.

The student access code is nontransferable and can be used only once.

There is an option to access the MEL for free temporarily – for about two weeks. For more information, see [To request temporary access](#).

- **Course ID** – ninkovic13287

A student who does not already have a Pearson account and is enrolling for the first time should follow the registration instructions from the Students area of the MyLab and Mastering website.

A student who already has a Pearson account performs the steps in [Registering and Enrolling in a New Subject](#) below to enroll in a new course.