

180.101.11 Elements of Macroeconomics
Johns Hopkins University
Summer 2019
Syllabus

Location: Gilman 55
Lecture Times: Mon, Wed, Fri 9:00 am - 12:15 pm (May 29 – June 28)
Instructor: Pavel Solís
Email: msolism1@jhu.edu
Office Hours: Wed 8:00 am - 9:00 am (or by appointment) in the Gilman Atrium
Course Website: <https://pavelsolis.github.io/teaching>

Course Description

This course introduces basic concepts and models in macroeconomics and applies them towards gaining an understanding of recent events and current policy issues. We shall cover a broad range of topics including national income and output, unemployment, the price level and inflation, money, interest rates, exchange rates, as well as monetary and fiscal policies. We will also analyze the 2008-09 financial crisis and its impact on the economy. *Pre-requisites:* Basic facility with graphs and algebra.

Course Materials

The textbook for the course is: **Macroeconomics**, by R. G. Hubbard and A. P. O'Brien, 7th Edition, Pearson Education.

(Optional) Study Guide for Hubbard and O'Brien's Macroeconomics, 5th Edition, Pearson Education.

The textbook is available at the bookstore. The chapters that are listed in the course calendar below are required readings, it is strongly recommended that you keep up with them. The course is cumulative, one lecture's material depends upon the previous lectures. You are thus urged to keep up with the course on a regular basis.

The slides for each lecture will be posted in advance, you can print and use them to take notes during class. **Note:** The slides supplement the lecture; do not rely exclusively on the slides.

All course materials, including slides, problem sets, answers to problem sets and exams, recommended readings (e.g. from the press), videos about current macroeconomic developments and pertinent announcements will be posted on the course website.

Grading

There will be a midterm and a final exam, along with weekly problem sets. The final course grade will be determined as follows:

Participation	10%
Problem sets	20%
Midterm exam	30%
Final exam	40%

Important policy: Students will be excused from an exam only in the event of illness, family emergency, or other extreme circumstance. In order to be excused, a student must notify me by email *before* the exam begins. A physician, the Student Health & Wellness Center, or Academic Advising must subsequently verify any reported events in writing. If a student fails to follow *both* steps, he or she will not be excused from the exam and will receive a failing grade for the exam. A student who has been properly excused from the midterm will not take a make-up exam; instead, his or her course grade will be based on his or her other grades with revised weights. A student who has been properly excused from the final exam will take a make-up.

Students will **not** be allowed to use any notes, books, calculators, or computers on exams (except as specifically allowed for the accommodation of disabilities, see below).

Academic Dishonesty

The strength of the university depends of academic and personal integrity. In this course, you must be honest and truthful. Ethical violations include cheating on exams, plagiarism, re-use of assignments, improper use of the internet and electronic devices, unauthorized collaboration, alteration of graded assignments, forgery and falsification, lying, facilitating academic dishonesty, and unfair competition. Report any violations you witness to the instructor.

Students are welcome to discuss problem sets with one another, but each student must write and submit his or her own answers.

Disability Accommodations

Any student who requires disability accommodations for the course should meet or email me as soon as possible to make the necessary arrangements. Please bring a copy of the accommodation letter from the Office of Student Disability Services (Garland 385, 410-516-4720, studentdisabilityservices@jhu.edu).

Course Calendar

Lecture	Date	Topic	Reading
<i>Fundamentals</i>			
1	May 29	Key Economic Ideas	Ch. 1 pp. 3-19, 27-37
2	May 31	Trade-Offs, Comparative Advantage, and Production Possibilities	Ch. 2
3	June 3	Supply, Demand and Prices	Ch. 3
4	June 5	Long-Term Growth and Boom/Bust Cycles	Ch. 8, p. 249 Ch. 9, p. 275 Ch. 10, pp. 331-341
5	June 7	GDP: Measuring Output and Income	Ch. 8
6	June 10	Inflation and Unemployment	Ch. 9
<i>Long-Run Growth</i>			
7	June 12	Long-Run Economic Growth	Ch. 10, pp. 313-321 Ch. 11
8	June 14	Saving, Investment and Capital Markets	Ch. 6, pp. 174-180 Ch. 10, pp. 312-319
<i>Short-Run Fluctuations</i>			
9	June 17	Midterm Exam (9 am – 10:30 am) Aggregate Expenditure and Output Changes in Income and the Multiplier Process	Ch. 12
10	June 19	Aggregate Demand - Aggregate Supply Shocks to AD/AS	Ch. 13
11	June 21	Money, Banks and the Fed Monetary Policy	Ch. 14 Ch. 15
12	June 24	Phillips Curve Fiscal Policy	Ch. 17 Ch. 16
<i>Open Economy</i>			
13	June 26	Macroeconomics in an Open Economy	Ch. 18 Ch. 19, pp. 676-681
14	June 28	Final Exam	

Important Dates

Problem Set 1 due	June 7 th
Problem Set 2 due	June 14 th
Midterm Exam	June 17 th
Problem Set 3 due	June 19 th
Problem Set 4 due	June 26 th
Final Exam	June 28 th