

University of La Verne - Main Campus
College of Business and Public Management (CBPM)
Department of Economics
Instructor: Professor Ryan Lee

Course: FLEX: ECON 220 Economic Analysis I
(Macroeconomics)

Meeting Time: M/W 7:40am-9:15am

Location: Landis Academic Center (LAC) 104

Office Hours: M/W 11:15am-12:15pm *and by appt.*

Office: Landis Academic Center (LAC) 214

Email: RLEE2@laverne.edu

Materials:

1. **Recommended Text:** *Economics*, 20th Edition McConnell, Brue & Flynn. **Note:** Previous editions can be used, students are responsible for material that is in the 20th edition if there is a difference. The text is recommended, not required; not purchasing could save you money.
2. **Calulator:** A simple four-function calculator or non-programmable calculator can be used on exams. Programmable and graphing calculators are prohibited. Sharing calculators on exams are also a breach of academic integrity.
3. **Stapler/Paperclips:** Homework must be stapled or paperclipped together when handed in if more than a single sheet.

Course Objectives:

1. Identify and describe GDP, Unemployment Rate and Inflation, as well as measure and apply these variables using real world data and measurement standards.
2. Describe, illustrate, and apply the three above variables to model the macroeconomy as well as simultaneously illustrate changes to the three variables in both the long and short run.
3. Define and explain how basic fiscal policy functions. Examine and apply how changes to fiscal policy affect the three macro variables. What types of fiscal policy should be used when.
4. Define and explain how money, banks and monetary policy functions and how they are related. Examine and apply how changes to monetary policy affect the three macro variables. Identify Federal Reserve policies, goals and targets. Explain and illustrate how money and interest rates are related. We will focus on the Great Recession and Financial Crisis.
5. Explain how basic exchange rate markets function and determine equilibrium. Explain how fiscal and monetary policies affect international trade and exchange rates and can lead to currency crises.

Homework: Homework will be announced in class and posted on Blackboard. Homeworks are completion only, but may be marked to provide feedback. The lowest homework grade will be dropped. Multiple page homeworks that are not stapled will have half a point deducted. Homework is worth 10% of the grade. All homeworks are out of one point.

Paper: There will be one short (roughly four page) paper. More information will be provided at a later date. The paper is worth 15% of the grade.

FLEX Assignments: Due to the special nature of this course, some assignments will be focused on complimenting the goals of the university-wide FLEX program. **These assignments need not be completion only.** These assignments will be worth 15% of the grade.

Midterm Exams: There will be two in-class Midterm Exams; tentatively scheduled for **September 25th**, and **October 30th**. Midterms are **NOT** cumulative, but may build off of old material and use old models. Each Midterm is worth **20%** of the grade.

Final Exam: The Final exam is scheduled for **Monday, December 9th; time TBA; most likely 8am**. This date is non-negotiable and set by the University. The Final exam will be worth **20%**.

Extra Credit: There will be three (pre-scheduled) opportunities for extra credit. Before each Midterm and the Final, students can hand in warm-up questions that were asked at the start of class, for the classes which the Exam covers. The warm up sheets will be graded on legibility, completeness, accuracy and presentation of correct answers. Each opportunity is worth up to an extra point on the exam. In addition to handing in the warm up sheet, class participation will be counted as extra credit. Any other extra credit opportunities will be announced in class, they must be available to all students, and announced before the Final Exam takes place. (This means emailing me after the Final and asking for extra credit will result in me responding to your email with 'Read the Syllabus')

Attendance: Attendance is **NOT** required, but may be taken regularly. Material covered in class may go beyond the scope of the text so students are encouraged to attend.

Make-Ups: There are **NO** make-up exams. Students who provide proper documentation will have the weight moved to the Final.

Valid Excuses: In the case of your own illness or injury, a note from a physician, physicians assistant, or a nurse-practitioner that says, among other things, **"..unable to attend.."** is required. The words **"unable to attend"** must be precisely stated in the note. If the note leaves any ambiguity on this point you will not be excused. Further, the note must be provided to the instructor within one week of the missed course event (in cases of extended illness or incapacity, the note must be provided within a week of the end of your illness or incapacity, and it should specify the period of your inability to attend the course). With regard to family emergencies, you must provide verifiable documentation of the emergency. Given the vast array of family emergencies the instructor will provide precise guidance as to what constitutes adequate documentation. Unless the emergency is critical you should notify the instructor in advance of your absence from the scheduled course event. In cases of critical emergencies, you must notify the instructor *within one week* of your absence.

For University-approved curricular and extra-curricular activities, verifiable documentation is also required. The student should obtain from the unit or department sponsoring the activity a letter (or class absence form) indicating the anticipated absence(s). The letter must be presented to the instructor at least one week prior to the first absence.

In the case of religious holidays, the student should notify the instructor by the third week of the course of any potential conflicts.

Academic Integrity: Breaches of academic integrity will **NOT** be tolerated. Breaches, include but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabricating information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with academic work of other students, using non-approved calculators and signing attendance sheets for other students. University policy will be followed for cases involving academic dishonesty.

Each student is responsible for performing academic tasks in such a way that honesty is not in question. Unless an exception is specifically defined by an instructor, students are expected to maintain the following standards of integrity:

All assignments of all types are to be the work of the student or students presenting the material and only those students.

Any use of wording, ideas, or findings of other persons, writers, or researchers requires the explicit citation of the source. Use of the exact wording requires a “quotation” format.

Deliberately supplying material to another student for purposes of plagiarism or academic dishonesty is culpable.

If academic dishonesty has occurred, the course will follow the procedures in the University catalogue under the heading Academic Honesty:

“A faculty member who has clear evidence that academic honesty has been violated may take appropriate disciplinary action. Appropriate disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, requiring the student to rewrite a paper or retake a test, giving the student an F on the assignment and/or in the course, and/or recommending expulsion. . .” (Link-Academic Integrity)

Students with Accessibility Issues: Students with accessibility issues (apparent or invisible) are invited to confidentially discuss their situation with Accessibility Services. If a student wishes to receive an academic accommodation, it is required that their documentation of the disability be on file with Accessibility Services, who can, in confidence, provide information and guidance. Early notification helps us all work together in the most effective ways. (Link-Accessibility Services)

Grading: Values for assignments will be as follows:

Grading	
Item	Percent of Grade
Midterm I	20
Midterm II	20
Final	20
HW	10
Flex Assignments	15
Paper	15

Grade Distribution: The final grade will be the sum of points earned. That total will be converted to a letter grade based on the following table. The instructor reserves the right to assign a *higher* letter grade than the point total, but will never assign a *lower* letter grade.

Grade Distribution			
Grade	Total Points	Grade	Total Points
A	≥ 92	C	70-73.99
A-	88-91.99	C-	67-69.99
B+	84-87.99	D+	64-66.99
B	81-83.99	D	60-63.99
B-	77-80.99	D	60-63.99
C+	74-76.99	F	Below 60

Changes: Modification of policies may be required during the semester. Announcements of these changes will be made in class.

Note: All links and email addresses in the syllabus are hyperlinked.

Amendments

Like the US Constitution, throughout history my syllabus needs to be updated.

1. Students arriving after another student has completed the exam and left the classroom, will be unable to take the exam.
2. Documentation of an absence must be provided within two weeks of the absence. Note: School vacations count towards the two weeks.
3. Failing to provide documentation for an absence can be considered academic dishonesty.
4. All assignments must be turned in in-class, unless written (which includes email) permission is given stating otherwise.
5. Grades will not be emailed to students. A number (or letter) does not tell a student how to improve and where they erred.
6. Regular class attendance is required for extra help from me on the Paper.
7. If a student schedules an appointment to meet with the instructor outside of office hours and fails to show up, fails to cancel in a timely manner, or fails to provide acceptable documentation for missing the appointment, they will not be allowed to schedule any more appointments outside of office hours.
8. Emails will be responded to by the end of the next business day. Emails received after 5pm are considered to be received the next business day. After the final, replies can take multiple days.
9. Completion only homeworks still require sensible attempts at answering the question and *your own* answers.