



Intermediate Macro Course Syllabus

General Information

Instructor: Kristian Estevez (Kj719@ufl.edu)

Course Code: ECO 3203 (Sections 0166, 174G, 4746)

Office: MAT 332

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. on Zoom using
Personal Meeting ID: 381-154-4451

Academic Year: Fall 2020

Zoom Lecture ID: 972 4394 0877

Course Objectives

How do policymakers observe the state of the economy and what are the tools used to mitigate business cycles? What were the modeling and policy failures that led to the Great Financial Crisis? These are just some of the questions that we will tackle in this course by using introductory macro models that explain the relationships between variables such as the unemployment rate, national income, and price levels. We will also analyze how changes in decision variables, such as interest rates, taxes, and government spending, affect the economy as a whole. We will broadly explore both the short-run in order to examine business cycles and the long-run to analyze the determinants of economic growth. If time permits, we will also examine rising income inequality and the effects of globalization on the macroeconomy.

Course Evaluation

Your grade in the course will be determined by your performance on two midterms and a final exam as well as your participation during “in-class” assignments that we will be doing throughout the semester during the Monday/Tuesday lectures using the Zoom Breakout feature to pair you in groups of 4 or 5.

The midterm exams will be administered in the evenings at 6 p.m. (in order for all three of my sections to take the the exam jointly) and the dates of the midterms are tentatively scheduled for October 1st and November 5th. The final exam can be taken early (before the reading days and this exam will not be cumulative) on

December 9th (also at 6 p.m.) or during the scheduled final exam date (this exam will be cumulative).

All exams will be online and proctored using Honorlock and exam grades will be posted in the Canvas gradebook to view. Depending on which final exam option you choose, the calculations for your final course grade will be calculated according to:

Early Final Exam

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| Assignments | 10% |
| Midterm 1 | 30% |
| Midterm 2 | 30% |
| Final Exam | 30% |

Late Final Exam

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| Assignments | 10% |
| Midterm 1 | 20% |
| Midterm 2 | 20% |
| Final Exam | 50% |

The final letter grade will be determined using the following scale where the course score will be rounded to the nearest whole number:

| | | | |
|----|--------|----|-------|
| A | 93-100 | C | 73-76 |
| A- | 90-92 | C- | 70-72 |
| B+ | 87-89 | D+ | 67-69 |
| B | 83-86 | D | 60-66 |
| B- | 80-82 | E | 0-59 |
| C+ | 77-79 | | |

Textbooks

Mankiw, N. Gregory *Macroeconomics*, Worth Publishers, 10th Ed.

ISBN-13: 978-1319105990 (Recommended, not required)

Attendance Policy and Behavior

While there is no attendance policy, it is necessary (but not sufficient) to attend the Monday/Tuesday online lecture, keep up with the Wednesday lecture that is recorded (you are more than welcome to attend the recording Wednesday at 11:45 even if this doesn't correspond to your section), and take good notes if you wish to earn a high grade. If you miss a Monday/Tuesday lecture, please get the lecture notes from me or from one of your classmates and visit me during my office hours if you want me to go over what you missed.

Also note that if you miss an assignment due to an unexcused absence, you will not receive credit for completing it. For an absence to be excused, you must notify me of the absence with a valid reason ahead of time before your class.

Since some lectures will be recorded, the following disclaimer applies:

"Our class sessions may be audio-visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who

participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate verbally are agreeing to have their voices recorded.

If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared.

As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited."

Academic Honesty

You are expected to abide by the University's rules for academic honesty and UF's Honor Pledge. These are available for your review at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/academic.php>. Cheating, plagiarism, making false statements, and any other action that violates these rules will be prosecuted to the fullest extent.

It should be noted that creating a false excuse to take a make-up exam constitutes a violation and adding someone's name to an assignment that was not present counts as cheating under the university's guidelines.

Disability Accommodations

Students requesting classroom accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Disability Resource Center. The DRC will provide documentation to the student, who must then provide this documentation to me. The DRC phone number is 392-8565. If you are taking exams with the DRC, I highly recommend that you reserve the room for all of your exams early on in the semester to avoid complications.

Course Topics

1 Introduction and Measuring the Economy

Mankiw Chapters 1 and 2

2 National Income and the Economy in the Long-Run

Mankiw Chapter 3

3 Money and Inflation

Mankiw Chapters 4 and 5

4 The Open Economy in the Long-Run

Mankiw Chapter 6

5 Determinants of Economic Growth

Mankiw Chapters 8 and 9

6 Unemployment and the Labor Market

Mankiw Chapter 7

7 The Short-Run Economy and Business Cycles

Mankiw Chapters 10

8 Aggregate Demand: IS-LM Model

Mankiw Chapter 11 and 12

9 Tradeoff Between Inflation and Unemployment

Mankiw Chapter 14

*Additional material, provided by the instructor, may be included throughout the course as needed.