

ECO 3203: INTERMEDIATE MACROECONOMICS
Spring 2025

Instructor:	Angel L. Gonzalez Smith	Class time:	T,R 7:25 am - 9:20 am
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Email:	angelgonzalez@ufl.edu	Office hours:	W 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Course Description

In this course, we will delve into the captivating world of macroeconomics, which focuses on understanding the behavior of the economy as a whole. Our primary objective is to explore macroeconomic data and examine the models specifically designed to enhance our understanding of this data. Throughout the course, we will place particular emphasis on the pivotal role policymakers play in shaping macroeconomic outcomes.

As your instructor, my goal is to ensure that you feel comfortable and confident in grasping the core concepts of macroeconomics. By the end of this course, you will be able to comprehend the economic implications of macroeconomic events and acquire the skills necessary to navigate and extract valuable information from diverse sources of economic data and news.

To make the most of this course, it is assumed that you have a basic understanding of both micro- and macroeconomics at the principles level, along with a solid foundation in high school-level algebra. While not essential, some familiarity with elementary differential calculus and completion of Intermediate Microeconomics would be advantageous. Additionally, comfort in using a spreadsheet program like Microsoft Excel will be beneficial throughout the course.

Class Modality and Course Communication

Intermediate Macroeconomics will be taught in a face-to-face modality. Lectures will be conducted fully in-person. Lectures will not be streamed (no video lectures will be available for this class). You can find the schedule for the course in the weekly class schedule (at the end of the syllabus). Exams will take place in-person in class during our assigned class time. Announcements concerning the class will typically be made in class, UF email, and through Canvas. You are responsible for all information made available through all of these avenues of communication.

Main Textbook (required)

(M): Mankiw, Gregory, *Macroeconomics*, Worth Publishers, 11th Ed. ISBN-13: 978-1319105990

Course Page

- <https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/505305>

Readings

Apart from the above books, I may assign readings from newspapers or academic journals. I will make sure to post links to these readings on the course website.

Grading

Grading will be based on three (non-cumulative) exams, three problem sets, and class participation. Each of these components will have the following weight in your final grade:

	% in the final grade	Note
Exams	75%	25% each
Problem Set 1	8%	
Problem Set 2	8%	
Problem Set 3	8%	
Class participation	1%	If you are absent once, you won't receive this point

Grading Scale

The following scale will be used to determine your final grade (FG):

A	$93 \leq FG$
A-	$90 \leq FG < 93$
B+	$87 \leq FG < 90$
B	$83 \leq FG < 87$
B-	$80 \leq FG < 83$
C+	$77 \leq FG < 80$
C	$73 \leq FG < 77$
C-	$70 \leq FG < 73$
D+	$67 \leq FG < 70$
D	$60 \leq FG < 67$
E	$FG < 60$

You can find information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points [here](#).

Course policies

Active participation in lectures and effective note-taking are strongly recommended for achieving a high grade in this course. While there is no strict attendance policy, attending lectures and maintaining thorough notes are crucial components of success. In the event of a missed lecture, it is important to promptly inform me prior to the class and make arrangements to acquire the lecture notes from either me or a fellow classmate. Additionally, if you require a review of the material covered, I encourage you to utilize my office hours.

Please note that late submissions for problem sets will not be accepted. It is essential to adhere to the designated deadlines in order to ensure fair assessment and maintain a consistent learning environment.

Exam Make-Up Policy

There are few valid reasons to miss an exam in this class. Exam dates and times are announced far enough in advance for students to clear up conflicts without my involvement. I will only offer make-up opportunities for absences that are explicitly covered by the [UF Attendance Policy](#). Whenever possible, you should reach out at least five business days in advance to arrange a make-up exam. Of course, this will not always be possible. Unforeseen absences and emergencies occur and can be excused without such advance notice. In most cases, you will be asked to provide evidence or documentation of an absence that is explicitly excused by the [UF Attendance Policy](#). Absences related to religious holidays and worship do not require this documentation.

In the case of known conflicts and all non-emergency illnesses/issues, requests for make-up exams must be made five business days before the regularly scheduled test date. Make-up requests may be sent to my email address. If I do not respond in 48 hours, assume that I have not seen your request, and resend it.

Any unexcused absence from an exam (e.g., because you thought you were supposed to take an online exam) will result in a zero for that exam. If conflicts between your personal life and the exam schedule occur, the exam schedule takes priority. Having a purchased costly plane tickets or attending a family event does not constitute a reason for an excused absence – such absences must be resolved during the drop/add period, perhaps by dropping the course and taking it in a future semester.

Academic Honesty

I will strongly enforce the University of Florida's rules for academic honesty (which can be found [here](#)). Any violation of these rules will be prosecuted to the fullest extent. Examples of violations include, but are not limited to, cheating on exams or homework assignments and creating a false excuse to take a make-up exam.

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC). Once registered, The DRC will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. You can find more information in the following link: <https://disability.ufl.edu>.

General Comments on Wellness

College is an exciting learning experience and a unique opportunity for personal growth. It can, however, also be a stressful and difficult transitional period. If you are ever having general issues with your coursework in any course or trouble in your personal life, please seek help from myself or another faculty member. I also encourage you to utilize the FREE and ANONYMOUS services of the UF Counseling and Wellness Center: <https://counseling.ufl.edu>.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students [here](#).

Important dates

Classes begin	Jan 13, 2025
First lecture	Jan 14, 2025
Problem Set 1	Feb 13, 2025
Exam 1	Feb 18, 2025
Spring Break	Mar 15-22, 2025
Problem Set 2	Mar 25, 2025
Exam 2	Mar 27, 2025
Problem Set 3	Apr 17, 2025
Exam 3	Apr 22, 2025
Classes End	Apr 24, 2025
Faculty Course Evaluation Period	Apr 12-25, 2025
Final Grades Available	May 7, 2025

Tentative Schedule

The tentative outline for the course is as follows:

Date	Topic	Book chapter
Jan 14	The Science of Macroeconomics	1
Jan 16-21	The Data of Macroeconomics	2
Jan 23-28	National Income: Where It Comes From and Where It Goes	3
Jan 30 - Feb 4	The Monetary System: What It Is and How It Works	4
Feb 6-11	Inflation	5
Feb 13	Pre-Exam Review	
Feb 18	Exam 1	
Feb 20-25	The Open Economy	6
Feb 27 - Mar 4	Unemployment and the Labor Market	7
Mar 6-11	Capital Accumulation as a Source of Growth	8
Mar 13	Population Growth and Technological Progress	9
Mar 18-20	Spring Break	
Mar 25	Pre-Exam Review	
Mar 27	Exam 2	
Apr 1-3	Growth Empirics and Policy / Economic Fluctuations	10-11
Apr 8-10-15	The IS–LM Model	12-13
Apr 17	Pre-Exam Review	
Apr 22	Exam 3	