

SYLLABUS

Economics 201, Section 006 --- Principles of Macroeconomics Class Number 18315 Spring 2010

Instructor-----**Dr. Taylor Cox (Phone: 362-0487)**
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Class Time-----**TuTh, 10:40 a.m. to 11:55 a.m.**

Location-----**Engineering/Tech Bldg Room 110**

Office Hours-----**To be discussed the first day of class**

Required Text-----**Miller. 2010. Economics Today, The Macro View. 15th Edition.**
Pearson Higher Education.

COURSE DESCRIPTION --- Macroeconomics: “The study of the behavior of the economy as a whole, including such economy-wide phenomena as changes in unemployment, the general price level, and national income “(Miller, Economics Today, The Macro View, 15th Edition). In this course, Principles of Macroeconomics, we will first study the fundamental theoretical tools and concepts of economics, and how to apply them to make rational economic decisions. We will then discuss economic measurements, such as prices, unemployment, and GDP (gross domestic product). You will learn about economic tools, concepts, and theories concerning aggregate supply and demand, fiscal policy, economic regulation, money in the economy, the Federal Reserve System, monetary policy, price stabilization, and economic growth. Using these tools and concepts, you will learn how to critically analyze economic behavior and policies on the macroeconomic level.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS -- Your total grade will be based upon the following:

Homework	25%
Chapter quizzes	15%
1 st Midterm exam	20%
2 nd Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%

- Homework may be completed with 1-2 other students, if desired. Under certain circumstances, **and** with the approval of the instructor, homework may be handed in late without penalty. Homework handed in late without prior approval, or beyond the approved extension will be subject to a grade reduction, and may not be accepted beyond two weeks.
- A major building block to the understanding of Economics (or any other field) is the mastery of the terminology. Short quizzes will cover definitions of the terminology discussed in each chapter. There are a total of six quizzes, and each quiz will cover 3-4 chapters at a time. Two of the quizzes may be dropped.
- Exams will consist of multiple choice questions, and will be available online in Blackboard. Beware--these have proven to be more difficult than you might think. Those who have done well on them have studied the assigned chapters, especially the terminology and the exhibits in each chapter.
- Students will be graded as follows: 94-100% = A, 90-93% = A-, 87-89% = B+, 83-86% = B, 80-83% = B-, 77-79% = C+, 73-76% = C, 70-73% = C-, 67-69% = D+, 63-66% = D, 60-63% = D-, Below 60% = F.
NOTE: In borderline cases, bonus points, attendance and active class participation may boost your grade up to a higher level.

LEARNING GOALS FOR PRINCIPLES OF MACROECONOMICS

Critical Thinking / Problem Solving Skills

- **Overall Goal.** A student who has completed the economics principles sequence should be able to think critically and be able to apply economic reasoning in making personal and business decisions and in analyzing public policies. A student should be able to identify and discuss major U. S. and international economic institutions, central concepts in a core body of economic literature, and the major economic issues facing the U. S. and the world.
- **Ethical Issues in Macroeconomics.** The student should be able to identify the consequences of macroeconomic fluctuations and of economic growth and should be able to evaluate them from an ethical point of view.

Communication Skills

- **Skill in Using Diagrams to Express Relationships.** The student will be able to use appropriate diagrams and time series graphs to express macroeconomic relationships and to predict the consequences of changes in relevant variables.

Breadth of Knowledge and Intellectual Perspective

- **Gross Domestic Product and its Components.** Students should be able to explain what GDP is and how it, over time, can be a crude measure of economic well being of an economy. Students should be able to identify the components of GDP and explain the roles of consumption, saving, and investment.
- **Economic Fluctuations.** Students should be able to explain the causes and consequences of the fluctuations of real GDP.
- **Unemployment and Inflation.** The student should be able to explain the meaning of unemployment and of inflation. The student should be able to relate the problems of unemployment and inflation to the fluctuation of GDP.
- **Fiscal and Monetary Policies.** The student should be able to identify and explain the two major governmental policies that attempt to smooth out economic fluctuations, curb inflation, and create jobs. Students will be able to identify the governmental agencies whose task it is to deal with inflation and unemployment and explain the strategies they use.
- **Money and the Price Level.** The student should be able to discuss the role and nature of money and the relationship of monetary policy to the general level of prices and to the performance of the economy. Students should be able to distinguish between real and nominal quantities and real and nominal interest rates.
- **International Institutions and Issues.** The student should be able to explain the economic basis for U.S. trade with the rest of the world and the gains that can accrue to participating countries. The student should be able to discuss international economic institutions and explain factors that influence currency values and trade flows. The student should have some insight into the meaning and impact of globalization

LECTURE AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE			BSU--ECON 201--Section 006--Spring 2010 TuTh 10:40-11:55 am ET #110		
Date	Subject	Homework	Date	Quizzes	Assignments Due
	Introduction				
01/19/10	Ch. 1 The Nature of Economics	Homework Set #1	01/19/10		
01/21/10	Ch. 2 Scarcity and the World of Tradeoffs	"	01/21/10		
01/26/10	Ch. 3 Demand and Supply	"	01/26/10		
01/28/10		"	01/28/10		
02/02/10	Ch. 4 Extensions of Demand and Supply Analysis	"	02/02/10		
02/04/10		"	02/04/10	#1: Ch. 1-4	
02/09/10	Ch. 5 Public Spending and Public Choice	"	02/09/10		
02/11/10	Ch. 6 Funding the Public Sector	"	02/11/10		
02/16/10	Ch. 7 The Macroeconomy: Unemployment and Inflation	"	02/16/10		
02/18/10			02/18/10	#2: Ch. 5-7	
	1ST MIDTERM EXAM: Ch. 1-7, Blackboard--Feb 18-27				
02/23/10	Ch. 8 Measuring the Economy's Performance	Homework Set #2	02/23/10		
02/25/10		"	02/25/10		Homework Set #1
03/02/10	Ch. 9 Global Economic Growth and Development	"	03/02/10		
03/04/10	Ch. 10 Real GDP and the Price Level in the Long Run	"	03/04/10		
03/09/10	Ch. 11 Classical and Keynesian Macro Analysis	"	03/09/10	#3: Ch. 8-11	
03/11/10		"	03/11/10		
03/16/10	Ch. 12 Consumption, Real GDP, and the Multiplier	"	03/16/10		
03/18/10		"	03/18/10		
03/23/10	Ch. 13 Fiscal Policy	"	03/23/10		
03/25/10	Ch. 14 Deficit Spending and the Public Debt	"	03/25/10	#4: Ch. 12-14	
	SPRING BREAK				
	2nd MIDTERM EXAM: Ch. 8-14, Blackboard--Apr 1-10				
04/06/10	Ch. 15 Money, Banking, and Central Banking	Homework Set #3	04/06/10		
04/08/10		"	04/08/10		Homework Set #2
04/13/10	Ch. 16 Money Creation, the Demand for Money, and Monetary Policy	"	04/13/10		
04/15/10		"	04/15/10		
04/20/10	Ch. 17 Domestic and International Dimensions of Monetary Policy	"	04/20/10		
04/22/10		"	04/22/10		
04/27/10	Ch. 18 Stabilization in an Integrated World Economy	"	04/27/10	#5: Ch. 15-18	
04/29/10	Ch. 19 Policies and Prospects for Global Economic Growth	"	04/29/10		
05/04/10	Ch. 33 Comparative Advantage and the Open Economy	"	05/04/10		
05/06/10	Ch. 34 Exchange Rates and the Balance of Payments	"	05/06/10		
	FINAL EXAM: Ch. 15-19, 33-34, Blackboard--May 7-13				
05/11/10	Bonus points--10:30 am-12:30 pm (must attend class!)		05/11/10	#6: Ch. 19, 33-34	Homework Set #3