Boise State University  
Principals of Macroeconomics  
ECON 201, Section 004, Micron Business & Economics Building, Rm 1301  
Spring Semester 2018

Instructor: John Church  
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e-mail: jchurch@boisestate.edu  
Office Hours: 10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. T & Th  
or by arrangement  
Course: Principles of Macroeconomics  
Administrator: jennifermoore1@boisestate.edu  

Location & Time: Micron Business & Econ. Building, Room 1301, T-Th – 1:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Course Description:

ECON 201, Principles of Macroeconomics, is one of the two-course sequence of introductory economics courses. In ECON 201 we will define economics, explore the underlying fundamentals common to all economic systems, and develop and examine a basic framework for analysis of the overall economic interactions that take place in our economy. In the first weeks of the course we will examine the problems caused by scarcity, how prices in our economy act effectively to allocate scarce resources between all participants in our economy. Building on these fundamentals, we will then explore the measurement of aggregate economic activity, unemployment, and the price level (inflation). This will lead to the exploration of theories regarding overall economic activity and the policies that decision-makers use to control economic activity.

Having developed these fundamental theoretical tools, we will then focus upon the role that money plays in our economy, the importance of the banking system, and the important role that the Federal Reserve Banking System has in maintaining economic stability and growth. Lastly, we will explore some areas of current macroeconomic interest such as the Federal Budget deficit/surplus, economic growth, and international trade.

Objectives:

It is the objective of this course to provide an understanding of how the interactions of varied economic units (the individual, household, or firm) weave together to influence the overall economic system. It is expected that the student will come away from ECON 201 with a new appreciation of the economic interactions that they observe and are participants in each day. But most importantly, it is hoped that the student will acquire the skills to critically analyze economic phenomena or economic policy decisions.

The ECON 201 Pre-test and Post-test:

Students in this class are expected to take a test at the beginning of the semester, the Pre-Test for Econ 201, (this will show up as a separate course when you login to Blackboard) and again at the end of the semester, the Post-Test for Econ 201 (this will show up as a separate course when you login to Blackboard). This exam measures your understanding of economic concepts. The information gathered from these two exams will help the faculty improve the effectiveness of the instructional activities in this course. The Pre-Test provides a measure of your understanding of economic concepts at the beginning of the semester. The Post-Test measures your understanding of economic concepts after having completed the class. The difference between the scores on the two exams will help faculty evaluate the
effectiveness of the instruction. ECON 201 exam contains 30 multiple-choice questions. You will have 40 minutes to complete each exam.

**ECON 201 Pre-Test and Post-test Dates:**

For students in ECON 201 Section 004 the Pre-Test will be administered at the Boise State University Online Testing Center **starting on January 8, 2018 and ending January 19, 2018.** The Post-Test will also be administered at the Boise State University Online Testing Center and will be available **starting April 16, 2018 and ending on April 27, 2017.**

**Scheduling Your ECON 201 Pre and Post-Tests:**

Please schedule your Pre-Test at the Boise State Online Testing Center as soon as possible. You are responsible for making all arrangements to take this exam by the end of the second week of class. **You must schedule an appointment with the testing center in advance.** If you try to walk in and attempt to take the Pre-test or Post-test on the last day of the second week that it is available you may be very disappointed when you are turned away because their schedule of available testing slots are already full. You may use the link below to access the Boise State University Online Testing Center’s scheduling system: [http://ctl.boisestate.edu/idea/tools-and-facilities/online-testing-center/](http://ctl.boisestate.edu/idea/tools-and-facilities/online-testing-center/)

You will also be responsible for making arrangements to take the Post-Test at the end of the semester. The directions listed above for the Pre-test also apply to the Post-Test.

**How Pre-Test and Post-Test Impact Your Grade:**

The ECON 201 Pre-test and Post-test are not counted as extra credit. The points possible on the Pre and Post tests are counted in both the numerator and denominator of your overall ECON 201 semester grade calculation.

The Pre-Test will count for 2.5% of your final grade, and will be graded on a pass/fail basis. To receive a passing grade on the Pre-Test exam, you only need to take it. The only way you can receive a failing grade on the Pre-Test exam is if you do not take it. The Post-Test will count for 5% of your final grade. **Your performance on the Pre-test and Post-test will determine the number of points you receive for the exam.** The calculation of your Pre-test or Post-test grade will be done by calculating the percentage of the exam questions that you answered correctly. You will then receive the same percentage of points for the exam. For example, if you get 75% of the questions correct, you will get 75% of the points for the exam. So the points added to your final grade will be 5%*75% (The total possible points will vary depending on the Economics course section that you are taking.) It is very important that you take both exams seriously and give them your **absolute best effort.** The points awarded for taking the exams are intended as incentives for you to take the exams seriously. The more effort you put into answering the questions, the better the information we will have to evaluate the effectiveness of the instructional activities in this course.

**Remember, it is a department requirement to take the exams. The instructor cannot excuse you from this requirement to take both exams.**

If you should happen to not take the Pre-test or Post-test within the timeframe that they are available at the Online Testing Center there will not be an opportunity for reopening the exam to make-up those points. In other words, if you do not take the Pre-test or Post-test within the timeframe that it is available you will receive a zero grade for the Pre-test or Post-test.
Further Grading Detail:

Exams:
There will be three “mid-term” exams throughout the semester, each worth 100 points. In addition there will be comprehensive final exam at the end of the semester worth 200 points.

All of the exams must be taken at BSU’s Online Testing Center located in the Simplot Micron Academic Success Hub Room 213 (2nd Floor). I have traditionally made each of the exams available at the Online Testing Center for a five day period (The days of Monday – Friday of a particular week.) Therefore, even with a large class, there are usually plenty of opportunities for you to schedule a time to take a particular exam at BSU’s Online Testing Center. However, I have found from experience that it is human nature to take the exam later in the week so as to have a longer period of time to study for the exam. This has in the past caused many students to not make a timely appointment with the Online Testing Center to take the exam. This is a mistake because the testing center is usually busiest on Thursday’s and Friday’s. If you wait until Tuesday or Wednesday or the week of the exam to make an appointment at the Online Testing Center you may not be able to get an appointment during the remaining days that the exam is available.

You must schedule an appointment with the testing center in advance of the day which you desire to take the exam. If you try to walk in and take the test on the last day of the week, you may be very disappointed when you are turned away because their schedule will already be full.

You may only miss an exam with a valid medical reason. If you miss an exam due to a medical reason it will not be immediately made up. Rather, the percentage grade that you receive on the final exam will be substituted as a grade for the missed “mid-term” exam.

Quizzes
During the semester you are scheduled to have up to eleven multiple choice quizzes. The total number of quizzes may be reduced based on the needs of the classroom lectures. All quizzes are equally weighted. Overall the quizzes will account for the 11.3% of your grade. There are no make-up quizzes. If you are not present on a day that a quiz is offered you will have missed that opportunity. At the end of the semester the 2 of the quizzes with the lowest grade will be dropped from your final grade. Thus, you can only miss up to 2 quizzes. You cannot come to the class, take the quiz and then leave the classroom. If you decide to do so, it will result in a grade of zero for that particular quiz. Also if you are not present in the classroom when the quiz is passed out to the class you will not be given the opportunity to take the quiz after it has already been passed out.

Homework – InQuizitive and Smartwork5:
The number of homework assignments will be determined during the semester. All the assignments have to be completed directly through Blackboard to the Norton InQuizitive and Smartwork5 digital resources. Norton’s InQuizitive is a game like, adaptive quizzing and practice system; while Smartwork5 will help you integrate problem solving skills in regards to the studied concepts. Overall, the Norton homework will account for 18.7% of your semester grade. You are responsible for completing the homework assignments by the posted due date. Your InQuizitive homework will not be allowed to be turned in late and will account for 25% of your homework grade. InQuizitive homework will be assigned to be completed prior to the scheduled lecture of the chapter material. Your Smartwork5 homework will account for 75% of your homework grade and will have a late penalty of 10% per day, up to 9 days. Smartwork5 homework will be due the Sunday following the scheduled lecture of the chapter material. Don’t wait until the last minute to complete your homework assignments. Any changes to the structure of the homework assignments will be announced on
Blackboard, while homework due dates that change will appear on the Norton digital resources, InQuizitive and Smartwork5.

**Extra Credit:**
Two opportunities for a total of 32 points of extra credit will be offered, in the form of in-class quizzes, in the last half of the semester. **You may only receive the extra credit points if you are present on the day that they are offered, there will be no “make-up” opportunities for missing the extra credit quizzes. Also if you are not present in the classroom when the quiz is passed out to the class you will not be given the opportunity to take the quiz after it has already been passed out.**

**Overall Semester Grade:**

Your overall semester grade will be based upon the sum of the grades received in the three “mid-term” exams (300 possible points, representing approximately 37.5% of the semester maximum of 800 points that will be possible during the semester), the Final Exam worth 200 points (25% of the total points possible during the semester), class quizzes worth a total of 90 points (11.3% of the total points), homework assignments worth a total of 150 points (18.7% of the total points) and the ECON 201 Pre-Test (2.5% of the total grade - 20 points) and the Post-test (5.0% of the total grade - 40 points)

The final semester letter grade in the class will be based on the plus/minus grading system. Initially, the semester letter grade will be strictly based upon a "traditional" grading scale where 90.04% of the 810 total points possible equals an "A"; 80.0 – 89.9% equals a "B"; 70.0 – 79.9% equals a "C", etc.

Thereafter, the plus/minus grading system will be used to adjust grades that are between the cutoff points of the above determined letter grades. As an example of the plus/minus grading semester average grades between 90.0% and 92.5% will receive a semester grade of A-, a semester average grade of greater than 92.5% to 97.5% will receive a semester grade of A, and a semester average grade greater than 97.5% of the total 600 points possible for the semester will receive a semester letter grade of A+ for the semester. Likewise, using similar percentage breakdowns, semester letter grades in the B, C, and D categories will be broken out into the plus/minus grading system.

**Class Rules**
Remember that the syllabus is a contract between you and me. As in any contract, both parties need to follow the rules. **Non-course related socializing, tardiness, sleeping, leaving in the middle of the class (without letting me know in advance), side conversations, and talking on cell phones or texting will not be tolerated.** If it happens, you will be asked once to stop. The second time you will be asked to leave the classroom and may be removed from the course.

**Be courteous and use appropriate language at all times.** The classroom should be a learning centered environment in which the instructor and students are unhindered by disruptive behavior. Students thus are expected to maintain proper decorum in the classroom.

**Course Administrator:**
Jennifer Moore ([jennifermoore1@boisestate.edu](mailto:jennifermoore1@boisestate.edu)) is our Course Administrator for ECON 201 - 004. Jennifer will be your primary contact, via e-mail, for any course related questions, concerns, or situations that you may have concerning the class. Jennifer is not a tutor for ECON 201 Section 004. The availability of tutors for Principles of Micro and Macro Economics will be announced on the Course’s Blackboard website.
Revisions to the Syllabus and Class Schedule:

I reserve the right to modify the syllabus and class schedule at any time. Revisions will be documented in an announcement on the Blackboard course site.

Institutional Academic Policies

Academic Integrity:

Students are expected to perform according to the standards of academic honesty and integrity as outlined in Boise State University policies. As stated in the Student Handbook, “Plagiarism in written works whether in hard copy, print or in electronic communications, will not be tolerated and may be the cause for failure in the course and/or University dismissal. Academic dishonesty in any form may result in failure in the course or dismissal from the Program and/or the University”.

Likewise, your graded homework assignments and exams will reflect your own individual effort. In class quizzes must reflect your own effort. There will be a select set of quizzes throughout the semester for which you will be allowed to collaborate with other students or work in a group setting. An announcement will be made prior to those particular quizzes.

Disability Statement:

Students with disabilities needing accommodations to fully participate in this class should contact the Educational Access Center (EAC) 208 426-1583. All accommodations must be approved through the EAC prior to being implemented. To learn more about the accommodation process, visit the EAC website at: https://itc.boisestate.edu/new-eac-students/https://boisestate.edu/new/drc/students

Statement of Shared Values

Boise State University upholds the following values as the foundation for a civil and nurturing environment. Campus community members and all who are part of COBE are expected to adhere to the following values.

• Academic Excellence – engage in our own learning and participate fully in the academic community’s pursuit of knowledge.

• Caring – show concern for the welfare of others.

• Citizenship – uphold civic virtues and duties that prescribe how we ought to behave in a self-governing community by obeying laws and policies, volunteering in the community, and staying informed on issues.

• Fairness – expect equality, impartiality, openness and due process by demonstrating a balanced standard of justice without reference to individual bias.

• Respect – treat people with dignity regardless of who they are and what they believe. A respectful person is attentive, listens well, treats others with consideration and doesn’t resort to intimidation, coercion or violence to persuade.

• Responsibility – take charge of our choices and actions by showing accountability and not shifting blame or taking improper credit. We will pursue excellence with diligence, perseverance, and continued improvement.

• Trustworthiness – demonstrate honesty in our communication and conduct while managing ourselves with integrity and reliability.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Date</th>
<th>Important Dates</th>
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</table>
| **Week 1:** Jan. 8th - Jan. 12th | Chapter 1. Five Foundations of Economics  
Chapter 2. Model Building and Gains from Trade |
| **Week 2:** Jan. 15th - Jan. 19th | Chapter 2. Model Building and Gains from Trade (Continued)  
Chapter 3. The Market at Work: Supply and Demand  
Dr. Martin Luther King Holiday |
| **Week 3:** Jan. 22nd - Jan. 26th | Chapter 3. The Market at Work: Supply and Demand (Continued)  
President's Day Holiday |
| **Week 4:** Jan. 29th - Feb. 2nd | Chapter 4. Market Outcomes and Tax Incidence  
Chapter 5. Price Controls  
1st Exam: Chapters 1 - 6 |
| **Week 5:** Feb. 5th - Feb. 9th | Chapter 6. Introduction to Macroeconomics and GDP |
| **Week 6:** Feb. 12th - Feb. 16th | Chapter 7. Unemployment  
Chapter 8. The Price Level and Inflation  
Feb. 12 - Feb. 16: 1st Exam Chapters 1 - 6 |
| **Week 7:** Feb. 19th - Feb. 23rd | Chapter 8. The Price Level and Inflation (Continued)  
Chapter 9. Savings, Interest Rates, and the Market for Loanable Funds  
Feb. 19th - No Class President's Day Holiday |
| **Week 8:** Feb. 26th - Mar. 2nd | Chapter 10. Financial Markets and Securities |
| **Week 9:** Mar. 5th - Mar. 9th | Chapter 11. Economic Growth and the Wealth of Nations  
2nd Exam: Chapters 7 - 11 |
| **Week 10:** Mar. 12th - Mar. 16th | Chapter 12. Growth Theory |
| **Week 11:** Mar. 19th - Mar. 23rd | Chapter 13. Aggregate Demand - Aggregate Supply Model |
| **Week 12:** Mar. 26th - Mar. 30th | Spring Break - No Classes |
| **Week 13:** Apr. 2nd - Apr. 6th | Chapter 14. The Great Recession, the Great Depression, and Great Macroeconomic Debates  
Chapter 15. Federal Budgets: The Tools of Fiscal Policy  
Apr. 9 - Apr. 13: 3rd Exam Chapters 12 - 15 |
| **Week 14:** Apr. 9th - Apr. 13th | Chapter 16: Fiscal Policy |
| **Week 15:** Apr. 16th - Apr. 20th | Chapter 17: Money and the Federal Reserve  
Chapter 18. Monetary Policy |
| **Week 16:** Apr. 23rd - Apr. 27th | Chapter 19. International Trade  
Catch up and Final Exam Review  
Apr. 30 - May 4: Final Exam Final Chapters + Comprehensive |
<p>| <strong>Final Exam Week:</strong> Apr. 30th - May 4th | Final Exam |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Grade Point Earning Activities</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
<th>Points as a percent of the overall semester grade</th>
<th>Availability, Dates Offered and Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECON 202 Pre-test</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>Available Jan 8, 2018 - Jan. 19, 2018 at BSU's Online Testing Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 202 Post-test</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>Available Jan 8, 2018 - Jan. 19, 2018 at BSU's Online Testing Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam #1</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>Available Feb. 12, 2018 - Feb. 16, 2018 at BSU's Online Testing Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam #2</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>Available Mar. 12, 2018 - Mar. 16, 2018 at BSU's Online Testing Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam #3</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>Available Apr. 9, 2018 - Apr. 13, 2018 at BSU's Online Testing Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>Available Apr. 30, 2018 - May 4, 2018 at BSU's Online Testing Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Quizzes</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>Paper quizzes offered in the classroom on random dates. These are not extra credit quizzes. Two extra credit quizzes are explained below. You must be present in class the day that these quizzes are offered in order to receive these points.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Class Homework:</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>18.7%</td>
<td>Available on Blackboard. Homework assignments are made available each week as different chapters and topics in the textbook are scheduled to be covered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>InQuizitive Homework</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smartwork 5 Homework</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Semester Points</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential Points from 2 Extra Credit Quizzes</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>Paper quizzes offered in the classroom on random dates in the last half of the semester. You must be present in the classroom on the day these quizzes are offered in order to receive these extra credit points.</td>
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</table>