ECON 201: PRINCIPLES OF MACROECONOMICS

Section 001: Lecture Times: MW 1:30 - 2:45pm, Lecture Location: MBEB 1210
Section 002: Lecture Times: MW 12:00 - 1:15pm, Lecture Location: MBEB 1301

Annie Walker, Ph.D.
Office: MBEB 3202
E-mail: anniewalker990@boisestate.edu
Office hours: Mon 3:30-4:30, Wed 3:00-5:00, or by appointment
Phone number: 208-426-6246

Department of Economics
Boise State University
Micron Business and Economics Building

Course Description: You will learn the basic facts and analytical methods for understanding economic growth, recessions, inflation, unemployment, GDP, the banking system, exchange rates, and how government policies affect the economy.

Prerequisites: None, but students are strongly encouraged to take ECON 202 (Principles of Micro) before this course.


Blackboard Course Webpage: All course information, required materials, and announcements will be posted on Blackboard. You are responsible for regularly checking the course page in Blackboard for any and all class information.

Outline of Lectures:

PART 1: INTRODUCTION
Chapter 1. Five Foundations of Economics
Chapter 2. Gains from Trade

PART 2: MACROECONOMIC BASICS
Chapter 7. Unemployment
Chapter 8. Inflation Measurement
Exam 1

PART 3: THE MACROECONOMY OVER THE LONG RUN
Chapter 9. Interest Rates, Loanable Funds Market
Chapter 10. Financial Markets and Securities
Chapter 11. Economic Growth I
Chapter 12. Economic Growth II
Chapter 17. Money and Banking
Chapter 8. Inflation Causes
Exam 2

PART 4: THE MACROECONOMY OVER THE SHORT RUN
Chapter 15. Federal Government Budgets
Chapter 13. Aggregate Demand and Supply
Chapter 14. Great Recession, Great Depression, Great Macro Debates
Chapter 16. Fiscal Policy (selected portions)
Chapter 18. Monetary Policy (selected portions)

PART 5: INTERNATIONAL MACRO
Chapter 19. International Trade (time permitting)
Chapter 20. International Finance (time permitting)
Exam 3 (Final exam)

Grading Scale: Letter grades will be assigned according to the following scale. A grade ending in .5 or higher will be rounded up.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93 – 100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88 – 89%</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83 – 87%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 – 82%</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78 – 79%</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73 – 77%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 – 72%</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68 – 69%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63 – 67%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 – 62%</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 – 59%</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grading
Your grade will be based on the following components and corresponding weights.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight (%)</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>due Feb 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>due Mar 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 3 (Final exam)</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
<td>due May 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>due Thursdays 11pm (usually)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podcast quizzes</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>due Sundays 11pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-test</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>due Jan 19 (first 2 weeks of class)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-test</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>due April 27 (last day of class)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

100%

Exams
- Exams will consist of 40 multiple choice questions. You will have 75 minutes to complete each exam.
- Failure to take an exam during the allotted time frame will result in a grade of zero for that exam.
- Exams will be administered by the Boise State testing center which is located in Room 213 in the Simplot Micron Advising and Success Hub (SMASH) Building.
  - Bring your student ID.
  - Schedule an appointment to take test (recommended) or drop in. The link to schedule an appointment is https://testing.boisestate.edu/.
- Exam 1: Available Friday Feb 9 – Friday Feb 16. Includes chapters 1, 2, 6, 7, 8
- Exam 2: Available Friday Mar 16 – Friday Mar 23. Includes chapters 9, 10, 11, 12, 17, 8 last part.

Homework
- Each chapter will have an associated homework assignment.
- Homework assignments will be completed on-line, using “Smartworks” software, which you will access from the course in Blackboard, under “Assignments.”
- Homework assignments will be due at 11pm on Thursday night, unless a test is scheduled for that week, in which case assignments will be due on Sunday night at 11pm.
  - Late assignments are accepted up to 7 days past the due date with a penalty of 3 percent per day.
- You get 3 attempts to answer each question correctly. There is no penalty for incorrect attempts, and only the attempt which earns the highest score will be counted.
- There is no time limit, and you can save your progress and complete the assignment later.
- The single lowest grade will be dropped. The weighted average of the remaining homework grades accounts for 12.5% of your final grade.
- Access to Smartworks is free. See instruction on last page for registration.

Podcast Quizzes
- Most of the chapters will include a quiz on a podcast related to current material being covered.
- Quizzes will be completed on-line, using Blackboard. Access the quizzes under the “Assignments” tab.
- Podcast quizzes will always be due at 11pm on Sunday night.
  - Late submissions are not accepted.
- The single lowest grade will be dropped. The weighted average of the remaining quiz grades accounts for 12.5% of your final grade.
- The podcasts are usually 15-20 minutes long. You will see a link to the webpage of the podcast from within the quiz. Click that link and listen to the podcast by either downloading it or streaming it. Then type your answers under the questions in Blackboard and submit.

Attendance
- I will randomly check attendance (at the end of class). If you miss three or less classes during the semester, you will earn the full five percentage points of the attendance portion of your grade. For each class you miss beyond three classes, you will lose one percentage point from the available five percentage points.
- I may provide extra credit opportunities to students in attendance on any given day, without advance notice.
- According to university policy, attendance must be checked during the first week of class, and any student missing both days during the first week of class will be automatically dropped from the class.
**Expected Classroom Behavior**
- Limit use of your mobile phone in class.
- Arrive in class on time and do not leave early. Take care of personal needs such as getting water and going to the bathroom before or after class. If you must leave class early, please let me know at the beginning of class and make a quick and quite exit.
- Do not talk with your neighbors during class. (If you are stuck on some part of the lecture, raise your hand and ask me. I promise I will do at least as good of a job as your neighbor to explain the material to you again.)
*Failure to follow these guidelines is both disrespectful and distracting to me as well as other students. If such behavior is repeated, students will be asked to leave the class.*

**Academic Ethics Policies:**
Students are expected to behave in accordance with all university policies regarding plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Any person caught cheating during an exam or any assignment will receive a grade of zero for that exam, and receive the full punishment as mandated by university guidelines.

**Course Learning Objectives**
Upon completion of this course you will be able to:
1. Describe basic economic concepts that create the foundation for understanding macroeconomics.
2. Explain measures of economic performance and the limitations of those measures.
3. Determine national income and price level determination in the short- and long-run.
4. Evaluate how government activities affect the macroeconomy.
5. Ascertain how public policies affect economic growth.
6. Explain how international trade and finance affect the macroeconomy.

**University Learning Outcomes**
The University Learning Outcomes developed in this course are:
- Intellectual Foundations
  - Writing, oral communication, critical inquiry, innovation, and teamwork
- Civic and Ethical Foundations
  - Ethics, diversity, and internationalization
- Distribution Requirements/Disciplinary Lens
  - Mathematics (DLM); natural, physical, and applied sciences (DLN); visual and performing arts (DLV); literature and humanities (DLL); and social sciences (DLS)

**COBE Core Curriculum Student Learning Goals and Objectives: ECON 201**
Students in this class will learn or practice the following COBE Core Learning Goals (Bold items covered in Principles of Macroeconomics):
1. Understand and apply analytical and disciplinary concepts and methods related to business and economics.
   - 1.3 Economics
   - 1.6 International environment of business
2. Communicate Effectively
   - 2.1 Write messages and documents that are clear, concise, and compelling
   - 2.2 Give oral presentations that use effective content, organization, and delivery
3. Solve problems, including unstructured problems, related to business and economics.
4. Use effective teamwork and collaboration skills
5. Demonstrate appropriate principles of responsible business practices.
Homework Registration Instructions:

If you purchased the physical textbook from the bookstore or the ebook, a code is included that grants access to Smartworks. If you did not purchase either of these, Smartworks is free this semester.

1. From the Blackboard course page, under assignments, click on the first homework assignment. This will open a registration page.
2. Choose “No, I need to register, purchase, or sign up for trial access” and click button below.
3. Enter name, school email address, password, and
   - If you purchased the book that includes Smartworks access, choose “I have a registration code”, enter code, click “Register my code”
   - Otherwise, click “I want to view purchase access” and follow prompts until you see an option that says “Free, Smartwork 5 for Principles of Macro, Free BETA access.”

Support:
Video instructions for registration: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1dWgZEq3Ry8&feature=youtu.be
Student Help Notes: http://wwnorton.knowledgeowl.com/help/smartwork5-students
Pre-test and Post-test Requirements

Students in this class are expected to take a standardized test at the beginning of the semester (Pre-Test) and again at the end of the semester (Post-Test). 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 33 multiple-choice questions, and ECON 202 exam contains 27 multiple choice questions. You will have 40 minutes to complete each exam.

Requirements for On-Campus Students

For students taking an on-campus section of this course, the Pre-Test will be administered at the Boise State University Testing Center during the first two weeks of the regular semester. The Post-Test will also be administered at the Boise State University Testing Center during the last two weeks of the regular semester before the final exam week.

How Pre-Test and Post-Test Impact Your Grade

Be assured that the whole process is designed to be fair to you and your classmates. 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 this test will determine the number of points you receive for the exam. We will calculate your grade by calculating the percentage of 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. (The total possible points will vary depending on the section of the course 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.

Scheduling Your 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 take the test on the last day of the second week, you may be very disappointed when you are turned away because their schedule will already be full.

You may use the link below to access the scheduling system for Boise State University 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 also apply to this Post-Test.

If You Have Questions

If you have any questions about what is expected of you with either of these exams, you should contact your instructor immediately. Remember, this is a department requirement to take the exams. The instructor cannot excuse you from this requirement to take both exams.