

ECON 201-10: Principles of Macroeconomics
Tate 133 TR 1:40-2:55 pm
SYLLABUS

Professor: Nancy Barry

Office: Tate 305

Office Hours: 11:00-12:00 Tuesday and Thursday or by appointment

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Course Description: This course covers the foundations of aggregate economic analysis, including identification of basic social goals, money and credit systems, and measurement and theories of national income, employment, economic growth, and international interdependence. The prerequisites for this course are ECON 200: Principles of Microeconomics and 3 credit hours of Math.

Textbook and Other Materials

Macroeconomics: A Contemporary Introduction, 11th edition by William A. McEachern

You will be required to complete assignments in *Mindtap*, an online system that replaces or accompanies the text. Access *Mindtap* at <https://studentdashboard.cengagebrain.com/#/course-confirmation/MTPQGR0PFZ8W/initial-course-confirmation>. You may read the text online as part of *Mindtap* or purchase the loose-leaf text from the bookstore.

Other required or optional readings will be posted on Oaks from time to time. You must check Oaks and *Mindtap* frequently to be sure you are up to date on assignments. Class slides and other materials used in class will be posted on Oaks generally after they are used in class.

To evaluate the quality of economic news you will be required to read that news. You are especially encouraged to read articles related to this course including those about employment and unemployment, inflation, growth of Gross Domestic Product, government budget decisions, or Federal Reserve policy decisions. Student rates exist for the *Wall Street Journal*, *The Economist*, and the *New York Times*. While you are not required to read from these sources, the news articles (not editorials) generally provide reliable news on macroeconomic issues.

General Education Student Learning Outcomes

As part of their general education requirements, students are required to apply social science concepts, models or theories to explain human behavior, social interactions or social institutions in this course. These outcomes will be assessed on the third or final exam.

Economics Learning Outcomes

- Understanding Major Economic Problems - Demonstrate an understanding of the major economic problems facing society and the policy alternatives which may be utilized to contend with these problems.
- Synthesis - Demonstrate the ability to access existing knowledge by retrieving, assembling, and organizing information on topics and issues in economics.
- Communication Skills - Demonstrate the ability to clearly communicate an economic analysis.

Students with Disabilities

The College will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students should apply at the Center for Disability Services/SNAP, located on the first floor of the Lightsey Center, Suite 104. Students approved for accommodations are responsible for notifying me as soon as possible and for contacting me one week before accommodation is needed.

College of Charleston Honor Code and Academic Integrity

Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of our Honor Code that, when identified, are investigated. Each incident will be examined to determine the degree of deception involved.

Incidents where the instructor determines the student's actions are related more to a misunderstanding will be handled by the instructor. A written intervention designed to help prevent the student from repeating the error will be given to the student. The intervention, submitted by form and signed both by the instructor and the student, will be forwarded to the Dean of Students and placed in the student's file.

Cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported directly by the instructor and/or others having knowledge of the incident to the Dean of Students. A student found responsible by the Honor Board for academic dishonesty will receive an XF in the course, indicating failure of the course due to academic dishonesty. This grade will appear on the student's transcript for two years after which the student may petition for the XF to be expunged. The student may also be placed on disciplinary probation, suspended (temporary removal) or expelled (permanent removal) from the College by the Honor Board.

Students should be aware that unauthorized collaboration--working together without permission-- is a form of cheating. Unless the instructor specifies that students can work together on an assignment, quiz and/or test, no collaboration during the completion of the assignment is permitted. Other forms of cheating include possessing or using an unauthorized study aid (which could include accessing information via a cell phone or computer), copying from others' exams, fabricating data, and giving unauthorized assistance.

Students can find the complete Honor Code and all related processes in the Student Handbook at <http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/index.php>

To assist students in maintaining the honor code, please bring as little as possible to class on quiz and exam days and be prepared to leave your belongings in the front of the classroom.

Assignments:

- 1) See the Course Schedule below for reading assignments in *McEachern*
- 2) Additional reading (some required-some optional) maybe posted in Oaks
- 3) Quizzes: As noted in the Course Schedule, there will be 6 in-class quizzes scattered through the term. These quizzes will generally test whether you have read the assigned text material before we discuss the chapters in class (read but not studied in great detail) and will include some questions on material discussed in the previous week. Reading the material before it is discussed in class and reviewing material shortly after it is discussed will contribute to your success in this class. In addition, quizzes will help me determine what information or concepts are most difficult. We will spend more class time on those.
- 4) Reading Analysis: Questions have arisen about the veracity of news articles including those describing macroeconomics. We will also learn that certain issues arise when measuring macroeconomic phenomena such as total output, unemployment, inflation, interest rates, and the balance of payments. You are to read news articles about these phenomena and determine the extent to which the article(s) address(es) the issue accurately. Then 5 times during the term you are to turn in your analysis. Your analysis should discuss who collects the data used in the article and how the article addresses or does not address any shortcomings in the data. Your analysis should not exceed 2 double spaced typed pages but may be much shorter than that. One effective approach could compare an article that fully addresses the issue with one that does so less effectively.
- 5) Homework in *Mindtap*. See *Mindtap* for the due dates for these exercises. Generally, assigned homework will be due before we begin a new chapter

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	McEachern chapters	Other important events
8-22	Class Protocols and Intro to Economics	Chapters 1 and 2	
8-24	Intro to Economics cont'd	Chapters 3 and 4	
8-29	Intro to Macroeconomics	Chapters 5 pp 91-99	
8-31	Tracking the U.S. Economy	Chapter 6	Quiz 1
9-5			
9-7	Unemployment and Inflation	Chapter 7	Quiz 2
9-12			Reading analysis 1 – unemployment or inflation
9-14	First test	First test	First test
9-19	Productivity and growth	Chapter 8	
9-21			Reading analysis 2 – GDP, productivity or growth
9-26	Aggregate Demand	Chapter 5 pp 99-101 and Chapter 9	Quiz 3
9-28			
10-10	Aggregate Supply and history	Chapter 5 pp 102-112 and Chapter 10	
10-12			
10-17	No Class Fall Break	No Class Fall Break	No Class Fall Break
10-19		Second Test	Second Test
10-24	Fiscal Policy	Chapter 11	
10-26			Last day to drop with a W
10-31	Federal Budgets and Public Policy	Chapter 12	Quiz 4
11-2			Reading analysis 3 - fiscal policy, budgets
11-7	Money, Banking, and Money Supply	Chapters 13 and 14	
11-9			
11-14	Monetary Policy	Chapter 15	Quiz 5
11-16			Reading analysis 4 – money or monetary policy
11-21	Optional Exam		
11-23	Thanksgiving Break	Thanksgiving Break	Thanksgiving Break
11-28	International Trade and Measurement	Chapters 17 and 18	Quiz 6
11-30			Submit General education essay
12-5			Reading analysis 5 – international trade
12-7	Final Exam 4:00-7:00PM	Final Exam	Final Exam

Grades

Grades in this class will be calculated as follows

- 1) You are required to take 3 exams. If you take each of the 3 exams during the term, you do not have to take the multiple-choice section of the final. If you miss any of these exams you must take the final which will be cumulative. Your best exam grade will count 25% of your grade, your 2nd best 15%, and the 3rd will count 10% for 50% of your grade. ***No make-up exams will be given.*** However, the Thanksgiving week exam can be taken on Monday or Tuesday of that week.
- 2) In-class quizzes will count 15% of your grade (3% each). There are 6 quizzes – the lowest grade will be dropped. (***No make-up quizzes will be given.***)
- 3) Reading Analyses will count 20% of your grade (5% each). There are 5 analyses; the lowest grade will be dropped. No late analyses will be accepted.
- 4) *Mindtap* homework will count 15% of your grade. If you submit your homework on time, you will receive full credit.
- 5) Class participation may impact a grade that is on the margin.

Grading scale

A	94-100	B	83-86	C	73-76	D	63-66
A-	90-93	B-	80-82	C-	70-72	D-	60-62
B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69	F	< 60

Required Attendance and Class Success

Attendance in class is mandatory. If you have more than 3 absences for any reason, you will need to withdraw from the class. In very extreme circumstances exceptions may be made. If you know of any events in your life during this semester that could require that you miss class, please speak to me as soon as possible.

Aside from regular attendance and participation in class, your success in this class can be enhanced by reading assignments before they are discussed in class. As soon as possible after class, review your class notes to be sure you understood and properly documented what was said. Spend as much time with *Mindtap* as you can.

You are also encouraged to utilize the Center for Student Learning's (CSL) academic support services for assistance in study strategies and course content. They offer tutoring, Supplemental Instruction, study skills appointments, and workshops. Students of all abilities have become more successful using these programs throughout their academic career and the services are available to you at no additional cost. For more information regarding these services please visit the CSL website at <http://csl.cofc.edu> or call (843)953-5635.