

Econ 102: Intermediate Macro

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Office Hours: By appointment

Office: Zoom

Class Hours: MTWR 1-3pm

Class Room: Zoom

Course Description

This course covers the measurement of output and prices, theory of economic growth, business cycle theory, fiscal policy, monetary policy. The first part of the course explores the short-run equilibrium and fluctuations in goods and financial markets. The second part develops AS-AD model to connect all markets together in medium run. The third part focuses on the nature of long-run economic growth and equilibrium.

Required Materials

The textbook used for this course is Olivier Blanchard. *Macroeconomics*, 8th Edition. Pearson, 2021. You may purchase the textbook if you want, but you are not required to do so. All courses materials, including lecture slides and problem sets, will be available on Canvas. Please refer to <https://www.pearson.com/us/higher-education/program/Blanchard-My-Lab-Economics-with-Pearson-e-Text-Access-Card-for-Macroeconomics-8th-Edition/PGM2030616.html> for more information.

Prerequisites

The prerequisites of this course are 1) Econ 001 (Econ Principles Micro) and Econ 002 (Econ Principles Macro), or Econ 003 (Principles of Econ: Macro & Micro); and 2) Math 035 (Calculus I). I will assume you have sufficient knowledge in Econ 002 and are familiar with major concepts in it. Some parts of the lecture require knowledge in Calculus I (mainly differentiation) and I will assume you are OK with it as well.

Course Structure

Lecture

The format of lecture is traditional. I will post lecture slides on Canvas before class. You are encouraged, but not required, to read slides and textbook before the lecture.

Each 2-hour lecture will be divided into two 50-minute parts, with a 20-minute break between them. Lecture will be recorded and uploaded to accommodate students in different time zones. Lecture attendance is optional.

Problem Sets

There are two (long) problem sets in total throughout the semester. The problem sets will be graded based on completeness. You are allowed (though not encouraged) to work together, but each student must submit his/her own answers. Please be aware that problem sets are intended for learning and are good study guides for exams, so simply copying other students' answers will not help you at all.

The due date for the problem sets are the days before the two exams. You are advised to submit all of them by their due date respectively. If you do not submit any problem set by the due date, the weight of that/these problem set(s) will be moved to the best of your two exams.

Exams

There will be two exams in this class. The exams happen during regular lecture time. The second exam is not cumulative, but some definitions/concepts we learn before Exam 1 may be used. The following are tentative schedules for the exams:

- Exam 1: July 27, 2021 (T)
- Exam 2: August 12, 2020 (R)

Please note that since the second exam is not cumulative, students are required to attend both exams. Make-up exams will only be given in extremely rare circumstances, including medical emergencies and loss of immediate relatives. If these situations happen, the student should contact the instructor in a timely manner to discuss make-up options.

Grading Policy

Your final grade is a weighted average of your problem sets, exams, and class participation. Based on overall class performance, I may curve everyone's grade up at my discretion, so that a certain letter grade is easier. I will not curve the grade down in any circumstances. The final grade will be based on the following algorithm:

- 55% of your grade will be determined by the best of Exam 1 and Exam 2.
- 35% of your grade will be determined by the worst of Exam 1 and Exam 2.
- 10% of your grade will be determined by two problem sets (5% each).

Course Policies

During Class

I understand that the electronic recording of notes will be important for class and so computers and cell phones will be allowed in class. Please refrain from using electronic devices for anything but activities related to the class. The bottom line of this requirement is that your usage of devices cannot be disruptive to teaching and learning.

Attendance Policy

Lecture attendance is not explicitly required for this course. However, students are strongly encouraged to attend every lecture to ensure a high quality learning. Also, please be aware that missing lectures will certainly negatively affect your score, as your study of midterm and final will be much more inefficient.

Incomplete Grades

Students are expected to complete all work in a course by the deadlines determined by the instructor, and no later than the end of the final exam period. In the event that a student is unable to meet the standard deadlines due to illness or an emergency at the end of the term, the student may request a provisional grade of N ("incomplete"). All requests for N grades must be approved by both the instructor of record for the course and the student's dean. No provisional grade except N may be given, and absent approval from both the instructor and the student's dean, the student will be assigned an administrative failure or a letter grade (A through F) on the basis of all work completed by the regular deadline.

Please note that N grades will only be granted in cases where the student is deemed to be in good standing in the course by the instructor (i.e., the student has participated actively, has completed the majority of the course requirements in a timely fashion, etc.) and is in good academic standing with the dean's office. Students on academic probation are not eligible for incompletes. When an N grade is granted, the course must be completed by the new deadlines agreed upon by the student, instructor, and dean, and the final grade submitted by the instructor no later than November 30. If the student has not completed the outstanding work by the new deadlines, faculty will be required to submit a letter grade (A through F) on the basis of all work completed previously.

Academic Integrity

Without regard to motive, student conduct that is academically dishonest, evidences lack of academic integrity or trustworthiness, or unfairly impinges upon the intellectual rights and privileges of others is prohibited.

Violation of academic integrity will be reported to The Honor Council. Please refer to honorcouncil.georgetown.edu for more information.

Accommodations for Disabilities

Students who believe they may be eligible for accommodation consideration are responsible for communicating their needs to the Academic Resource Center. The University is not responsible for making ADA accommodations for students who do not inform the University of their disabling condition and their need for accommodation, or for those who do not provide the University adequate documentation of their disability. Students should be aware that while the University will work interactively with them to identify appropriate accommodation, the University is not able to modify course or degree requirements considered to be an essential requirement of the program of instruction.

The University encourages any student who believes s/he may have a qualifying disability to make an appointment with an ARC staff person to discuss available services and the process for documenting a disability and receiving accommodation.

Class schedule

The schedule is tentative and subject to change:

Week 1, 07/12 (M) - 07/15 (R)

Goods Markets, Financial Markets, IS-LM Model

Week 2, 07/19 (M) - 07/22 (R)

Labor Markets, AS-AD Model, Inflation, Unemployment

Week 3, 07/26 (M) - 07/29 (R)

Economical Implications of COVID-19 (PS1 Due on 06/15), Exam 1, Production Functions

Week 4, 08/02 (M) - 08/05 (R)

Saving, Capital Accumulation, Technological Progress

Week 5, 08/09 (M) - 08/12 (R)

Exchange Rate, Open Economy, Exam 2 Review (PS2 Due on 08/10), Exam 2