

University of California at Santa Cruz
Econ 2, Introduction to Macroeconomic Theory

Term: Summer 2016	Professor: Aaron Meininger
Course Dates/Times: Mo. & Wed. 9:00am-12:30pm	Office Location: E2, 403E Phone:
Course Location: E2, Room 194	Email: ameining@ucsc.edu
Office Hours: Tu 10:30am-12:30pm	Website:

1 Purpose:

Economics is a social science, it provides a framework in which to organize observed economic phenomena in order to develop an understanding of the world. The economy is a complex relationship of variables and behavior. Because of this inherent complexity, using the correct diction is necessary to the comprehension of economic relationships. The discipline of economics requires clear logic and clear thinking, it also promotes those qualities in those who study the subject.

Macroeconomics is the study of the economy as a whole. It examines the aggregate behavior of the economy. This is different from microeconomics, which is the study of the economic behavior of individual consumers, firms, and industries. We will study how economists model the relationships between aggregate economic variables and examine how various fiscal and monetary policies can affect results. Specifically we will cover topics of inflation, unemployment, national income, growth and problems of the national economy, stabilization policy, as well as exchange rates (if time allows). The main goal of this class is to improve your economic literacy and ability to apply economic logic to world events. A secondary goal is to prepare you for upper division economics courses.

2 Text:

Case/Fair/Oster: Principles of Macroeconomics 12e Copyright 2016 Pearson Education

You will also need the MyEconLab Access for the homework. Please see the File in the resources folder of our eCommons site for more information

3 Course Policies:

Online Tools: Course information will be posted on eCommons. You are expected to check this site regularly. Problem sets, solutions, and supplementary materials will be distributed through the course eCommons site.

Exam Policy:

- The use of calculators is not permitted on tests unless explicitly stated. No other electronics either (dictionaries).
- Do your own work! DO NOT look at any other students' exam. Suspicious behavior will be reported to the administration. Cheating will result in canceled scores and may result in disciplinary action from the administration.
- Tests must be taken as scheduled unless an excellent excuse with appropriate documentation is presented. Dates of tests will be announced at least one week in advance. You must contact me before the test is administered if you have an emergency and cannot make the test.
- The final is comprehensive, but will be weighted towards material following exam 2.

Final grades: Final grades will be posted using the system that UCSC has in place. W's are given only on the basis of extenuating circumstances and not to avoid a failing or low grade. Please note that THE FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT OF 1974 specifies under penalty of law that information on grades cannot be given out over the telephone and cannot be given to anyone other than the student.

Expected conduct: Students are expected to be attentive and not to interfere with the learning of others. Side conversations should be kept to the bare minimum, unless we are doing group work. Cell phones and other electronic devices should be on silent mode or turned off.

Students are allowed (and encouraged) to work with classmates or to come to my office for help. Homework is assigned as a learning exercise. Even while working with others, you should be sure you understand and can solve the exercises independently. Students may be assigned to work with a small group, either in class or out of class. These groups will be asked to present solutions, proofs, etc. to the class

Students are expected to attend and participate in class. By participation, I mean being on time, paying attention, taking notes, asking relevant questions, working out examples, answering questions, giving suggestions, possibly demonstrating techniques for the class, etc.

Attendance:

Attendance is an important part of this course. Students are automatically given 5% towards their final grade for attendance. Students will lose 1% point per absence after 2 unexcused absences. Each time you are late counts as .5 of

an absence.

4 Grading:

There will be two midterms and a final, along with homework and attendance.

Grades will be calculated based on the following weights:

25% Exam 1
25% Exam 2
35% Comprehensive final exam
10% Problem sets
5% Attendance

100-94% = A
93-90% = A-
89-87% = B+
86-84% = B
83-80% = B-
79-77% = C+
76-74% = C
73-70% = C-
Below 70% COME SEE ME!

Nobody in this class should get below a C-, if you are having troubles and need help, please see me IMMEDIATELY! Do not wait until it is too late in the semester, because it will be harder for me to help you at that point.

5 Course Schedule*:

Week 1:

Monday: Introduction and Lesson 1

Wednesday: Lesson 2, Lesson 3, Lesson 4 and HW1

Week 2:

Monday: Lesson 5, Lesson 6, Lesson 7 and HW2

Wednesday: Lesson 8, Review for Midterm, Midterm 1

Week 3:

Monday: Lesson 9, Lesson 10, Lesson 11, HW3

Wednesday: Lesson 12, Lesson 13, Lesson 14, HW4

Week 4:

Monday: Lesson 15, Lesson 16, Lesson 17, HW5

Wednesday: Lesson 18, Review for Midterm, Midterm 2

Week 5:

Monday: Lesson 19, Lesson 20, Lesson 21, HW 6

Wednesday: Review for Final, Final

*subject to change depending on progress and other unforeseen circumstances.

6 Academic Honesty

Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated and may lead to course failure and possible dismissal from the University. You are responsible to being attentive to or observant of campus policies about academic honesty as stated in the University's Student Conduct Code. You may work with a friend on homework but write your own answers. Students who turn in written assignments with identical answers will both receive zeroes on the assignment.

7 DRC

UC Santa Cruz is committed to creating an academic environment that supports its diverse student body. If you are a student with a disability who requires accommodations to achieve equal access in this course, please submit your Accommodation Authorization Letter from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) to me privately during my office hours or by appointment, preferably within the first two weeks of the quarter. At this time, I would also like us to discuss ways we can ensure your full participation in the course. I encourage all students who may benefit from learning more about DRC services to contact DRC by phone at 831-459-2089 or by email at drc@ucsc.edu.