

Course Syllabus

ECON 2, Summer 2022

Administrative information

- Instructor: Pedro H. Braz Vallocci
 - Office Hours: Wednesday, 10am-12pm at [this link](#).
 - Contact: pbrazval@ucsc.edu
- Lectures: TuTh 9am-12:30pm at [this link](#).
- TAs: Zhaoqi Wang and Giancarlo Barcia

Course description

This course examines how the overall level of national economic activity is determined, including output, employment, and inflation. It also explores the roles of monetary and fiscal policies in stabilizing the economy and promoting growth, with a focus on contemporary policy debates.

The course will be delivered *synchronously* (i.e. not pre-recorded). After each lecture, its video will be uploaded to Yuja. Please allow some time for the video upload. All the class announcements, assignments, and lecture slides will be posted on Canvas. It is the students' responsibility to check Canvas regularly for updates.

Attendance to office hours is highly encouraged. The TAs and I will hold two hours each of office hours every week. During office hours, we are able to help you closely with your questions.

Course material

Macroeconomics, by Acemoglu, Laibson, and List (2nd edition).

Teaching Assistants and Sections

There will be two TAs for this course, Zhaoqi Wang (zwang153@ucsc.edu, office hours tba) and Giancarlo Barcia (gbarcia@ucsc.edu, office hours tba). They are here to help you succeed in this course and will hold weekly sections and office hours.

Participation in sections is not mandatory, but highly encouraged, as the TAs will review concepts that we covered in the lectures.

Moreover, during each section, there will be a quiz that will check your understanding of the concepts that have been covered that day: make sure that you pay attention to the whole section to ace your quiz.

Grading

Components

- In-section and in-class quizzes: extra 5%
- Assignments: 20%
- Midterm: 30%
- Final (comprehensive): 50%

Policy

- There will be four assignments (problem sets) during the course. These assignments are meant to reinforce relevant concepts, practice methods, and to prepare you for the midterms and finals.
- All the assignments will be graded and the lowest grade will be dropped, *which is also meant to account for emergencies*. Late homework assignments will be discounted at 20% per day. If the student has an emergency that prevents them from turning in a problem set, this grade will be counted as the lowest grade.
- In-section and in-class quizzes will only account for a student's grade *only if* the student was present during the whole meeting (section or class) in which the quiz was held.

Tentative schedule

- Lecture 1 (Tu 06/21): Chapters 1 and 4 (The Principles and Practice of Economics; Demand, Supply, and Equilibrium)
- Lecture 2 (Th 06/23): Chapters 5 (Macroeconomic Aggregates)
- Lecture 3 (Tu 06/28): Chapter 6 (Aggregate Incomes)
- Lecture 4 (Th 06/30): Chapters 7 and 8 (Growth; Causes of Development)
- Lecture 5 (Tu 07/05): Midterm
- Lecture 6 (Th 07/07): Chapter 9 (Employment)
- Lecture 7 (Tu 07/12): Chapter 10 (Credit Markets)
- Lecture 8 (Th 07/14): Chapter 11 (Monetary System)
- Lecture 9 (Tu 07/19): Chapter 12 (Short-Run fluctuations)
- Lecture 10 (Th 07/21): Chapter 13 (Countercyclical policy)

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the cornerstone of a university education. Academic dishonesty diminishes the university as an institution and all members of the university community. It tarnishes the value of a UCSC degree. All members of the UCSC community have an explicit responsibility to foster an environment of trust, honesty, fairness, respect, and responsibility. All members of the university community are expected to present as their original work only that which is truly their own. All members of the community are expected to report observed instances of cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty in order to ensure that the integrity of scholarship is valued and preserved at UCSC.

In the event a student is found in violation of the UCSC Academic Integrity policy, he or she may face both academic sanctions imposed by the instructor of record and disciplinary sanctions imposed either by the provost of his or her college or the Academic Tribunal convened to hear the case. Violations of the Academic Integrity policy can result in dismissal from the university and a permanent notation on a student's transcript.

For the full policy and disciplinary procedures on academic dishonesty, students and instructors should refer to the Academic Integrity page at the Division of Undergraduate Education.