

Econ 1A: Introduction to Macroeconomic Analysis

Fall 2021 Syllabus

Part 1: Course Information

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Yan "Joni" Zhou

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 4:15pm - 5:45pm or by appointment.

E-mail: zhouy@csus.edu

Note: In the event a faculty member is not available during the semester for whatever reason, students will be contacted and advised how the course will proceed. This may include a change in instructor and/or modality.

Course Description

Introductory inquiry into the workings and interrelationships of the aggregate economic system. The primary focus is on total production and its distribution, employment and price levels, and the forces influencing them. Other considerations are the roles of government, the monetary sector, and related areas. **3 units.**

Class Time: TuTh 3:00PM - 4:15PM on Zoom	Section No: 7
Classroom: Web online Modality: FO (Instruction occurs synchronously, with students and faculty present via Zoom).	GE Area: D1A

To meet the GE writing requirement, you will work on written assignments and submit them online.

You are required to complete the following activities:

- Attend all Zoom lecture meetings.
- Complete online homework assignments (through Mindtap by Cengage) and online surveys (in Canvas)

- Participate in in-class exercises and group discussions
- Complete exams on time

Textbook & Course Materials

Required Text

- **Mankiw, N. Gregory, Brief Principles of Macroeconomics, 9th edition**
- You are required to pay Cengage for access to resources related to this book. **An e-book version of the textbook and online homework assignments will be available after you pay for an access code.** You may save money by purchasing unlimited access to all Cengage courses.
- If you have financial aid, you may have to purchase the access code through the Hornet Bookstore. Please check with the financial aid office to confirm.

Course Structure

- 1. You can use your Saclink account to login to the course from your [My Sac State](#) account and click on the Canvas button. You can also login directly through the [Canvas Login Page](#).
- 2. Lectures are presented in synchronous Zoom meetings. You will receive Zoom links for class meetings by the email you used for Canvas registration. You can simply click on the Zoom links to access our class. Description of Zoom netiquette expectations can be found at [Hornet Honor Code](#).
- Attending the class online during the class meeting time is required. Missing classes will be costly because you are missing important learning activities such as in-class exercises and discussions. Many of these activities cannot be recorded by Zoom because they are conducted in breakout rooms.
- 4. Lecture PPT slides (with missing parts to be filled out and used as skeletal notes) and other course materials are available directly in Canvas modules.
- 5. Midterm and the multiple-choice section of the final will be timed quizzes in Canvas. Written response section of the final will be turned in online as a Word file or PDF file. Homework is online through Mindtap.

Learning Outcomes

Macroeconomics is the branch of economics that deals with the economy as a whole. This is the broad field that focuses on economic issues you've seen discussed in the media: unemployment, GDP, inflation, and interest rates. Changes in macroeconomic conditions affect various gender, ethnic, and socio-economic groups differently. Policy decisions have important implications for these groups and the economy as a whole.

At the end of this course, you will achieve the following learning outcomes:

- be able to apply the unique perspective taken by macroeconomics in its study of society and human behavior,
- be able to understand and apply the inquiry methods used by economists
- be able to explain how key macroeconomic statistics are measured,
- be able to explain the determinants of economic growth and people's living standards,
- be able to analyze how macroeconomic policies affect the overall economic situation, and
- be able to understand the basic concepts related to open-economy macroeconomics.

Course Technical Requirements

- Internet connection (DSL, LAN, or cable connection desirable)
- To access this course on Canvas you will need a supported Web browser (Chrome, Firefox, Safari). To ensure that you are using a supported browser and have required plug-ins, please visit the ["Which browsers does Canvas support"](#) website.
- A PC/Mac is highly recommended. A smart phone's screen is too small for big tables/graphs and can make it difficult for you to work on assignments.

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Part 2: Tentative Topic Outline/Schedule

	Beginning Date	Topic	Reading
Week 1	8/31	Syllabus Lecture 1: Ten Principles of Economics	Chapter 1
Week 2	9/7	Lecture 1: Ten Principles of Economics (continued)	Chapter 1
Week 3	9/14	Lecture 2: Thinking Like an Economist	Chapter 2
Week 4	9/21	Lecture 3: Interdependence and Gains from Trade	Chapter 3
Week 5	9/28	Lecture 3: Interdependence and Gains from Trade (continued)	Chapter 3
Week 6	10/5	Lecture 4: The Market Forces of Supply and Demand	Chapter 4
Week 7	10/12	Lecture 4: The Market Forces of Supply and Demand (continued)	Chapter 4
Week 8	10/19	Midterm Review (Tuesday, 10/19) Midterm Exam (Thursday, 10/21)	
Week 9	10/26	Lecture 5: Measuring the Nation's Income	Chapter 5
Week 10	11/2	Lecture 6: Measuring the Cost of Living	Chapter 6
Week 11	11/9	Lecture 7: Production and Growth No class on Thursday Nov 11 (holiday, campus closed)	Chapter 7
Week 12	11/16	Lecture 8: Savings, Investment, & the Market for Loanable Funds	Chapter 8
Week 13	11/23	Lecture 9: The Basic Tools of Finance No class on Thursday Nov 25 (holiday, campus closed)	Chapter 9

Week 14	11/30	Lecture 10: Unemployment and its Natural Rate	Chapter 10
Week 15	12/7	Lecture 11: The Monetary System Review for Final Exam	Chapter 11
Week 16	12/14	Final Exam: 3pm-5pm Tuesday, 12/14. The multiple-choice section starts online at 3pm and ends at 4pm. The written response section is available one week ahead and due at 5pm on 12/14.	

Important Note: This syllabus, along with course assignments and due dates, are subject to change. It is the student's responsibility to check Canvas for corrections or updates. Any changes will be clearly noted in course announcement or through Canvas email.

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Part 3: Grading Policy

Homework Assignments	20%
Midterm	25%
Final (multiple choice section)	25%
Final (written response section)	15%
Class Participation (participating in discussions, in-class exercises, and online surveys)	15%

The total score is calculated as a weighted-average of the above scores. The total scores of all students are then curved to determine the grades. A typical scale after curving is as follows:

A > 93	A- 90~93	B+ 86~89	B 82~85	B- 78~81	C+ 74~77
C 70~73	C- 66~69	D+ 62~65	D 58~61	D- 54~57	F <53

Homework Assignments

1. If you have not worked on MindTap online assignments before, you must complete the practice mode assignment "How to Do Homework Assignments" before working on any graded assignments.
2. Two types of assignments will be available: **Practice** mode assignments and **Grade It Now** mode assignments. **Practice** mode allows you to learn and practice without affecting your grade. **Practice** mode assignments do not show up in the Grade Book (or, in case of the MindTap, the Progress App). I cannot see how you perform on practice questions but can see which questions you have attempted.
3. **Grade It Now** mode assignments must be completed by the due dates. Below is a quick summary of how to work on **Grade It Now** mode assignments on MindTap:
 - "In Grade It Now mode, the questions are randomized and allow you to attempt each question up to three times. After each variation, you can receive immediate grading and feedback by selecting the **Grade It Now** button. This will reveal the points you earned for each task as well as a blue region containing an explanation after each part

within the question. If you want to save your work but aren't ready for it to be graded, you can pause or move ahead to other problems by selecting the **Save & Continue** button. This allows you to come back to problems you are unsure of and resume working on them at any time before the due date.

- After you have completed an attempt by selecting the **Grade It Now** button and reading the explanations, you can continue on to the next question, or you can attempt another version of the same question by selecting the **Try Another Version** button. The different versions of a question cover the same concept or information, but with a different setup, example, or numbers.
 - If you select **Try Another Version**, be sure to complete the new version of the question, or you risk a zero on the attempt. If you save your work and don't complete anything, you'll receive a zero for that attempt."
4. Be sure to pay close attention to due dates of assignments. Start working on the assignments at least three days before the deadlines. These assignments are challenging and important both for your homework grade and your performance in the class. Please give yourself enough time to work on them and come to my office hours for help.
 5. **Late work policy: You will receive partial credit (80%) if you complete an assignment within 3 days after its deadline.** After that, you are not allowed to make up the assignment and will not receive any credit for it.
 6. Free tutoring services are provided by 'Smarthinking Online Tutoring' on the left of our Canvas course webpage.

Class Participation

Class participation includes two parts:

1. Participating in discussions and in-class exercises during Zoom meetings.
2. Completing online course surveys in Canvas outside class time.

Part 4: Course Policies

Build Rapport

If you find that you have any trouble keeping up with assignments or

other aspects of the course, make sure you let me know as early as possible. As you will find, building rapport and effective relationships are key to becoming an effective professional. Make sure that you are proactive in informing me when difficulties arise during the semester so that I can help you find a solution.

Understand When You May Drop This Course

There are typically no makeup examinations. Exam dates are given in Part 2 of the syllabus. All exam dates are fixed. If you cannot make the exam dates, please drop this class and choose a different section.

It is the student's responsibility to understand when they need to consider disenrolling from a course. See [Drop and Withdrawal Policy](#) for more details.

Commit to Integrity

As a student in this course (and at this university) you are expected to maintain high degrees of professionalism, commitment to active learning and participation in this class and also integrity in your behavior in and out of the classroom.

Definitions

At Sac State, "**cheating** is the act of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work through the use of any dishonest, deceptive, or fraudulent means."

"**Plagiarism** is a form of cheating. At Sac State, "plagiarism is the use of distinctive ideas or works belonging to another person without providing adequate acknowledgement of that person's contribution."

Source: Sacramento State University Library

Read more about Sac State's Academic Honesty Policy & Procedures here: [Academic Honesty Policy & Procedures](#)

Important Note: Any form of academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, may be reported to the office of student affairs.

Course policies are subject to change. It is the student's responsibility to check Canvas for corrections or updates to the syllabus. Any changes will be posted in Canvas.

Inform Your Instructor of Any Accommodations Needed

1. If you believe that you require disability-related academic adjustments for this class, please immediately contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities (SSWD) to discuss eligibility. A current accommodation letter from SSWD is required before any modifications, above and beyond what is otherwise available for all other students in this class will be provided. It is the student's responsibility to provide documentation of disability to SSWD and meet with a SSWD counselor to request special accommodation **before** classes start.

SSWD is located in Lassen Hall 1008 and can be contacted by phone at (916) 278-6955 (Voice) (916) 278-7239 (TDD only) or via email at sswd@csus.edu.

2. Your physical and mental health are important to your success as a college student. Student Health and Counseling Services (SHCS) in The WELL offers medical, counseling, and wellness services to help you get and stay healthy during your time at Sac State. SHCS offers: Primary Care medical services, including sexual and reproductive healthcare, transgender care, and immunizations; urgent care for acute illness, injuries, and urgent counseling needs; pharmacy for prescriptions and over-the-counter products; mental health counseling, including individual sessions, group counseling, support groups, mindfulness training, and peer counseling; athletic training for sports injury rehabilitation; wellness services, including nutrition counseling, peer-led health education and wellness workshops, and free safer sex supplies; violence and sexual assault support services. Most services are covered by the Health Services fee and available at no additional cost.
3. If you are experiencing challenges with food, housing, financial or other unique circumstances that are impacting your education, help is just a phone call or email away! The CARES office provides case management support for any enrolled student. Email the CARES office at cares@csus.edu to speak with a case manager about the resources available to you. Check out the [CARES website](#).
4. The University requires faculty and staff to report any personal disclosures of sexual misconduct including rape, dating/domestic violence and stalking to the Title IX Coordinator. Students who do not wish to report their experience to me or the Title IX Coordinator may speak to someone confidentially by contacting Student Health and Counseling Services.

Additional Campus Resources

- **Academic Resources**
 - [Remote Learning Resources](#) - includes checkouts for [laptops](#) (I can put in an order for you) and wifi hotspots, also support for off-campus internet access.
 - [Services to Students with Disabilities \(SSWD\)](#) offers a wide range of accommodation services that ensure students with disabilities have equal access and opportunity to pursue their educational goals.
 - [Academic Advising](#)
General education and graduation advising. They also provide career counseling services and can help you explore possible majors if you're undecided or looking to change.
 - [PARC](#) (Peer & Academic Resource Center - peer tutoring)
Sac. State students helping other students in a wide range of general education courses. You can sign up for one-on-one help!
 - [Reading & Writing Center](#)
English writing tutors (usually graduate students in English) helping students improve their academic writing.
 - [College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies \(SSIS\) Student Success Center](#)
Faculty and college advisors to help with both general education and major-specific questions about progress to degree.
- **Academic Policies and Information**
 - [Academic Calendar](#)
 - [Hornet Honor Code](#)
 - [Student Rights and Responsibilities](#)
- **Other Centers and Resources to Stay Connected**
 - [Dreamer Resource Center](#)
 - [Financial Wellness](#)
 - [Martin Luther King Center](#)
 - [Multicultural Center](#)
 - [PRIDE Center](#)
 - [Veterans' Success Center](#)
 - [Women's Resource Center](#)
 - Looking for something else? [Other initiatives and programs](#)