

## **Econ 1a - Course Description: Introduction to Macroeconomic Analysis.**

An 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. No Prerequisites. Satisfies D1a General Education Requirements.

All information regarding this class can be obtained through SacCt at:  
<http://www.csus.edu/sacct>

To access the course information you must be registered for this class and have an active saclink account. I will expect you to check your mail through SacCt at least twice a week.

We will also access an online learning system called MyEconLab ([www.myeconlab.com](http://www.myeconlab.com)) for learning materials, the textbook, homework, quizzes, and tests.

## **Warning:**

**This is an online course. All material, homeworks, quizzes, and tests will be done on a computer. There are no classroom presentations of the material. The only time we will meet is for tests, which you must take in person on campus. You will have access to the professor through email, phone, and online office hours.**

**If you are not comfortable with computers, self-motivated and self-directed, or able to learn in an online format, THIS IS NOT THE CLASS FOR YOU.**

**Here is what you will need to do:**

- **Get your book either online or in print**
- **Register for MyEconLab (see last page of syllabus)**
- **Read material and work through study plan and practice tests.**
- **Do homework and quizzes every week**
- **Do a test every other week (in person, on campus. If you cannot make it to these exams, contact me immediately)**
- **See the description of how to be successful in this class on SacCT.**

## **Macroeconomics**

Macroeconomics is the study of issues that affect the economy as a whole, especially unemployment, inflation, and economic growth. Macroeconomics asks such questions as: Why is there unemployment? Why is there inflation? What causes an economy to grow? Why do different economies grow at different rates? What policies will achieve satisfactory rates of unemployment, inflation, and growth?

## **Macroeconomic Topics**

Although macroeconomics is the study of the aggregate economy, we study how

individuals of disparate backgrounds are affected by the economy in which they operate. In particular we look at the following topics and how the decisions and experiences of individuals are altered under different circumstances.

- Markets: Supply and Demand
- Markets in a Global Economy
- Measurement in an Economy
- Long Run Economic Growth
- Short Run Economic Fluctuation
- Fiscal and Monetary Policy

### Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Understand what is economics and macroeconomics
- Apply the economic way of thinking to everyday decisions
- Discuss what makes economies grow over time and how this leads to increases in the standard of living for individuals
- Illustrate the role of policy in achieving macroeconomic policy goals
- Discuss the economy in a global context

### Reading:

- The Textbook for this course is ***Macroeconomics: Principles, Applications, and Tools*** (seventh edition) by Art O'Sullivan, Steven Sheffrin, and Stephen Perez.
- You will also need to purchase access to the MyEconLab course page to do your assignments and access several learning tools. See the SacCt course site for information about how to access the MyEconLab
- There are many ways to purchase this book at different prices.
  - A traditional book with the MyEconLab access code combined
  - A loose-leaf version with the MyEconLab access code combined
  - Online version purchased directly from MyEconLab ([www.myeconlab.com](http://www.myeconlab.com)).See notes below.

### Grading:

Approximately,

- 90 or above = some sort A
- 80 - 89 = some sort of B
- 70 - 79 = some sort of C
- 60 - 69 = some sort of D
- otherwise F.

### Homeworks (30%):

- You access and submit your homework through MyEconLab. I will drop your lowest homework score. Homeworks are intended to help you work through the material. You will have a chance to check your answers and redo the assignments.

### **Quizzes (10%)**

- There will be several quizzes that will check your understanding of the material. You will only have one chance to go through each quiz.

### **Exams (20% each):**

- There are three exams. You must come to campus to take the exam which will include both multiple choice and short answer questions. You will have a window of time within which you can take the exam, which will last for 90 minutes each. You will also be required to show a photo ID to take the exam. Exams are on the dates below:
  - Exam 1 (Chapters 1 – 6) – Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 to 11:30, ARC 1016
  - Exam 2 (Chapters 7-10, 12-13) – Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7:30 to 11:30, MND 2007
  - Exam 3 (Chapters 14-19) Friday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 to 11:30, ARC 1016

### **Policies:**

- If you need special accommodations for an exam please let me know as soon as possible. Cheating is not tolerated. You should be familiar with the University policies regarding Academic Honesty (<http://www.csus.edu/umannual/student/UMA00150.htm>). If you are caught cheating, the result will depend on the severity of the offense. At a minimum, you will receive a zero on the exam (which will not be dropped from the calculation of your course grade) and a letter summarizing the offense will be sent to Student Affairs. For extreme cases, you will fail the course and a letter summarizing the offense will be sent to Student Affairs.

Week	Topic	Exams
1	Ch. 1: Introduction: What is economics? Appendix: Using graphs and percentages	
1	Ch. 2: Key principles of economics	
1	Ch. 3: Exchange and markets	
2	Ch. 4: Demand, supply, and market equilibrium	
2	Ch. 5: Measuring output	
2	Ch. 6 Unemployment and Inflation	Exam 1 (Chapters 1 – 6) – Friday, June 8 <sup>th</sup> , 7:30 to 11:30, ARC 1016
3	Ch. 7: Long-run macroeconomics	
3	Ch. 8: Why do economies grow?	
3	Ch. 9: Aggregate demand and supply	
4	Ch. 10: Fiscal policy	
4	Ch. 12: Investment and financial markets	
4	Ch. 13: Money and the banking system	Exam 2 (Chapters 7-10, 12-13) – Friday, June 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 7:30 to 11:30, MND 2007
5	Ch. 14: Federal Reserve and monetary policy	
5	Ch. 15: Modern macroeconomics	
5	Ch. 16: The Dynamics of inflation and unemployment	
6	Ch. 17: Macroeconomic policy debates	
6	Ch. 18: International trade	
6	Ch. 19: International finance	Exam 3 (Chapters 14-19) Friday, July 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7:30 to 11:30, ARC 1016

Econ 1a  
Online  
Sacramento State  
Summer 2012

Professor Steve Perez  
916-278-6919, sjperez@csus.edu  
Office Hours: Online and via email  
Tahoe 3010

## How to Register and Enroll in Your MyEconLab Course

**Welcome to MyEconLab! Your instructor has set up a MyEconLab course for you.**

**Textbook:** *O'Sullivan/Sheffrin/Perez: Macroeconomics 7e*

**Course Name:** Econ 1a, Sac State, Summer 2012

**Course ID:** XLOW-M1Z3-201Z-7AN2

To join your instructor's course, please complete the following **two** steps:

1. Register for MyEconLab
2. Enroll in your instructor's course

### To register, you will need:

1. A valid e-mail address.
2. The access code that came with your MyEconLab Kit or a credit card or Pay Pal account if you wish to purchase access online.
3. The Course ID listed above.

**Please Note:** If you have an Access Kit that came with your book or that you purchased separately, the instructions may be different than what you are reading here. Please disregard those instructions and follow the steps below. The code in your kit is still valid for the version of MyEconLab that your instructor is using



### Step 1: Register for MyEconLab

1. Go to <http://www.myeconlab.com> and click the **Student** button, in the Register section.
2. Enter your Course ID: XLOW-M1Z3-201Z-7AN2
3. Choose to **register an access code or to buy access.**
4. Follow the instructions to set up your login and password for your course.

**Note:** Australian users, your registration steps may be different from above. Please visit [http://www.myeconlab.com/download/MEL\\_FDOC\\_Australia.doc](http://www.myeconlab.com/download/MEL_FDOC_Australia.doc) for alternate instructions.

### Step 2: Enroll in your instructor's course

1. Login to MyEconLab at <http://www.myeconlab.com> with your newly created Login Name and Password
2. Enter your course ID: XLOW-M1Z3-201Z-7AN2.

If you purchased access, visit the **Student Center** inside your Instructor's Course for additional purchase options.

**Note:** If you are taking two MyEconLab courses simultaneously you will need two separate login accounts.

**Need Help?** For assistance, please visit <http://www.myeconlab.com/support>.