

EC202-003 – Principles of Macroeconomics

Syllabus – Winter 2020

Tuesday/Thursday 10:00-11:50 am

General

Instructor: Peter Hulseman

E-mail: hulseman@pdx.edu

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays from 2:00-3:00pm. Also available by appointment.

Course Description

This course will cover the basics of macroeconomics under the CORE methodology (CORE is the name of the free online textbook). Topics will be investigated as such: identification of the phenomena (e.g. income inequality/climate change) -> examination of the evidence -> describing the phenomena with a model -> critically evaluating the model.

Ideally, upon completion of this course you will better understand macroeconomic trends and be able to critically evaluate economic theories. You will understand economic indicators, what they tell you and what they do not. You will understand how economists look at problems such as climate change, income inequality, inflation, unemployment. Finally, you will (hopefully) have a better understanding of what economics is all about, how it interconnects with psychology, history, and politics, and why you should care.

Expectations

It is strongly encouraged that you read the textbook and attend/view the classes. Relevant viewpoints will be treated with respect. Insults, discrimination, dishonesty, and cheating will not be tolerated. I do not accept late work or give out makeup exams.

Let me know about any disabilities that will affect your participation in this course. I will respect any accommodations authorized by the Disability Resource Center.

Textbook and Suggested Reading

The free online textbook is available here: <https://core-econ.org/the-economy/?lang=en>

Other suggested/supplementary reading will be suggested throughout the course, but are only suggested and by no means required.

Requirements

Take Home Exams (2) – 40%. Will be posted at least 3 days before the due date.

Homework/quizzes (6) – 60% I will take the top 6 of 8 for your score. These will be posted on D2L Friday Evenings and close by class time the following Tuesday.

Grading

Grade	Score
A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62

Tentative Schedule

Week 1—Introduction and Micro Review (January 5th and 7th)

Chapters: 1, 2

Week 2—Micro Review (January 12th and 14th)

Chapters: 8.1-8.6, 6, 7, 9 (Micro Review)

Week 3—Banks, Money, Credit, Rent-Seeking, Price-Seeking, and Market Dynamics (January 19th and 21st)

Chapters: 10, 11

Week 4—Markets, Efficiency, and Public Policy (January 26th and 28th)

Chapters: 11, 12

Week 5—Review and Midterm (February 2nd and 4th)

Review on the 2nd and Midterm due on the 4th

Week 6— Economic Fluctuations and Unemployment, Fiscal Policy (February 9th and 11th)

Chapters: 13, 14

Week 7—Inflation, Unemployment, and Monetary Policy (February 16th and 18th)

Chapters: 14, 15

Week 8—Crises and Economic Inequality (February 23rd and 25th)

Chapters: 17, 19

Week 9—Innovation and Public Policy (March 3rd and March 5th)

Chapters: 21, 22

Week 10—Personal Finance and Review (March 10th and March 12th)

Chapters: Personal Finance, Review

Final Exam: Due Tuesday March 16th by 4:00pm

Extra Help

The Graduate Assistant for this course is: Ashlyn Cenicola

E-mail: cenicola@pdx.edu

PSU Policies

Affirmative Action- Portland State University supports equal opportunity for all, regardless of age, color, disability, marital status, national origin, race, religion or creed, sex or gender, sexual or gender identity, sexual orientation, veteran status, or any other basis in law.

Students with accommodations approved through the **Disability Resource Center** are responsible for contacting the faculty member prior to, or during, the first week of term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval should contact the DRC immediately.

Academic honesty is expected and required of students enrolled in this course. Suspected academic dishonesty in this course will be handled according to the procedures set out in the Student Code of Conduct.