

Macroeconomic Principles

Unit of Study Outline

1. Unit of study information

This course is designed to introduce concepts of macroeconomics which is, apart from microeconomics, a subdivision of economics. Macroeconomics is a discipline deals with the economy as a whole: aggregate national income and output, government spending and taxation, money backing, monetary policy and international finance and trade. Macroeconomics deals with the overall level of output, its rate of growth and the level of prices in general.

2. Pre-requisite units and assumed knowledge

None

3. Learning aims and outcomes

The goals for the class are four-fold:

- Understand the methods and techniques used in modern macroeconomics.
- Understand basic growth theory models and models of business cycles and monetary policy.
- Develop some useful modeling tools with theories of macroeconomics.
- Understand the economic reforms many countries are undertaking.

4. Weighting of final grade

Attendance 10%

Participation 20%

Midterm 20% Final 20%

Homework/Quizzes/ Presentations 30%

5. Grading

| Α | 100-95 | A- 94-90 | B+ 89-87 |
|---|--------|----------|---------------|
| В | 86-83 | B- 82-80 | C+ 79-77 |
| С | 76-73 | C- 72-70 | D+ 69-67 |
| D | 66-63 | D- 62-60 | F 59 or lower |

6. Policies

Attendance Policy

Attendance in class is mandatory for all students enrolled in the course. Any excused absence must be discussed directly with the teacher. Being late to class within 15 minutes will be recorded as 1 LATE and being late over 15 minutes will be recorded as 1 ABSENCE. 3 LATES equal to 1 ABSENCE. 20% absences of the total teaching hours will cause an F (a failing grade) directly. However, students are still welcome to continue to attend class. F students have no right to drop this course anymore. Each unexcused absence will result in the lowering of the attendance grade by 1 point. Each excused absence will result in the lowering of the attendance grade by 0.5 point.

Participation Policy

Students should participate in their chosen classes actively and effectively. The Participation Grade is related to the Attendance Grade. Students' final attendance grade is the maximum of their participation grade.

Participation grade will be based on a variety of factors including, but not limited to taking part in class discussions and activities, completing assignments, being able to answer questions correctly, obeying class rules, and being prepared for class, frequent visiting your instructors and chatting in English during their office hours is highly recommended.

Policy on Assignments and Quizzes

Students should finish their assignments completely and punctually.

Assignment should be submitted on the date appointed by the instructor. If a

student cannot hand in the assignment on time, the reasonable excuse will be needed. Late assignments will receive a maximum grade of 80. An assignment that is late for 3 days will be corrected but receive 0.

You are recommended print all your assignment in the uniform format with the heading of Student's Pledge of no cheating. Written assignment or printed ones without the uniform heading of pledge will receive a maximum grade of 80.

It is mandatory to have weekend assignment every week. Any weekend assignment should be submitted on first class of next week.

It is mandatory to have holiday assignment on the public holidays. Any holiday assignment should be submitted on the first day on returning to school.

Students are required to do a multitude of presentations during the course.

Plagiarism

Any form of cheating is NEVER tolerated. Any student ONCE caught cheating on a quiz, assignment or examination will receive a 0 for that particular work of the whole semester. At the beginning of the semester the definition of plagiarism will be carefully explained. When any thoughts or writings of another person are used, the sources must be clearly identified (using quotes, bibliography and giving reference).

Classroom Policies

- 1. No eating, cellular phones, electronic dictionaries, smoking, chatting or drowsing in class.
- 2. Please speak in English rather than Chinese in class.
- 3. Students are not allowed to attend class without textbooks.
- 4. Stand up when answering questions.
- 5. Respect classmates' ideas, opinions, and guestions of your classmates.
- 6. You are welcome to visit the instructor's office in his/her office hours.
- 7. Take good care of the laboratory facilities. Do not splash water on the desktop.
- 8. When each class is over, hang the earphone on the hanger. Put the trash into the trash-bin.
- 9. All your classroom involvement, performance and after-class communications with instructor will affect your participation score.
- 10. All communications with the teacher must be in English, both inside and outside class time.

7. Texts and other recourses

Bade, Robin (2004) Foundations of Macroeconomics, 2nd ed., China Renmin University Press.

8. Teaching methods

Lectures, Discussions and Homework

9. Week by week topic and study guide

| Week 1 | Introduction |
|---------|---|
| | Global Economies |
| | The economic Problem |
| | Demand and Supply |
| Week 2 | GDP: A Measure of Total Production and Income |
| Week 3 | Jobs and Unemployment |
| Week 4 | The CPI and Cost of Living |
| Week 5 | Potential GDP and the Natural Unemployment Rate |
| Week 6 | Economic Growth |
| Week 7 | Finance, Saving and Investment |
| Week 8 | Mid-term Exam |
| Week 9 | The Monetary System |
| Week 10 | Money, Interest, and Inflation |
| Week 11 | Aggregate Supply and Aggregate Demand |
| Week 12 | Aggregate Expenditure |
| Week 13 | The Short-Run Policy Tradeoff |
| Week 14 | Fiscal Policy |
| Week 15 | Monetary Policy |
| Week 16 | International Trade and Finance |
| Week 17 | Final Exam |