ECON 101 Sect. 1 – Principles of Macroeconomics Syllabus

Instructor: Brian Rodriguez  Email: rodrig51@rohan.sdsu.edu

Lecture: Adams Humanities 3133
MWF 8:00am – 8:50am

Office Hours: Adams Humanities 4201
MWF: 9am – 10:55pm

Course Overview

This course will introduce you to the basic ideas and theories of macroeconomics as well as explore the real-world application of economic models. You will be introduced to the methods used to understand the economy and the tools used in attempt to manage it.

Learning Objectives

Students will leave this course with a better understanding of domestic economic issues. By the end of this course, students should be able to understand news reports and discuss current events in the following areas:

- The main ideas and principles of macroeconomics.
- The supply and demand model and market equilibrium.
- The significance of GDP and how it is calculated.
- The relationship between savings and investment in the loanable funds market.
- Labor force participation, unemployment, and the various types of unemployment.
- Implications of Fiscal and Monetary Policy.
- Personal finance and the stock market.

Required Text

1. Modern Principles: Macroeconomics, 2nd edition, by Tyler Cowen and Alex Tabarrok
2. Any supplemental material posted on the course’s Blackboard site.

Grading

Your overall grade will be determined by 3 exams and weekly homework assignments. Each exam carries a weight of 25% of your total grade. You overall homework grade will carry a weight of 25%.
Exams: 75%

Homework: 25%

Course letter grades will be assigned using the scale below:

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>100-90</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>89-88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-86</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>85-80</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>79-78</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-76</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>75-70</td>
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<td>C-</td>
<td>69-68</td>
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<td>D+</td>
<td>67-66</td>
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<td>D</td>
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<td>D-</td>
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<td>F</td>
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**Homework**

I will assign homework throughout the course. All assignments will be posted on Blackboard and in-class on the day it is assigned. The homework is designed to test your understanding of the material prior to taking the exams. All homework assignments will be completed using Econportal unless otherwise stated. Since homework accounts for 25% of your grade, it is important that you do all of the assignments before the due date and time. Doing the homework will not only help you do better on the test, but will also help boost your overall grade. Failure to complete the homework will make the tests more difficult for you and dramatically hurt your overall grade.

**Exams**

There will be four (4) scheduled exams through the semester: Three (3) midterms and the final. All exams are closed book/note and each student must take the exam at the scheduled state and time. There will be no make-ups. If you miss an exam, you will receive a zero. Since your final grade only includes three (3) exams, I will drop your lowest test score. This also means that the final is optional. If you are satisfied with your first three test scores, you can decline to take the final and your “zero” on the final exam will be dropped.

Each midterm exam and the final will cover topics discussed in class as well as material from the textbook and supplemental items. I suggest you attend lectures and take detailed notes as a majority of exam questions will come directly from lectures.

If the majority of students REGULARLY attend class, I MAY hold review sessions during the class meeting before an exam date. If I notice (at my discretion) that students are not coming to regular lectures, I will not hold review sessions.

**Academic Integrity**

Academic dishonesty and cheating is a serious offense. Any student suspected of cheating will receive a zero credit on the assignment or exam, and may face further disciplinary action from the university. Please familiarize yourself with the SDSU Standard for Student Conduct.

**Students with Disabilities**

If you have or acquire a verifiable (documented) disability that may require accommodation, please do not hesitate to let me know. You can find out what services are available on campus by contacting Student Disability Services, Suite 3100, Calpulli Center (619) 594-6473.
**Class Conduct**

It is important that we respect each individual during class time. Please refrain from behavior that may be disruptive to me or other students.

**Cell Phones:** Please turn off your cell phone or put it on silent before class begins. Please do not use your cell phone during class which includes but is not limited to, talking, texting, playing games, Facebook, or web browsing.

**Eating/Drinking:** Please do not eat in class. Sealed beverage containers are allowed.

**Personal Conversations:** Please do not have personal conversations during lecture. If you have a question, let me know and I will clarify any misunderstanding.

**Attendance:** I cannot expect every student to arrive early to every class, but please understand that when you arrive late you may disrupt the lecture. Please try to be quiet and respectful if you arrive to class late.