

P R I N C I P L E S O F M A C R O E C O N O M I C S

E C O 2 0 1 3 - 0 5

SUMMER SEMESTER 2015

INSTRUCTOR: JESSE WRIGHT

**FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND PUBLIC POLICY
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS**

BEL 204

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday; 8:00 – 9:15 pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION & LEARNING GOALS

Economics is the study of how people make choices due to scarcity of resources. This class will focus on the market system of economic choice. We will analyze how individuals, large groups of individuals, and countries involved in the market system make choices and how society's economic activities are organized. We will also investigate how government policy impacts the overall economy.

John M. Keynes, a distinguished economist, wrote “Economics does not furnish a body of settled conclusions immediately applicable to policy. It is a method rather than a doctrine, an apparatus of the mind, a technique of thinking which helps its possessor to draw correct conclusions.” As such, the general objective of the course is to provide you with analytical tools to apply to macroeconomic problems that you will encounter every day.

Specifically, this course is designed to help the student master an understanding of:

1. How economic thinking can lead to better decision making
2. How choices are influenced by changes in incentives
3. How a market economy can produce desirable outcomes
4. How a market economy can produce undesirable outcomes
5. How Gross Domestic Product is measured
6. How fiscal policy influences the performance of an economy
7. How monetary policy influences the performance of an economy
8. What policy makers can do to promote economic stability and income growth
9. The importance of trade as a source of economic progress
10. How international trade influences employment, output, and living standards

PREVIEW OF THE SEMESTER SCHEDULE

The following is the order in which we will proceed through the text. I will make every effort to follow this order in its entirety. However, adjustments may be needed during the semester and I will give you as much advanced notice as possible. My general approach is that exam dates will not be moved but the material covered for each may be revised as necessary.

Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17 and 18

CONTACT INFORMATION AND OFFICE HOURS

My office is located in 205 Bellamy.

My email is jtw03e@my.fsu.edu. When sending email, you **MUST** completely identify yourself which includes stating your full registered name and your class. For example, end with “John Doe, Macro 8:00” or “Jane Doe, ECO2013-05.”

You do not need to schedule an appointment during regular office hours- I will see students on a first-come, first-served basis during those times. You may come up after class, or email me to request an appointment outside regular office hours, and I will be happy to arrange a time.

My scheduled office hours will be:

Office room: BEL 205

Monday: 9:15am-10:00pm

Tuesday: 9:15am-10:00pm

Or by appointment.

PLEASE NOTE THE REALLY IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, July 13th: Midterm Exam, 8:00am – 9:15am, BEL 204

Monday, July 27th: Midterm Exam, 8:00am – 9:15am, BEL 204

Friday, August 7th: Final Exam 8:00am - 9:15am in BEL 204

It is your responsibility to monitor your gradebook on a regular basis. If you see a mistake, you must bring it to my attention within one week of the date the grade was posted.

All three exams will be administered in BEL 204 at the normal class time, 8:00am - 9:15am.

PLEASE NOTE THE REALLY IMPORTANT RULES

COURSE MATERIALS

Main textbook: *Macroeconomics, Private and Public Choice*, 15th edition by Gwartney, Stroup, Sobel, and Macpherson.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

I will assume that your attendance on any given day is an explicit signal that you are prepared for the topics to be covered, ready to answer questions (verbally and electronic), are committed to focusing on class, and will not be a distraction to your classmates. I respectfully ask you to not attend class on a day in which you are unwilling to fulfill that assumption.

I strive to create a classroom environment that fosters interactive learning. I do not expect you to remain silent the entire time. However, excessive talking or talking when it is obviously inappropriate is distracting. If you have any electronic device, make sure it is turned off and put away for the duration of class.

Any distracting behavior or use of an electronic device will result in the following actions. I may ask you to leave class. Failure to leave immediately and quietly will result in a one letter grade reduction from your final assigned grade at the end of the semester.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

I ask that you do your best to arrive to class on time and stay for the duration. I recognize the difficulty of getting around campus quickly between classes and respect your time but arriving late and/or leaving early are distractions. If you need to leave early, please tell me before class and sit in the back rows so that you may exit quietly. I reserve the right to revoke all in-class credit (if available) for the day if you leave early.

QUESTIONS ABOUT CLASS

You should check Blackboard and this syllabus BEFORE emailing me. If you email me with a question that I've already answered, I will simply respond by saying "please see..."

CLASS MEETINGS

We will not have class on Friday, July 3rd.

GRADING TOOLS AND SCALE

Grading Tool	Potential Points		Grade	Minimum Points
Midterm Exam 1	120		A	368
Midterm Exam 2	120		A-	360
Final Exam	160		B+	348
			B	328
			B-	320
			C+	308
			C	288
			C-	280
			D	240
			F	0
Total	400			

EXAM MAKE UP POLICY

Midterms: If you must miss a midterm *for any reason*, the points will be shifted to the final exam. If you miss both midterms, your final exam will be worth 400 points. I *strongly* advise you not miss any exams, as this will be the most difficult way to earn a good grade for the course.

Final Exam: According to FSU policy, the following are the only valid reasons for requesting a makeup: (1) Four or more final exams within a 24-hour period around our exam (Friday, August 7th from 8:00am to 9:15am in BEL 204); (2) Another exam scheduled at the same time as our exam; (3) A documented medical emergency; (4) Some other documented extraordinary event. If one of these apply to you, you must receive see me as soon as possible to schedule another time to take the exam.

Please note I do not use percentages to assign final grades nor do I round point amounts. If you earn 359.9 points then your grade will be a B+. Please do not beg for points at the end of the semester.

FINAL EXAM

The Final Exam is cumulative.

Friday, August 7th: Final Exam, 8:00am to 9:15am in BEL 204

The questions will be based on material that is covered both in class, handouts, activities, or notes posted on Blackboard.

MIDTERM EXAMS

You will only be allowed to take the exam on your scheduled day, absolutely no exceptions. Each midterm will cover material assigned before that exam (i.e. not cumulative).

The questions will be based on material that is covered both in class, handouts, activities, or notes posted on Blackboard.

Please mark your calendars with the following midterm exam dates.

Monday, July 13th: Midterm Exam, 8:00am – 9:15am, BEL 204

Monday, July 27st: Midterm Exam, 8:00am – 9:15am, BEL 204

EXTRA CREDIT

Some extra credit opportunities may arise. The type of assignments and the relative weights will be determined at my discretion. Any extra credit will be provided to the entire class; I will not provide extra credit to select individuals. No extra credit will be available after the last regular class day.

UNIVERSITY ATTENDANCE POLICY

Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should:

- (1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center; and
- (2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type. This should be done during the first week of class.

This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request.

For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the:

Student Disability Resource Center

874 Traditions Way

108 Student Services Building

Florida State University

Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167

(850) 644-9566 (voice)

(850) 644-8504 (TDD)

sdrc@admin.fsu.edu

<http://www.disabilitycenter.fsu.edu/>

In addition, I recognize that this class is not the only event taking place in your life right now. Other personal or professional matters may arise during the semester. If another life event inhibits your ability to perform in this class, please see me as soon as you can. Telling me about a situation after the semester is over leaves me very little flexibility to help you.

PROPER USE OF BLACKBOARD AND EMAIL

Since FSU is a public institution, email messages are subject to open access requests and other intrusions. I will not address any specific grading or other sensitive issues via email. Those issues must be addressed in person during office hours. Also, do not state your SSN on any message.

The class Blackboard site is restricted for use of class-related material. Please do not use the site for personal reasons such as selling property, advertising, or soliciting. Mass emails are especially suspect because FSU administrators and faculty may be listed as users of the site and receive those messages. Any files, including videos, are intended for educational use for this class only. Except for specifically designated files, the course material is subject to copyright laws and should not be downloaded and distributed.

LIBERAL STUDIES AT FSU

The Liberal Studies Program at Florida State University has been designed to provide a perspective on the qualities, accomplishments, and aspirations of human beings, the past and present civilizations we have created, and the natural and technological world we inhabit. This course has been approved as meeting the requirements for Liberal Studies Area III, History and Social Science, and in combination with your other Liberal Studies courses, provides an important foundation for your lifelong quest for knowledge.

ACADEMIC HONOR SYSTEM

The Florida State University Academic Honor Policy outlines the University's expectations for the integrity of students' academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Policy and for living up to their pledge to ". . . be honest and truthful and . . . [to] strive for personal and institutional integrity at Florida State University."

Florida State University Academic Honor Policy, found at:

<http://fda.fsu.edu/Academics/Academic-Honor-Policy>

FREE TUTORING FROM FSU

On-campus tutoring and writing assistance is available for many courses at Florida State University. For more information, visit the Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) Tutoring Services' comprehensive list of on-campus tutoring options - see <http://ace.fsu.edu/tutoring> or contact tutor@fsu.edu. High-quality tutoring is available by appointment and on a walk-in basis. These services are offered by tutors trained to encourage the highest level of individual academic success while upholding personal academic integrity.

SYLLABUS CHANGE POLICY

Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.