Principles of Macroeconomics  
ECO – 231 – 501  
Fall 2020 - Online

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Office Hours: Feel free to email me with any questions you may have. If necessary, we can set up a Zoom meeting to discuss any concepts.

**Course Description:** An introduction to the behavioral science of economics that focuses on the aggregate behavior of households, firms and the government. Topics covered include gross domestic product, national income, economic growth, unemployment, inflation, the business cycle, fiscal policy and monetary policy, and international trade.

**Program Learning Outcomes:** Program learning outcomes define the knowledge, skills, and abilities students are expected to demonstrate upon completion of an academic program. These learning outcomes are regularly assessed to determine student learning and to evaluate overall program effectiveness. You may access the program learning outcomes for your major and particular courses at [http://www.sfasu.edu/cob/ug-plo.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/cob/ug-plo.asp).

**General Education Core Curriculum Objectives/Outcomes:**
- **Critical Thinking (C):** To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- **Communication (V):** To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
  - This course includes instruction in visual communication.
  - Graphic modeling including its proper utilization and interpretation is an integral component of this course.
- **Empirical and Quantitative Skill (E):** To include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
- **Social Responsibility (S):** To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**
Upon successful completion of the course, the student should be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of:
- News relating to the economy as a whole as reported in such publications as The Wall Street Journal (C, S)
- The economic implications of changes in government fiscal or monetary policy (C, V, E, S)
- How interest rates are determined (C, V, E)
- The role of interest rates in personal and corporate decision-making (C, V, E, S)
- Critically apply economic concepts when participating as a citizen in a democratic society (C, S)

In particular, the students should be able to:
- Calculate equilibrium national income levels (C, V, E)
- Calculate and use various multipliers (C, E)
- Convert nominal values to real values (C, E)
• Use a graph to explain the impact of changes in fiscal and/or monetary policy on income and price levels (C, V, E, S)
• Use simple models of international trade to study the flow of goods between countries (C, V, E, S)
• Discuss the costs of protectionism within the context of such models (C, V, E, S)

Credit Hour Justification:
• This course is delivered in two ways: face-to-face or online. Face-to-face courses meet twice per week for a total of 150 minutes for 15 weeks. The online course runs continuously for 8 weeks. Students have significant weekly reading assignments. Students are expected to complete various graded homework assignments designed to reinforce relevant concepts regarding basic macroeconomic principles; they are expected to complete four graded exams during the semester. Students are expected to prepare for any in-class assignments or quizzes over the material covered in class or in the reading material.

• We will be using MindTap/Cengage in this course. This software is NOT optional. All of your homework assignments are completed through MindTap. The good news is it comes with an online e-book version of our text (if you don't want to get a hard copy of the textbook).
• When you sign into your course at D2L and access the course content, you will see a Table of Contents. In the Table of Contents, there is a module called “Cengage Learning Resources.” Go to that module and click on the link provided. It will provide direction as to how to register for MindTap.
• The materials required for this course are included in Cengage Unlimited, a subscription that gives you access to all your Cengage access codes and online textbooks for $119.99 per term, $179.99 per year or $239.99 for two years. No matter how many Cengage products you use, they are included in Cengage Unlimited, and the price stays the same.
• There is a grace period for payment of the course materials of about two weeks.
• If you encounter any problems with using MindTap, please contact their technical support team. They will help you. The MindTap technical support phone number is 800-354-9706.
**Course Requirements:** We will cover the following chapters in order: 1 – 4, 6 (pp. 111 – 120), 23, 24, 26, 28 – 30, and 33 – 34. Of course, the amount of material I cover will depend on how quickly we progress. Each chapter will have an Aplia problem set due at various times during the semester, and there are four exams.

**Course Schedule:** The course is divided into the five sections shown below. Please pay special attention to all the due dates. The due dates will not be changed to accommodate any technical or scheduling issues you may have, so plan accordingly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Chapters Covered</th>
<th>Various Due Dates</th>
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| Section 1 (8/24 – 9/2) | Chapters 1 – 4 | Chapter 1 MindTap HW – 8/27  
Chapter 2 MindTap HW – 8/27  
Chapter 3 MindTap HW – 8/28  
Chapter 4 MindTap HW – 8/31  
Section 1 Practice Tests – 9/1  
**Quiz #1 – 9/2** |
| Section 2 (9/3 – 9/14) | Chapters 6, 23, 24 | Chapter 6 MindTap HW – 9/8  
Chapter 23 MindTap HW – 9/9  
Chapter 24 MindTap HW – 9/10  
Section 2 Practice Tests – 9/11  
**Quiz #2 – 9/14** |
| Section 3 (9/15 – 9/24) | Chapters 26, 28 – 29 | Chapter 26 MindTap HW – 9/18  
Chapter 28 MindTap HW – 9/21  
Chapter 29 MindTap HW – 9/22  
Section 3 Practice Tests – 9/23  
**Quiz #3 – 9/24** |
| Section 4 (9/25 – 10/7) | Chapters 30, 33 – 34 | Chapter 30 MindTap HW – 10/1  
Chapter 33 MindTap HW – 10/2  
Chapter 34 MindTap HW – 10/5  
Section 4 Practice Tests – 10/6  
**Quiz #4 – 10/7** |
| Section 5 (10/8 – 10/14) | Study for your Final Exam | Final Exam – 10/14 |

**Grading:**
- **Quiz #1** Wednesday, September 2\(^{nd}\) 15%
- **Quiz #2** Monday, September 14\(^{th}\) 15%
- **Quiz #3** Thursday, September 24\(^{th}\) 15%
- **Quiz #4** Wednesday, October 7\(^{th}\) 15%
- **MindTap Homework** Due at various times 15%
- **Final Exam** Wednesday, October 14\(^{th}\) 25%
Class Policies:

Visit D2L Daily: Please try to log in to the course on D2L daily. I typically send the class emails about the material and reminders of upcoming due dates.

MindTap Homework: Each chapter covered with have a problem set associated with it on MindTap. Students will have the opportunity to try each problem set three times. The HIGHEST score is then selected. There are a total of 13 problems sets. I will drop your two lowest problems set scores when calculating your total problem set grade. If you miss an assignment, you will receive a zero on it regardless of your excuse. I cannot reopen MindTap assignments for one individual. I can only reopen them for the entire class. This is the primary reason that I drop your two lowest problem set scores. **THE WELCOME SECTION OF THE COURSE IN D2L PROVIDES INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO TAKE YOUR THREE ATTEMPTS. PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS.**

Practice Tests: Multiple choice practice tests are provided for each chapter. **THE PRACTICE TESTS ARE OPTIONAL, BUT YOU CAN EARN BONUS POINTS IF YOU COMPLETE THEM. YOU CAN EARN UP FIVE POINTS ADDED TO YOUR FINAL GRADE IF YOU DO THE PRACTICE TESTS.** For example, suppose I calculate your final grade, and you score an 85. I will then add your bonus problem score to the 85. For example, if you averaged 100 percent over all the practice tests (not just the problems you completed), your bonus problem score is 5 points, and you will receive a 90 in the class. If you averaged 50 percent, your bonus problem score is 2.5 points, and you will receive an 88 in the class.

Quizzes: Quizzes are multiple choice and, given the online nature of the course, you can use your textbook, notes, etc. The quizzes will open on the dates shown above at 6:00 am, and I will close them at 11:00 pm. Once you begin a quiz, you will have 75 minutes to complete it. You cannot stop the clock once you start the quiz, so make sure you have set aside 75 minutes for yourself.

Missed Quizzes: **THERE ARE NO MAKE-UPS FOR MISSED QUIZZES, REGARDLESS OF THE EXCUSE.** If you miss one quiz, I will allow your final exam to count for the missed quiz. In other words, your final exam will then be weighted as 40 percent of your grade in the course. You can only do this one time. You will receive a zero for each subsequent missed quiz, and each zero is weighted as 15 percent of your final grade.

Final Exam: The final exam is a cumulative exam. The final exam is closed-book and closed-note. It is proctored using a service called Proctorio. More information on the service will follow shortly. **HOWEVER, STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE A COMPUTER WITH A WEBCAM TO USE PROCTORIO. YOU CANNOT USE A TABLET OR A PHONE.** Finally, there are no make-up exams given if you miss the final exam.

Concluding Remarks: Economics can be a difficult course for some students. Please email me if you are unclear on any concept. I hope you enjoy the course and learn some macroeconomic concepts!
Student Academic Dishonesty (University Policy 4.1)

Abiding by university policy on academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on any assignment or exam; (2) falsifying or inventing of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were one’s own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when is at least partly the work of another person; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source; and/or (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author credit. Penalties may include, but are not limited to reprimand, no credit for the assignment or exam, re-submission of the work, make-up exam, failure of the course, or expulsion from the university. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_academic_dishonesty.pdf

Course Grades (University Policy 5.5)

At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic unit head, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F, except as allowed through policy related to active military service. If students register for the same course in future semesters, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average. Please refer to the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades.pdf.

Students with Disabilities

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Room 325 in the Human Services Building, 468-3004/468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Student Conduct (University Policy 10.4)

Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the full Student Conduct Code at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-conduct-code.pdf.) Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic, or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/ inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the iCare Early Alert
Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.