Intermediate Macroeconomics  
ECO – 351 – 001  
Fall 2020  
Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30 – 10:45, Room 324

Dr. T. Parker Ballinger  
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Office Hours: I will be in my office on Monday and Wednesday, 9:45 – 11:45, and on Tuesday and Thursday, 10:45 – 11:45. You may come by my office and visit me face-to-face. We will wear masks and social distance appropriately. You may also Zoom into my face-to-face office hours. I will also hold “online” office hours on Tuesday and Thursday, 2:30 – 4:30. During this period, feel free to send me any email if you have any questions.

Course Description: Overall performance of the economy with emphasis on the determination of national income, employment and price levels. Prerequisite: ECO 231.

Credit Hour Justification: The course meets twice per week for a total of 150 minutes for 15 weeks. Students have significant weekly reading assignments. Students are expected to complete various graded homework assignments designed to reinforce relevant concepts regarding advanced macroeconomic principles; they are expected to complete three graded exams during the semester.

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.

Student Learning Outcomes: The student will study the following areas:

1. The calculation of the key data of macroeconomics, with emphasis on gross domestic product, the GDP Deflator, the Consumer Price Index, and the unemployment rate.

2. Classical macroeconomic theory (the economy in the long run given flexible prices.) This includes study of the basic classical model of national income, classical monetary theory, and the natural rate theory of unemployment. The role of fiscal policy in the long run will also be studied, where applicable.

3. The tools of modern economic growth theory, including in depth study of the Solow growth model and an introduction to modern theories of endogenous growth.

4. Business cycle theory (the economy in the short run given sticky prices.) Students will study the IS-LM model and use it to explain economic fluctuations and the aggregate demand curve. The student will also learn to use fiscal and monetary policy in the context of the business cycle. Students will also study the short-run aggregate supply curve and the short-run tradeoff between inflation and unemployment (Time permitting).

5. The various debates in macroeconomic policy. Student will study how policymakers should respond to the business cycle and how policymakers should respond to budget deficits and debt. (Time permitting.)

Required Text: N. Gregory Mankiw, Macroeconomics, Ninth edition, Worth Publishers
Grading:  Homework  Due at various times  10%
Exam #1  Tuesday, September 29th  30%
Exam #2  Thursday, October 29th  30%
Exam #3  Thursday, December 10th  30%

Homework is assigned at various times during the semester. Exams are made available to students one week before the due dates shown above. Students will deliver all assignments to a dropbox in D2L.

Course Requirements: I plan to cover the following chapters in order: 2 – 12. Of course, the amount of material I cover will depend on how quickly we progress. We may cover fewer chapters during the course, or we may cover more chapters during the course.

- Exam #1 covers Chapter 2, Chapter 3, Chapter 4, and Chapter 5
- Exam #2 covers Chapter 6, Chapter 7, Chapter 8, and Chapter 9
- Exam #3 covers Chapter 10, Chapter 11, and Chapter 12

You may use your notes and textbook to answer the questions on exams. However, you are forbidden to discuss the exam or any potential answers on the exams with your classmates. Doing so constitutes academic dishonesty and, if caught, expect punishment. Please read the syllabus addendum on the last page for the definition of academic dishonesty. If you have any questions during the exam, you must speak with me and only me.

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.

COVID-19 Mask Policy: Masks (cloth face coverings) must be worn over the nose and mouth at all times in this class and appropriate physical distancing must be observed. Students not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be asked to leave the class. All incidents of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be reported to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Students who are reported for multiple infractions of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing may be subject to disciplinary actions.


Concluding Remarks: Economics is a very difficult course. Take detailed notes during class and ask questions if you are unclear on a concept. Read your text outside of class and compare your notes to the text. If there are any inconsistencies, figure out why either on your own or ask me. You cannot wait until the night before an exam to study and expect to perform well.
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 it 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.