Course and Instructor Information

Course Title: Principles of Macroeconomics  
Credits: 3  
Format: Online  
Prerequisites: None. Not open to students who have passed ECON 1200.

Professor: Prof. Derek M. Johnson  
Email: derek.johnson@uconn.edu  
Availability: My goal is a 24-hour response time to your e-mailed questions. If you haven’t heard from me within that time, please e-mail me a reminder. WebEx office hours are every Thursday from 1:00 p.m. -2:00 p.m. and by appointment.

Course Web page: https://lms.uconn.edu

Course Materials

Required course materials should be obtained before the first day of class.

Texts are available through a local or online bookstore. The UConn Co-op carries many materials that can be shipped via its online Textbooks To Go service. For more information, see Textbooks and Materials on our Enrolled Students page.

Required Materials:
Students are required to subscribe to the Myeconlab online resource and homework system. This online system includes an e-text version of Principles of Macroeconomics by Glenn P. Hubbard and Anthony P. O’Brien, Pearson Publishing, 5th Edition, 2015. HuskyCT will provide instructions for setting up and using myeconlab.

You can purchase an access card for Myeconlab and an e-version of the text (ISBN 9780133456578) from the UConn Co-op. You can also buy an access card bundled with a loose leaf paperback version of the textbook (ISBN 780133827194) if you wish to have a printed book in addition to the e-text. You can buy either version of the text at a discount directly from the publisher. This information is also provided in the myeconlab set up instructions.

Additional course readings and media are available within HuskyCT, through either an Internet link or Library Resources

Course Description

Economics 1202 is an introductory macroeconomics course. After the first week of the class, during which we consider fundamental economic concepts and examine how markets work, we will turn our attention to the province of “traditional” macroeconomics. The first stop will be how we measure the macroeconomy. From there we will survey and develop a framework to examine macroeconomic variables and issues such as inflation, employment, aggregate output and economic growth. We will also address macroeconomic policies and many public policies (such as globalization and European sovereign debt relief) and institutional issues in the context of macroeconomics and macroeconomic policy. The course will also consider the role and contributions of Adam Smith, Joseph Schumpeter, Karl Marx, John M. Keynes and several other “economic thinkers.” *We will also try to have some fun; or at least as much fun as macroeconomics can be (which, just so you know, I think can be a lot).*
Course Objectives

By the end of the semester, students should be able to:

Explain scarcity, opportunity cost, comparative advantage, specialization, and the role of marginal cost and marginal benefit analysis in economic decision making.

Identify the determinants of market supply and demand, demonstrate the effect of shifts in supply and demand on equilibrium price and quantity, and discuss the implications of varying levels of price sensitivity on economic outcomes.

Recognize how the macroeconomy is measured, including gross domestic product, inflation and unemployment and be able to identify the various types and causes of unemployment

Understand the determinates of long run economic growth and short run economic fluctuations through, among other things, the model of aggregate demand and supply.

Recognize the structure and importance of financial systems and the structure of and how the monetary system of the U.S. works.

Understand role, meaning and limitations of Fiscal and Monetary Policy

Explain how or why currencies appreciate and depreciate in the foreign exchange market and the significance for an economy and generally the impact of an “open economy” on fiscal and monetary policy.

Explain the economic consequences of tariffs and quotas, and how these trade restrictions impact an economy.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Like an Economist and Supply and Demand</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two: Measurement of the Macroeconomy</td>
<td>Dec. 31-Jan. 2</td>
<td>Chapters 8 and 9</td>
<td>Defining, measuring and understanding a nation’s gross domestic product. Defining and measuring unemployment, inflation and interest rates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three: Economic Growth and the Business Cycle</td>
<td>Jan. 3-6</td>
<td>Chapters 10, 11 and 13</td>
<td>Why are some nations wealthy and others not? Determinates of long term economic growth and short term economic fluctuations (such as the recession of 2007-2009)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four: Money, Monetary Policy and Fiscal Policy</td>
<td>Jan. 7-Jan. 10</td>
<td>Chapters 14-17</td>
<td>What is money? The connection between commercial banks and the supply of money; the Federal Reserve System and Monetary Policy; Fiscal Policy. Short term and Long term Phillips Curve.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Five: The International Economy</td>
<td>Jan. 11-15</td>
<td>Chapters 7, 18-19</td>
<td>International Trade and Tariffs; Exchange rates, Exchange rate regimes and Monetary and Fiscal policies within an international context.</td>
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**Course Requirements and Grading**

**Summary of Course Grading:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Components</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussions</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>25%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Discussions**

Students will participate in online discussions. Each student will be assigned to one of five groups and each group will be assigned to lead one discussion topic (for a total of five for the class.) After each group provides a summary “position” each individual student from the other nonleading groups will individually respond. I have attached summary outline sheet that has the due dates and more information. Exact dates and topics can be found in the detailed course outline as well. You will also find more complete information about the online discussions by going to "Discussions" under "Course Content" on the left-hand side of the course menu in HuskyCT.

**Myeconlab Homework**

Students must subscribe to myeconlab, a graded, online homework system. Students will have one chance per question and will receive immediate grading and feedback. Note that myeconlab also can and should be used for unlimited practice questions through its “Study Plan” feature.
Quizzes
Each module will include a timed quiz administered via Myeconlab. These will test your mastery of the week’s course content in a more “test like” condition.

Midterm
A timed and proctored midterm exam will be administered following the completion of module three of the course (January 6). The midterm will require the use of a traditional Internet Browser (e.g. Explorer, Chrome, Firefox) and students must schedule their exam using the ProctorU proctoring service (see below).

Final
A timed and proctored final exam will be administered following the completion of module five (January 15) of the course. The final will be comprehensive and include material from the entire course. It will also require the use of a traditional Internet Browser (e.g. Explorer, Chrome, Firefox) and students must schedule their exam using the ProctorU proctoring service (see below).

Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>GPA</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-86</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-62</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;60</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Due Dates and Late Policy
All course due dates will be identified in the class. Deadlines are based on Eastern Standard Time; if you are in a different time zone, please adjust your submittal times accordingly. Given that this class is accelerated (in time), I may change or extend dates accordingly as the semester progresses. All changes will be communicated in an appropriate manner.

Since this is an online course, and each assessment is available in a window of several days with clearly stated due dates, there will be no make-ups of missed assessments except under very unusual circumstances. Being away and having no Internet access is not a valid reason.

Feedback and Grades
I will make every effort to provide feedback within 24 hours and grades within 72 hours. Discussion grades should be available within one week of the due date. To keep track of your performance in the course, refer to My Grades in HuskyCT and Grades in myeconlab.
This course requires students to use the online service ProctorU for the real time proctoring of exams. In order to use ProctorU, you must meet certain technical, software, location, and identity verification requirements. **It is critical that you review these requirements and fully test the computer on which you will take your exam prior to the official start of classes and no later than the second day of the course. Please complete the following:**

- Follow the steps at ProctorU’s Get Started web page ([https://www.proctoru.com/portal/uconn/gettingstarted](https://www.proctoru.com/portal/uconn/gettingstarted))
- Sign up for your exam time slot at least 72 hours (3 days) prior to your exam’s scheduled time or you will be charged a late fee. The University of Connecticut will not pay for student late fees incurred as a result of your failure to meet this deadline.”

**BE SURE YOU CAN ACCESS PROCTORU FROM YOUR LOCATION (especially if you are not in the United States) AND HAVE THE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT:** 

**Test it out**  

**Scheduling your exams is a two step process.**

1. **Create an account with ProctorU at:** [https://go.proctoru.com/session/new](https://go.proctoru.com/session/new)  
2. **Schedule your exam, following these instructions:**  

If you have any problems creating an account, logging into ProctorU, or scheduling your exams, you can contact ProctorU Help at help@proctoru.com or 855-772-8678.

**Using WebEx for Online Meetings**

I am available by appointment to meet with you via WebEx, a web conferencing system. You will receive an email invitation from me to join a meeting at a designated time.

To join the meeting from the e-mail invitation:

- Click the link in the e-mail to join the meeting. This will launch the meeting information page. You will be prompted to enter your name and email address; then click the “join” button.
- You’ll see a message prompting you to participate in an integrated voice conference. Click yes.
- The microphone and camera icons next to your name control whether your instructor and others in the meeting can hear and see you. Click on the icons to toggle between audio on/off and video on/off.
- If you see the message “When it’s time, join your meeting here,” the meeting has not started.
- Make sure that you are not joining too early and pay special attention to the time-zone differences.
- Contact the host to see if the meeting has started. If so, refresh the page to see the latest status.

For further assistance:

- Verify that you meet the minimum system requirements.
- Join a test meeting to confirm that you’re able to successfully join a meeting.

**Student Responsibilities and Resources**

As a member of the University of Connecticut student community, you are held to certain standards and academic policies. In addition, there are numerous resources available to help you succeed in your academic work. This section provides a brief overview to important standards, policies and resources.
Student Code

You are responsible for acting in accordance with the University of Connecticut’s Student Code. Review and become familiar with these expectations. In particular, make sure you have read the section that applies to you on Academic Integrity:

- Academic Integrity in Undergraduate Education and Research
- Academic Integrity in Graduate Education and Research

Cheating and plagiarism are taken very seriously at the University of Connecticut. As a student, it is your responsibility to avoid plagiarism. If you need more information about the subject of plagiarism, use the following resources:

- Plagiarism: How to Recognize it and How to Avoid It
- University of Connecticut Libraries’ Student Instruction (includes research, citing and writing resources)

Copyright

Copyrighted materials within the course are only for the use of students enrolled in the course for purposes associated with this course and may not be retained or further disseminated.

Netiquette and Communication

At all times, course communication with fellow students and the instructor are to be professional and courteous. It is expected that you proofread all your written communication, including discussion posts, assignment submissions, and mail messages. If you are new to online learning or need a netiquette refresher, please look at this guide titled, The Core Rules of Netiquette.

Adding or Dropping a Course

If you should decide to add or drop a course, there are official procedures to follow:

- Matriculated students should add or drop a course through the Student Administration System.
- Non-degree students should refer to Non-Degree Add/Drop Information located on the registrar’s website.

You must officially drop a course to avoid receiving an “F” on your permanent transcript. Simply discontinuing class or informing the instructor you want to drop does not constitute an official drop of the course. For more information, refer to the:

- Undergraduate Catalog
- Graduate Catalog

Academic Calendar

The university’s Academic Calendar contains important semester dates.

Academic Support Resources

Technology and Academic Help provides a guide to technical and academic assistance.

Students with Disabilities

Students needing special accommodations should work with the university’s Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD). You may contact CSD by calling (860) 486-2020 or by emailing csd@uconn.edu. If your request for accommodation is approved, CSD will send an accommodation letter directly to your instructor(s) so that special arrangements can be made. (Note: Student requests for accommodation must be filed each semester.)

Blackboard measures and evaluates accessibility using two sets of standards: the WCAG 2.0 standards issued by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act issued in the United States federal government.” (Retrieved March 24, 2013 from Blackboard’s website)
Policy against Discrimination, Harassment and Inappropriate Romantic Relationships

The university is committed to maintaining an environment free of discrimination or discriminatory harassment directed toward any person or group within its community – students, employees, or visitors. Academic and professional excellence can flourish only when each member of our community is assured an atmosphere of mutual respect. All members of the university community are responsible for the maintenance of an academic and work environment in which people are free to learn and work without fear of discrimination or discriminatory harassment. In addition, inappropriate romantic relationships can undermine the university’s mission when those in positions of authority abuse or appear to abuse their authority. To that end, and in accordance with federal and state law, the university prohibits discrimination and discriminatory harassment, as well as inappropriate romantic relationships, and such behavior will be met with appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the university. Refer to the Policy against Discrimination, Harassment and Inappropriate Romantic Relationships for more information.

Sexual Assault Reporting Policy

To protect the campus community, all non-confidential university employees (including faculty) are required to report assaults they witness or are told about to the Office of Diversity & Equity under the Sexual Assault Response Policy. The university takes all reports with the utmost seriousness. Please be aware that while the information you provide will remain private, it will not be confidential and will be shared with university officials who can help. Refer to the Sexual Assault Reporting Policy for more information.

Software Requirements and Technical Help

The technical requirements for this course include:

- Word processing software
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- Internet access
- Myeconlab
- “ProctorU Technical Requirements”
- “ProctorU System Test”

This course is completely facilitated online using the learning management platform, HuskyCT. If you have difficulty accessing HuskyCT, students have access to the in person/live person support options available during regular business hours through HuskyTech. Students also have 24x7 Course Support including access to live chat, phone, and support documents.

Minimum Technical Skills

To be successful in this course, you will need the following technical skills:

- Use electronic mail with attachments.
- Save files in commonly used word processing program formats.
- Copy and paste text, graphics or hyperlinks.
- Work within two or more browser windows simultaneously.
- Open and access PDF files.

(add additional skills as needed)

University students are expected to demonstrate competency in computer technology. Explore the Computer Technology Competencies page for more information.

Evaluation of the Course

Students will be provided an opportunity to evaluate instruction in this course using the university’s standard
procedures, which are administered by the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness (OIRE).

Additional informal formative surveys may also be administered within the course as an optional evaluation tool.