

**ECO 106: PRINCIPLES OF MACROECONOMICS  
AUTUMN QUARTER 2019  
DEPAUL UNIVERSITY - DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS**

**Instructor: Karim Pakravan**  
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**Class Time: Tues/Thurs 11:20AM-12:50 PM**  
**Room: Levan Center 301**  
**Office: DePaul Center, Room 6135**  
**Office Hours: Tue/Thu 1:30-2:30 PM or by appointment**

Textbook:

Case, Fair and Oster: Principles of Macroeconomics, 12<sup>th</sup> Edition, (CFO)

**ISBN: 978-0-13-407-880-9**

Course Description:

Macroeconomics is the branch of economics that studies the behavior and performance of an economy as a whole. It focuses on the aggregate changes in the economy such as unemployment, growth rate, gross domestic product and inflation. The scope of macroeconomics include the following: National income, Money, Economic growth, Employment, Price levels.

While the course will be conceptually rigorous, its purpose is to provide a solid basis for the understanding of the functioning of the economy. Therefore, the approach will be an applied one, with strong reliance on the analysis of economic data and policies.

The Principles of Macroeconomics Learning Domain

Below are listed the learning goals and outcomes for the Principles of Macroeconomics Domain. Learning Outcomes (LO) associated with each goal will be detailed in D2L.

1. Students will use the economic way of thinking, key concepts and models to explain the functioning of the economy
2. Students will use the concept of scarcity in economics to explain trade-offs and choices, as well as analyze the sources of economic growth
3. Students will use the Price System to explain the allocation scarce resources to the production of goods and services, as well as a price-rationing one to allocate goods and services to consumers
4. Students will explain how the interaction among four groups—households, firms, government and rest of world—determines levels of aggregate output, employment and price level.
5. Students will use National Income and Product Accounting (NIPA) to measure aggregate output and national income of the economy.
6. Students will explain how economists measure unemployment and inflation and analyze their impact on the individual and the economy in both the short and long term
7. Students will understand how the short-term fluctuations of the economy, as well as the sources of long-term growth are the keys to the formulation of economic policies and business strategies
8. Students will explain the factors determining the level of aggregate output (GDP) and its fluctuations, as well as those affecting the price level and unemployment. Students will identify government policy measures designed to smoothen economic fluctuations and reduce unemployment and inflation.
9. Students will identify the instruments of fiscal policy and explain its scope and effectiveness.

10. Students will define money, explain the process of money creation and explain the role of the Federal Reserve Bank (central bank) and markets in conducting monetary policy and setting interest rates

Assessment of Students:

The assessment of students will be based on three non-cumulative exams (weeks 4, 7 and 11), Formative Practice Tests (FPT, aka self-assessment), class participation (in the form of class projects and presentations), as well as participation, with the following distribution

Exams: 90% (30% each)

FPT: 10%

Participation Bonus points: 3%

Participation:

Class discussion is at the core of learning. Students will be assigned readings and other materials, and we will also show topic-related videos in class. Students are expected to read the assigned material and be prepared for engage with the instructor, as well as other students. This will be one element of class participation evaluation. In addition, students will be asked to turn in homework or reading assignments synopses.

Approximate Course Grading Scale:

	B+ = 88 - 89%	C+ = 78 - 79%	D+ = 68 - 69%
A = 92 - 100%	B = 82 - 87%	C = 72 - 77%	D = 60 - 67%
A- = 90 - 91%	B- = 80 - 81%	C- = 70 - 71%	F = 0 - 59%

*However, these are broad guidelines. There is not explicit curving, and the instructor maintains discretion about assigning letter grades.*

**Formative Practice Tests (FPT)**

- There will be a Practice test assigned in D2L for each chapter covered in the course.
- The due dates for the FPTs are listed in D2L.
- Your work on these Tests will be collected and looked at for evidence of learning in terms of completion accuracy and timeliness. One purpose of these tests is to provide an opportunity for feedback (formative assessment) so you can improve upon your weak areas before the actual Exams take place. These FPTs will be worth up to 10% of your final course grade.

*Finally, please note that you will need to make a copy of your own FPTs since I will not be returning them to you. I will, however, make the keys to the FPTs available after I have collected them.*

Academic Integrity

Work done for this course must adhere to the University Academic Integrity Policy, which you can review in the Student Handbook or by visiting Academic Integrity at DePaul University (<http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu>). Plagiarism in any assignment, or receiving help from others in the essays, will result in a zero for the grade associated with that written assignment as well as notification of the infraction to the Driehaus School of Business.

August 26, 2019

### Makeup Exams

In cases of severe illness or other extreme circumstances, a student may request a makeup exam. You must inform me of and obtain permission for the absence prior to the exam time, and provide appropriate documentation. I reserve the right to investigate the legitimacy of the request and to assess a grade penalty, or to award a grade of zero if proper procedure is not followed. Note: frequent absence is not a legitimate reason for requesting a makeup exam (nor is failing the class) or for requesting an incomplete grade for the course.

### Classroom Courtesy

Please remember that you are participants during lecture hours. In order to get the most out of each class, you should read the material we will cover prior to coming to class (see the schedule at the end of the syllabus) and bring a calculator so you can participate in in-class problem solving.. Additionally, you should plan to arrive on time and remain throughout the lecture to avoid disrupting the class. Texting, messaging, cell phone calls or surfing the internet are not allowed during class. Students doing so will be requested to leave the class, resulting in one automatic absence.

Students are expected to behave professionally. This includes attending class and not engaging in unrelated and/or disruptive activities during class. I will check attendance, and missing more than 1/3 of classes will lead to a loss of one letter grade on your final score. Missing more than half will result in an automatic F grade. Perfect attendance will add 2 points (2%) to your class-grade. Students having a compelling reason for missing class should inform me in advance by e-mail. The classroom is a place for learning. This is best achieved by asking questions, thinking out loud, and even making mistakes. Please treat all of your classmates with respect - we will all struggle at some point or another. If anyone has concerns about the behavior of other people in the class, come see me right away.

### Desire2Learn (D2L)

All class material will be posted on D2L. All communication will be through D2L, although I will make announcements in class and occasionally send emails as needed. "I DIDN'T CHECK D2L" will not be a valid excuse for missing announcements or assignments

### Timeliness

All assignments are due as posted in this syllabus. If you foresee a problem with a due date (or midterm date), see me in advance and I may grant you an extension. All unapproved late submissions will be marked down.

### Liberal Studies Requirement:

Student work in this course will fulfill the Social Behavioral and Cultural Inquiry Learning Outcomes and Writing Expectations of DePaul's Liberal Studies Program. Students will analyze and reflect upon arguments about the contemporary world using economic theory, methods, and

evidence. Students will also analyze economic interdependencies between society and its individuals.

#### Center for Students with Disabilities

Students who feel they need an accommodation based on a disability should contact the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) to receive reasonable accommodations based on their needs. The CSD is located in Lewis 1420 (312.362.8002) for support and additional services

#### Instructor Availability

My goal is to make every student succeed in their learning journey. I am available during office hours and by appointment, as well as by email during weekdays (8:00 M to 6:00 PM). Students are encouraged to use office hours and other meetings to address class related and learning problems early.

#### Approximate class schedule

*Week One: Introduction to Economics*

CFO Ch. 1

*Week Two/Three: Supply, Demand and Markets*

CFO Ch. 2-4

*Week Four/Five: Key Macroeconomic Concepts I: Introduction to Macroeconomics, Measuring Aggregate Output*

CFO Ch. 4-5

*Week Six: Key Macroeconomic Concepts II: Unemployment, Inflation and Long-term Growth*

CFO: CH. 7

*Week Seven: Aggregate Supply and Demand*

CFO Ch.8

*Week Eight/Nine: Fiscal Policy*

CFO Ch. 9-10

*Week Ten: Money, Interest Rates and Monetary Policy*

CFO Ch.17

#### Exam Schedule

Exam 1: Week Four

Exam 2: Week Seven

Exam 3: Week Eleven