

DePaul University  
Driehaus College of Business  
Kellstadt Graduate School of Business  
ECO 502 – Analysis of Business Conditions  
Syllabus - Online Sections 101A/B and 102  
Autumn 2020

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Textbook: Required custom text will be available through D2L.

Evaluation: Grades are based on: 2 essay assignments totaling 100 points and 5 homework assignments totaling 100 points.

Essay Assignments: These are two-part written assignments, posted on D2L, asking you to apply the material from the video lectures and readings. Each part will be worth 25 points, or a total of 50 points per assignment. When grading I will be looking for two things in general: technical correctness of the material; and insights and examples that demonstrate your understanding of the material. Of course this means the grading of the essays is subjective, but such subjective evaluations are my job and my prerogative as professor. The grade “A” represents a “superior performance”, “B” represents a performance that is “above average”, *etc.* Grammar, spelling, creativity, and insight are all considered in the evaluation, in part because the quality of your writing will affect how convincingly you present the material and because effective writing is what you will be expected to do in the world of business. **It is assumed that you will work on these assignments alone, without help from other persons.** The posting and due dates for these assignments are included in the course calendar.

Homework Assignments: These five twenty-point assignments involve answering questions related to the material in the text chapters, video lectures and video-embedded Power Point slides. The post and due dates for the homework assignments appear on the course calendar. The grading policy on these is identical to one for the essays and again **it is assumed that you will work on these assignments alone, without help from other persons.** I will post answers to the questions for each assignment the day after the assignment is due to provide feedback on what I was looking for. Obviously, I am unable to award credit for any assignments turned in after the answers are posted.

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 or receiving help from others in the essays or homework assignments will result in a zero for the grade associated with that written assignment as well as notification of the Kellstadt Graduate School of Business of the infraction.

#### 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%

#### Course Topics

- A. The Economic Way of Thinking and the Macroeconomy
  - Source Materials: Text: Chapter 1. Video Lectures: A Primer on Economic Terms and Institutions; The Economic Way of Thinking
- B. An Introduction to Key Macroeconomic Indicators
  - Source Materials: Text: Chapter 2. Video Lectures: GDP Defined; General Prices and Inflation; The Labor Market
- C. Core Tenants of Applied Macroeconomics and the Business Cycle
  - Source Materials: Text: Chapters 3 & 4. Video Lectures: Core Principles of Applied Macro; Business Cycles
- D. Fiscal Policy and Interest Rates
  - Source Materials: Text: Chapters 5 & 6. Video Lectures: Fiscal Policy; Interest Rates
- E. Monetary Policy
  - Source Materials: Text: Chapter 6. Video Lectures: The Fed; Monetary Policy