

ECO 502_270 – Selected Topics in Macroeconomics
winter 2024
Syllabus

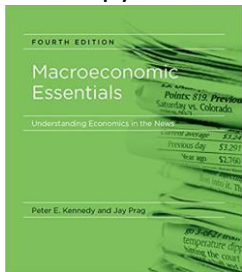
Professor: Timothy P. Opiela
Office Hours: by appointment on Zoom
E-mail: topiela@depaul.edu

Structure of the Course:

This course is labeled as “Online-Asynchronous”. This means we will have **no online Zoom** lecture meetings. The course is organized to be self-study using D2L. D2L contains all information you need for the course: (1) course outline and organization, (2) Audio Power-Point-Presentation lectures for each topic, and (3) assignments. I will communicate with all of you through email. If you have questions, please email them to me. Write clearly and concisely. Your email exchanges with me will be good writing practice for you. In the event that your questions cannot be addressed through email, I will arrange a Zoom meeting with you.

Textbook:

Macroeconomic Essentials, Kennedy-Prag, 2017. You can buy this on Amazon for about \$50. A hard copy will be available through the DePaul bookstore soon. Required reading.



ISBN-13: 978-0262533348

ISBN-10: 0262533340

Evaluation:

Grades are based on two timed multiple-choice exams (30% of your course grade for the first exam and 50% for the second exam) and five homework assignments (4% of your course grade for each assignment – 20% total). Because this is an online course, I will be more generous in grading than I would in a face-to-face class.

Exams:

There will be two multiple-choice exams. The first exam (mid-term exam) opens on D2L from 24JAN at 7 am and closes on 01FEB at 9 pm. This exam will be composed of 40 multiple-choice exam questions. It will be a timed exam. You will have 120 minutes to complete it. Your grade for this exam, in percentage terms is $[(\text{number correct})/40] \times 100$.

The final exam is available on D2L from 07FEB at 7 am and closes on 15FEB at 9 pm. This exam will be composed of 60 multiple-choice questions. It will be a timed exam. You will have 180 minutes to complete it. Your grade for this exam, in percentage terms is $[(\text{number correct})/60] \times 100$.

Exam material is primarily from my online Audio/Power-Point and in-class lectures. Details and applications pertaining to the concepts in those lectures are in your readings and in the news. Make sure you understand both the lectures and the readings well before each exam. While I will not make the final exam comprehensive, per se, it will include concepts that build on material from the beginning of the class.

You are required to be online for the exams two times during the course. I will adhere strictly to the two exam dates and times. I have set up the exams to give you over 2 weekends before each exam opens. These dates and times give you enough options to find a time when the exam does not interfere with work hours or family time. Make sure you free-up your schedule to attend these exams online. I do not want to hear that you forgot about the dates as to when the exams are open. You have 10-day intervals to take each exam.

****It is assumed that you will work on your exams alone, without help from other persons.**

Online Assignments:

Each assignment will consist of questions from *Media Exercises* and questions from *Numerical Exercises* in the textbook. These questions require you to apply the material from the readings. I will give you an A (95%) on each of your assignments if it is submitted on time. Late assignments are not accepted. If you do not complete the assignment by the due date you automatically receive an F (recorded as a grade of 0% for that assignment)

Assignments are to be submitted on D2L by 11:59 pm on the following dates:

Week 1 assignment is due 14JAN.

Week 2 assignment is due 21SEP.

Week 3 assignment is due the day before the mid-term exam opens [23JAN].

Week 4 assignment is due 28JAN

Week 5 assignment is due the day before the final exam opens [06FEB].

****THESE DATES ARE NOT REGULARLY-SPACED SO PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO THEM****

Solutions for assignments 1-3 will be posted before the mid-term opens. Solutions to assignments 4-5 will be posted before the final exam opens. The 3rd and 5th assignment due dates come up more quickly, but are set to allow you to view the solutions before the exams. Please get these in on time. You will automatically get a 95% on each of them. This grade will not show up on D2L. So do not worry about the grade if you have submitted your assignments.

Lecture Materials:

This is a five-week course. The quarter for this course officially starts on Saturday, 06SEP. Because you now have all materials online two weeks before that start dates, you have sufficient time to listen to lectures online, buy the text and read the text. Week 1 will include 3 audio-PP lectures. The Week 1 lectures are a little longer than subsequent lectures because of the extensive material we need to start the course. This course officially ends on 11FEB. The online final exam is available from 07FEB until 15FEB (4 days after the course ends to allow you more time if you want it).

Computation of your Course Grade:

$$\text{Final Course Grade} = (0.3)(1^{\text{st}} \text{ exam grade in } \%) + (0.5)(2^{\text{nd}} \text{ exam grade in } \%) + \sum_{n=1}^5 [(0.04)(\text{nth assignment grade in } \%)]$$

Grading Scale for Course Letter Grade:

A = 93 - 100%	C+ = 77 - 79%
A- = 90 - 92%	C = 73 - 77%
B+ = 87 - 89%	C- = 70 - 73%
B = 83 - 87%	D+ = 67 - 69%
B- = 80 - 83%	D = 60 - 67%
	F = 0 - 60%

You can talk with the Graduate Dean's Office about taking this course Pass/Fail

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 will result in an F grade associated with that assignment or exam.

Special Services:

Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on a disability should contact me privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential. Contact me as early as possible in the quarter (preferably, within the first week of class). Also, make sure that you have contacted:

- **PLuS Program (for LD, AD/HD)**
 - <http://studentaffairs.depaul.edu/plus/> (773) 325-1677
 - DePaul Student Center, 2250 N. Sheffield Ave, SC 370, Chicago, 60614
- **The Office for Students with Disabilities (for all other disabilities)**
 - <http://studentaffairs.depaul.edu/studentswithdisabilities/osd@depaul.edu>, (773) 325-1677
 - (773) 325-7296, Lewis Ctr, 25 E. Jackson, Room 1400, Chicago 60604

Course Topics by Week

1. Week 1 [08-14JAN]

Introduction to Basic Microeconomics. (2) Macroeconomic Variables

Lecture Notes 1, 2 & 3

Reading: Chapters 2, 3, 4 and Chapter 10 (sections 10.1 and 10.2)

2. Week 2 [15-21JAN]

(1) Putting Aggregate Demand and Supply together. (2) Monetary Policy, Part I

Lecture Notes 4 & 5

Reading: Chapters 5, 6, 7 and 8

3. Week 3 [22-28JAN]

Monetary Policy, Part II

Lecture Notes 6 & 7

Reading: Chapters 9&10

Mid-term Exam [24JAN at 0700 to 01FEB at 2100 on D2L under "MORE" and "QUIZZES"]

[Covers material in Weeks 1-3]

4. Week 4 [29JAN-04FEB]

Government and Fiscal Policy

Lecture Notes 8 & 9

Reading: Chapter 11,

5. Week 5 [05-11FEB]

Use of Monetary and Fiscal Policies (applications)

Lecture Notes 10 & 11

Reading: Chapter 11, 12 and Review Chapter 10

Final Exam [07FEB at 0700 to 15FEB at 2100, on D2L under "MORE" and "QUIZZES"]

[Covers material in Weeks 4-5]