

# Principles of Macroeconomics

## ECO121



Sections: **1 and 2**

Term: **Spring 2021**

Department: **School of Economics**

Credit: **3 Hours**

Meeting time for Section 1: **Tue, Thu 3:30PM-4:45PM Nutting Hall 100**

Meeting time for Section 2: **Tue, Thu 12:30PM-1:45PM Neville Hall 100**

Learning Modality: **Hybrid**

Instructor: **Dr. Thomas F. P. Wiesen**

Office: **Winslow Hall 207C**

Office Hours: **By appointment via Zoom or in-person if need be** (afternoons/evenings usually available)

Professor Email: **thomas.wiesen@maine.edu**

TA: **Kristen Settele (kristen.settele@maine.edu) & Brooke Camire (brooke.camire@maine.edu)**

## Class Details

### Textbook and Materials

6<sup>th</sup> edition of Macroeconomics by Krugman and Wells (MacMillan Learning / Worth Publishers)

Link to Redshelf: <https://redshelf.com/book/1676199/macroeconomics-1676199-9781319320164-paul-krugman-robin-wells>

Link to Publisher: <https://www.macmillanlearning.com/college/us/product/Macroeconomics/p/1319245269>

If you want to do well in the class, you should purchase access to the book. This semester, we will be using the sixth edition of Macroeconomics by Paul Krugman and Robin Wells. This is the newest edition of the textbook and includes extensive coverage of the macroeconomic impacts and policy responses to the coronavirus pandemic.

I strongly recommend students buy access to the eBook, as opposed to purchasing the physical print textbook. There are two reasons for this recommendation. First is the cost savings; 120-day access to the eBook is \$68.63 on Redshelf, but the paperback textbook is \$289.99. Second is that students can get the eBook now on Redshelf, but students would have to wait until late January to order the physical print textbook and then wait for it to be delivered. This newest sixth edition is so new that physical print copies are not yet available until the start of the semester!

Please bring a laptop or tablet to class, as these will be necessary to participate in the group activities. The face-to-face classes will primarily consist of group activities that make heavy use of Google's Jamboard. I believe you can technically access Google's Jamboard with a cell phone, but I strongly recommend against using a cell phone since your cell phone screen is likely to too small and awkward to use for the purposes of the group activities.

### Course Content

Ch1 First Principles

Ch2 Economic Models: Trade-offs and Trade

Ch3	Supply and Demand
Ch5	International Trade
Ch6	Macroeconomics: The Big Picture
Ch7	GDP and the CPI: Tracking the Macroeconomy
Ch8	Unemployment and Inflation
Ch10	Savings, Investment Spending, and the Financial System
Ch12	Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply
Ch13	Fiscal Policy
Ch14	Money, Banking, and the Federal Reserve System
Ch15	Monetary Policy

### **Course Details according to the UMaine Course Catalog**

Principles of macroeconomics and their application to modern economic issues and problems. Analysis of national income and employment; fluctuations in national income; monetary and fiscal policy; control of inflation, unemployment, and growth; and international aspects of macroeconomic performance.

Traditional A-F grading. No prerequisites or corequisites.

### **What to Expect in Class**

This course will utilize a hybrid learning modality. This means that part of the learning/instruction will be online, and a part of the learning/instruction will occur in a live face-to-face classroom on campus.

The online component will consist of mandatory video lessons and recommended textbook readings. Students should watch these video lessons before coming to the face-to-face class according to the course calendar in this syllabus. Note that homework and tests will also occur online through Brightspace. To reiterate, students are required to watch the video lessons; if you don't, you will likely not pass. If you want to excel in the class, then you should also do the textbook readings.

The face-to-face component will consist of group activities done in class, which allows students to practice what they learned in the video lessons and textbook readings. The class will be split up into two cohorts: a Tuesday cohort and a Thursday cohort. The Tuesday cohort will attend the live class on Tuesdays and the Thursday cohort will attend the live class on Thursdays according to the course calendar. Note that students in the Thursday cohort will not attend class remotely on Tuesday or vice versa. The group activities done in class will be single day activities. The group activity done on Tuesday will be the same activity done on Thursday.

In "normal times," these group activities would be done with students in close proximity to one another, as students would huddle around a single group worksheet. Obviously, this would be unsafe due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to maintain safe social distancing, students will utilize Google's Jamboard. Google's Jamboard is an interactive whiteboard, which students can share with one another (similar to Google Docs or Google Sheets). This will allow students to cooperate and contribute to the Jamboard all while keeping a six-foot distance. Because we will be using Google's Jamboard in class, students should bring a laptop or tablet to class.

## Grades

The class will be out of a total of 1000 points and will be divided up by face-to-face activities, homework assignments on Brightspace, three tests on Brightspace, and one cumulative final exam on Brightspace with the following weights.

Online Homework	200 points	20%
In-class Activities	120 points	12%
Online Test 1	130 points	13%
Online Test 2	130 points	13%
Online Test 3	130 points	13%
Online Final Exam	290 points	29%

There will be twelve homework assignments, one for each chapter covered: Ch1, Ch2, Ch3, Ch5, Ch6, Ch7, Ch8, Ch10, Ch12, Ch13, Ch14, and Ch15. All of these online homework assignments are required, none will be dropped. Different homework assignment will have different point values depending on how many questions are in the homework assignment. No late homework will be accepted unless there is an extenuating medical or personal emergency.

There will be eight in-class activities on the following topics: Production Possibility Frontiers, Supply & Demand, International Trade, Gross Domestic Product, Unemployment and Inflation, the Market for Loanable Funds, Aggregate Supply & Aggregate Demand, and Monetary Policy. The six highest activities from the eight total will count towards your grade. In other words, the lowest two activities grades will be dropped. Each activity will be worth 20 points. Because the lowest two of the eight activity grades are dropped, no student can earn more than 120 points for the activities. If a student misses an activity day, the student must make up the activity within 2 days (48 hours) of when the activity was supposed to be done. But recall, two activities are dropped either way.

To reiterate, students can make up missed activities (within 2 days), but late homework assignments are not allowed.

There will be three tests (worth 130 points each) and a cumulative final exam at the end of the semester (worth 290 points). The tests and final exam will be administered on Brightspace and are required for all students. Test 1 will cover Ch1, Ch2, Ch3, and Ch5. Test 2 will cover Ch6, Ch7, and Ch8. Test 3 will cover Ch10, Ch12, and Ch13. The cumulative final exam will cover Ch14 and Ch15 in addition to all the previously mentioned chapters.

The table below gives the grade distributions by total points earned. These are minimum scores and if need be, I will introduce a “curve.” The curve will consist of lowering the minimum score required for a particular grade. For instance, a typical curve may consist of making the minimum score for an “A” 930 instead of 935 points. You should in no way depend on the curve since the curve is NOT guaranteed, and if I do implement it, it may be very small. I will not curve individual assessments. All questions regarding grades will be directed to this section in the syllabus.

Total Points	Letter Grade	Transcript GPA points
1000-935	A	4.00
934-900	A-	3.67
899-865	B+	3.33
864-830	B	3.00
829-795	B-	2.67

794-760	C+	2.33
759-725	C	2.00
724-690	C-	1.67
689-655	D+	1.33
654-620	D	1.00
619-585	D-	0.67
584-0	F	0.00

There will be no extra credit in this class.

## **Class Policies**

### **How this class will be different due to the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Reasonable precautions will be taken to ensure we can safely hold live face-to-face classes during these unusual times. Students must follow all university mandated COVID-19 guidelines. This includes, but is not limited to, staying 6 feet away from other individuals, washing your hands frequently, and wearing a cloth face mask that covers your mouth and nose.

If you experience COVID-19 symptoms—even the slightest cough—stay home. If you were in contact with someone who may have COVID-19, stay home. In many cases, the responsible thing to do is stay home and self-quarantine. If a student misses a face-to-face classroom activity, they will be allowed to make up the assignment online. Students must make up the activity within 2 days (48 hours) of when the activity was supposed to be done. To reiterate, students can make up missed activities (within 2 days), but late homework assignments are not allowed. Exceptions to this include extenuating medical or personal emergencies.

In “normal times,” group activities would typically be done with students working on and crowded around a single worksheet. This would be unsafe due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To ensure safe social distancing, students will utilize Google’s Jamboard to do the group activities. Google’s Jamboard is an interactive whiteboard that can be shared with other students, and multiple students can contribute to the Jamboard simultaneously. Thus, students should bring a laptop or tablet to class.

### **Attendance**

Due to the pandemic, I will have a flexible attendance policy. As mentioned earlier, if a student misses an in-class activity, they have 2 days (48 hours) to make-up the activity.

### **Classroom conduct**

You are expected to act professionally. This expectation includes, but is not limited to: being quiet when others are speaking, silencing your cell phone, respecting other students, respecting the instructor, and asking questions by raising one’s hand. If you are acting disorderly to the point where you are impeding other students’ ability to learn, I reserve the right to ask you to leave the classroom.

### **Office Hours**

The university has deemed Winslow Hall offices as too small for multiple people to safely be in them at the same time. Consequently, the usual way of doing office hours where I’m in my office and people simply show up if they want to, will no longer work. Thus, office hours will be by appointment only. The preferred

method is over Zoom, but if need be, we can set up a face-to-face appointment outside or in a larger space where we can safely socially distance. Given the circumstances, I will do what I can to be flexible in accommodating meeting requests. Please do not hesitate to ask for a meeting appointment. I am generally available in the afternoon and early evenings.

### Assistance from the Teaching Assistant

In addition to contacting the professor regarding content related questions, students can also email the TA. Students can email the TA Brooke Camire at [brooke.camire@maine.edu](mailto:brooke.camire@maine.edu) for questions about the course material.

### Class Communication

I will heavily use Brightspace to communicate announcements and distribute course materials. I strongly recommend you set up your Brightspace settings to automatically email you when a new announcement is posted. It's a good habit to periodically check Brightspace and your UMaine email. I'll occasionally give reminders for upcoming due dates. But it's the student's responsibility to stay on top of the course calendar.

### Syllabus

This syllabus should be considered a contract between me (the professor) and you (the student). However, there may come a time when a change to the syllabus becomes necessary. In such an event, the change will be announced in class and posted online.

### Course Calendar

			<b><u>Sunday, January 24</u></b> By 9am, do survey for Tuesday/Thursday cohort preference.
<b><u>Monday, January 25</u></b>	<b><u>Tuesday, January 26</u></b> Tuesday cohort meets for class introduction.	<b><u>Thursday, January 28</u></b> Thursday cohort meets for class introduction.	<b><u>Sunday, January 31</u></b>
<b><u>Monday, February 1</u></b> Watch Ch1 video lessons (required) & read Ch1 in book (suggested).	<b><u>Tuesday, February 2</u></b> No meeting.	<b><u>Thursday, February 4</u></b> No meeting.	<b><u>Sunday, February 7</u></b> Ch1 HW due at 11:59pm.
<b><u>Monday, February 8</u></b> Watch Ch2 video lessons (required) & read Ch2 in book (suggested).	<b><u>Tuesday, February 9</u></b> Tuesday cohort meets and does PPF activity.	<b><u>Thursday, February 11</u></b> Thursday cohort meets and does PPF activity.	<b><u>Sunday, February 14</u></b> Ch2 HW due at 11:59pm.
<b><u>Monday, February 15</u></b> Watch Ch3 video lessons (required) & read Ch3 in book (suggested).	<b><u>Tuesday, February 16</u></b> Tuesday cohort meets and does Supply & Demand activity.	<b><u>Thursday, February 18</u></b> Thursday cohort meets and does Supply & Demand activity.	<b><u>Sunday, February 21</u></b> Ch3 HW due at 11:59pm.
<b><u>Monday, February 22</u></b> Watch Ch5 video lessons (required) & read Ch5 in book (suggested).	<b><u>Tuesday, February 23</u></b> Tuesday cohort meets and does International Trade activity.	<b><u>Thursday, February 25</u></b> Thursday cohort meets and does International Trade activity.	<b><u>Sunday, February 28</u></b> Ch5 HW due at 11:59pm.

<b><u>Monday, March 1</u></b> Watch Ch6 video lessons (required) & read Ch6 in book (suggested).	<b><u>Tuesday, March 2</u></b> No meeting.	<b><u>Thursday, March 4</u></b> No meeting. Ch6 HW due at 11:59pm.	<b><u>Sunday, March 7</u></b> Test 1 due at 11:59pm.
<b><u>Monday, March 8</u></b> Watch Ch7 video lessons (required) & read Ch7 in book (suggested).	<b><u>Tuesday, March 9</u></b> Tuesday cohort meets and does GDP activity.	<b><u>Thursday, March 11</u></b> Thursday cohort meets and does GDP activity.	<b><u>Sunday, March 14</u></b> Ch7 HW due at 11:59pm.
<b><u>Monday, March 15</u></b> Watch Ch8 video lessons (required) & read Ch8 in book (suggested).	<b><u>Tuesday, March 16</u></b> Tuesday cohort meets and does Unemployment & Inflation activity.	<b><u>Thursday, March 18</u></b> Thursday cohort meets and does Unemployment & Inflation activity.	<b><u>Sunday, March 21</u></b> Ch8 HW due at 11:59pm.
<b><u>Monday, March 22</u></b>	<b><u>Tuesday, March 23</u></b> No meeting.	<b><u>Thursday, March 25</u></b> No meeting.	<b><u>Sunday, March 28</u></b> Test 2 due at 11:59pm.
<b><u>Monday, March 29</u></b> Watch Ch10 video lessons (required) & read Ch10 in book (suggested).	<b><u>Tuesday, March 30</u></b> Tuesday cohort meets and does Market for Loanable Funds activity.	<b><u>Thursday, April 1</u></b> Thursday cohort meets and does Market for Loanable Funds activity.	<b><u>Sunday, April 4</u></b> Ch10 HW due at 11:59pm.
<b><u>Monday, April 5*</u></b> Watch Ch12 video lessons (required) & read Ch12 in book (suggested).	<b><u>Tuesday, April 6*</u></b> Watch Ch13 video lessons (required) & read Ch13 in book (suggested). No meeting.	<b><u>Thursday, April 8*</u></b> Thursday cohort meets and does AS-AD activity.	<b><u>Sunday, April 11*</u></b>
<b><u>Monday, April 12*</u></b>	<b><u>Tuesday, April 13*</u></b> Tuesday cohort meets and does AS-AD activity.	<b><u>Thursday, April 15*</u></b> No meeting.	<b><u>Sunday, April 18*</u></b> Ch12 HW due at 11:59pm. Ch13 HW due at 11:59pm.
<b><u>Monday, April 19</u></b> Watch Ch14 video lessons (required) & read Ch14 in book (suggested).	<b><u>Tuesday, April 20</u></b> No meeting.	<b><u>Thursday, April 22</u></b> No meeting. Ch14 HW due at 11:59pm.	<b><u>Sunday, April 25</u></b> Test 3 due at 11:59pm.
<b><u>Monday, April 26</u></b> Watch Ch15 video lessons (required) & read Ch15 in book (suggested).	<b><u>Tuesday, April 27</u></b> Tuesday cohort meets and does Monetary Policy activity.	<b><u>Thursday, April 29</u></b> Thursday cohort meets and does Monetary Policy activity.	<b><u>Sunday, May 2</u></b> Ch15 HW due at 11:59pm.
<b><u>Monday, May 3</u></b>	<b><u>Tuesday, May 4</u></b>	<b><u>Thursday, May 6</u></b> Cumulative Final Exam due at 11:59pm.	

\*The weeks of April 5 and April 12 have a slightly different schedule for two reasons. First, students should watch both the Ch12 and Ch13 video lessons before doing the Aggregate Supply-Aggregate Demand activity. Second, the university added a “reading day” on April 15 and no classes are to be held on that day. Notice that the Tuesday cohort does the AS-AD activity on Tuesday, April 13 but does not meet on Tuesday, April 6. Also notice that the Thursday cohort does the AS-AD activity on Thursday, April 8 but does not meet on Thursday, April 15. Lastly, notice that the Ch12 and Ch13 homework assignments are both due on Sunday, April 18.

# **Non-COVID-19 University Policies**

---

## **University Academic Honesty Statement**

Academic honesty is very important. It is dishonest to cheat on exams, to copy term papers, to submit papers written by another person, to fake experimental results, or to copy or reword parts of books or articles into your own papers without appropriately citing the source. Students committing or aiding in any of these violations may be given failing grades for an assignment or for an entire course, at the discretion of the instructor. In addition to any academic action taken by an instructor, these violations are also subject to action under the University of Maine Student Conduct Code. The maximum possible sanction under the student conduct code is dismissal from the University. Please see the University of Maine System's Academic Integrity Policy listed in the Board Policy Manual as Policy 314:

<https://www.maine.edu/board-of-trustees/policy-manual/section-314/>

## **University Students Accessibility Services Statement**

If you have a disability for which you may be requesting an accommodation, please contact Student Accessibility Services, 121 East Annex, 581-2319, as early as possible in the term. Students who have already been approved for accommodations by SAS and have a current accommodation letter should meet with me, Thomas Wiesen, privately as soon as possible.

## **Course Schedule Disclaimer (Disruption Clause)**

In the event of an extended disruption of normal classroom activities (due to COVID-19 or other long-term disruptions), the format for this course may be modified to enable its completion within its programmed time frame. In that event, you will be provided an addendum to the syllabus that will supersede this version.

## **Observance of Religious Holidays/Events**

The University of Maine recognizes that when students are observing significant religious holidays, some may be unable to attend classes or labs, study, take tests, or work on other assignments. If they provide adequate notice (at least one week and longer if at all possible), these students are allowed to make up course requirements as long as this effort does not create an unreasonable burden upon the instructor, department, or University. At the discretion of the instructor, such coursework could be due before or after the examination or assignment. No adverse or prejudicial effects shall result to a student's grade for the examination, study, or course requirement on the day of religious observance. The student shall not be marked absent from the class due to observing a significant religious holiday. In the case of an internship or clinical, students should refer to the applicable policy in place by the employer or site.

## **Sexual Discrimination Reporting**

The University of Maine is committed to making campus a safe place for students. Because of this commitment, if you tell a teacher about an experience of sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, relationship abuse (dating violence and domestic violence), sexual misconduct or any form of gender discrimination involving members of the campus, your teacher is required to report this information to the campus Office of Sexual Assault & Violence Prevention or the Office of Equal Opportunity. If you want to talk in confidence to someone about an experience of sexual discrimination, please contact these resources:

- For confidential resources on campus: Counseling Center: 207-581-1392 or Cutler Health Center: at 207-581-4000.
- For confidential resources off campus: Rape Response Services: 1-800-871-7741 or Partners for Peace: 1-800-863-9909.
- Other resources: The resources listed below can offer support but may have to report the incident to others who can help. For support services on campus: Office of Sexual Assault & Violence Prevention: 207-581-1406, Office of Community Standards: 207-581-1409, University of Maine Police: 207-581-4040 or 911. Or see the OSAVP website for a complete list of services at <https://umaine.edu/titleix/>

# **COVID-19 University Policies**

---

## **University of Maine COVID-19 Syllabus Statement**

COVID-19 is an infectious disease caused by the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2. The virus is transmitted person-to-person through respiratory droplets that are expelled when breathing, talking, eating, coughing, or sneezing. Additionally, the virus is stable on surfaces and can be transmitted when someone touches a contaminated surface and transfers the virus to their nose or mouth. When someone becomes infected with COVID-19 they may either have no symptoms or symptoms that range from mild to severe and can even be fatal. During this global pandemic, it is imperative that all students, faculty, and staff abide by the safety protocols and guidelines set forth by the University to ensure the safety of our campus. All students are encouraged to make the Black Bear Cares Pact to protect the health of themselves, the health of others, and the College of Our Hearts Always.

### **Black Bears Care Pact:**

<https://umaine.edu/return/black-bears-care/>

### **Symptom checking**

The symptoms of COVID-19 can range from mild to severe, and even people with mild symptoms may transmit the virus to others. Students are encouraged to use the symptom checking app each day before attending class or moving about campus and follow the recommendation prompted within the app. Students should monitor for the following symptoms daily: fever (temperature >100.4F/38.0C) or chills, new cough, loss of taste or smell, shortness of breath/difficult breathing, sore throat, diarrhea, nausea, or vomiting, or the onset of new, otherwise unexplained symptoms such as headache, muscle or body aches, fatigue, or congestion/runny nose.

### **Physical distancing**

Students need to make every effort to maintain physical distancing (6 feet or more) indoors and outdoors including within classrooms. The University classrooms and physical spaces have been arranged to maximize physical distancing. Follow the traffic patterns outlined in each building and outdoor space to avoid crowding. If students are in an academic setting (i.e. clinical or lab class) that requires them to reduce physical distancing, they should follow the instructor's guidelines.

### **Face coverings**

Students must wear appropriate face coverings in the classroom. Face coverings must be worn in indoor and outdoor spaces on campus unless people are alone in a room with a door closed or when they are properly physically distanced and do not expect someone to approach them. When face coverings are removed people are placing themselves and those surrounding them at increased risk for COVID-19.

### **Eating and drinking in classrooms**

Students may not eat or drink in the classrooms and are encouraged to take their food or drink into areas designated for these purposes where they can maintain 6 feet physical distance from others.

### **Hand hygiene**

Proper hand hygiene is an effective measure to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Students should wash their hands often with soap and water or use a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, especially after using the bathroom, before eating or drinking, and before and after going to class or university spaces such as the recreation center, library, or dining halls.



### **Contingency plans**

Classes will be held in various formats to offer flexibility, compassion, and empathy during these unprecedented times. Under certain circumstances, students or instructors may need to miss classes or in-person classes may be disrupted. Students are expected to notify their instructor if they are unable to attend an in-person or online class but will not be penalized for missing class due to illness or the need to care for a family member affected by COVID-19. If a disruption occurs, your instructor will provide communication and contingency plans.

### **What to do if you have or suspect you have COVID-19**

If you have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been possibly exposed to someone with COVID-19, you should stay home, not interact with others, and contact your health care provider immediately to be tested for COVID-19. You may not attend in-person classes and should suspend interactions with others until you are tested. Prior to receiving test results, you should quarantine in your living area according to the Maine CDC guidelines below. Please follow the guidance of your health care professional regarding testing, quarantine, and isolation during the testing process and potential illness period.

### **What to do if someone you know has or may have COVID-19**

If someone you know or that you have had close contact with (defined by the ME CDC as 15 mins or more within 6 feet or less) has tested positive for COVID-19, you should stay home and quarantine according to the guidance of the ME CDC, contact your health care provider, and continue to monitor for symptoms. You may be required to quarantine and/or be tested for COVID-19 under these circumstances. You may also have been exposed to COVID-19 by someone you do not know, and it is possible that you could be contacted through contact tracing to determine if you were exposed. Everyone should respond to these confidential questions to ensure the safety of themselves and those around them.

### **Maine CDC Guidelines:**

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/epi/airborne/coronavirus/general-information.shtml>

### **If you have questions or would like additional information related to the University of Maine COVID-19-specific policies or procedures please use the following sources:**

University Webpages: [umaine.edu/return](http://umaine.edu/return) and [umaine.edu/together/](http://umaine.edu/together/)

COVID-19 Information line: 207-581-2681

Emergency Operations Center Email Contact: [umaine.alerts@maine.edu](mailto:umaine.alerts@maine.edu)