

Principles of Macroeconomics

ECON2105

University of Georgia

Course Reference Number (CRN): 23120

Term: **Spring 2018**

Department: **Economics**

Credit: **3 Hours**

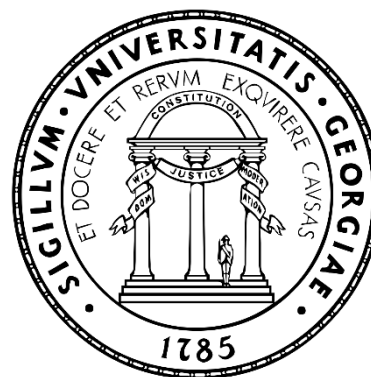
Meeting: **Tue, Thu 2:00-3:15 PM in Caldwell Hall 203**

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

Office: **Amos Hall B450**

Office Hours: **Wed 3:00-5:00 PM or by appointment**

Email: **tfpwiesen@uga.edu**



Class Details

Textbook and Materials

Macroeconomics 4th edition by Krugman and Wells

LaunchPad Access by MacMillan Learning (Worth Publishers)

This textbook is required for class. You may purchase/rent a physical or electronic copy of the book. You will also need to purchase access to LaunchPad, which is managed by MacMillan Learning. Homework problems will be assigned and graded via LaunchPad. The due dates for the homework assignments can be found on the LaunchPad calendar. The UGA bookstore offers a package where you can purchase the textbook and LaunchPad access as a bundle for a slightly reduced price when compared to buying them separately. While you need to purchase/rent the book, you will rarely need to bring it to class.

Please bring paper (or some type of notebook), a writing instrument, and a calculator to every class. Students will need a calculator on the tests and final exam! Sharing calculators will **NOT** be allowed. There is no need for a graphing calculator or anything programmable—a basic calculator will do. You will **NOT** be able to use your cell phone as a calculator on the tests or final exam!

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
Ch9*	Long-Run Economic Growth

Ch10	Savings, Investment Spending, and the Financial System
Ch11*	Income and Expenditure
Ch12	Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply
Ch13	Fiscal Policy
Ch14	Money, Banking, and the Federal Reserve System
Ch15	Monetary Policy

*time permitting

Course Details according to UGA Bulletin

Explanations of economic growth and the business cycle, aimed at shedding light on economy-wide problems such as inflation and unemployment, with special attention to the role played by monetary and fiscal policies. Not open to students with credit in ECON2105H, ECON2105E. Traditional A-F grading. No prerequisites or corequisites.

Grades

The class will be out of a total of 1000 points and will be divided up by online homework assignments (20% or 200 points), three in-class tests (16% \times 3 or 160 points each or 480 points in total), and one cumulative final examination (32% or 320 points).

Homework will be assigned on a chapter basis. In other words, each chapter will have its own homework assignment.

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” 925 instead of 930 points. However, 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. All students should take all tests and exams. I will not drop any grades of any assessments. All questions regarding grades will be directed to this section in the syllabus.

Total Points	Letter Grade	Transcript GPA points
1000-930	A	4.0
929-900	A-	3.7
899-870	B+	3.3
869-830	B	3.0
829-800	B-	2.7
799-770	C+	2.3
769-730	C	2.0
729-700	C-	1.7
699-600	D	1.0
599-0	F	0.0

Note that economics principles courses (ECON2105 and ECON2106) at UGA typically have a class average around 2.9 to 2.7 (so around the B to B- range). After the curve (if there is one) my class average will typically be in that range too.

From time to time, I may offer extra credit in-class quizzes or extra credit in-class activities. A student must be in attendance the day of the quiz or activity in order to receive the extra credit. Extra credit points from these quizzes or activities will be added to your total points earned throughout the semester.

Access to LaunchPad

To access LaunchPad go to the following link.

<http://www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpad/krugmanwellsmacro4/7222498>

If you already have an access code, select “I have a student access code,” enter the access code, click submit, and follow any further instructions. If you still need to purchase an access code, select “I want to purchase access,” enter your UGA email address, click submit, and follow any further instructions.

Study Tools

LaunchPad contains a wealth of additional resources to help you study and to supplement class lecture. There are 9 interactive tutorials which are basically video lectures containing explanations of the course material, examples, and additional information. There are interactive tutorials for the following chapters: First Principals (Ch1), Supply and Demand (Ch3), Macroeconomics: The Big Picture (Ch6), GDP and the CPI: Tracking the Macroeconomy (Ch7), Long-Run Economic Growth (Ch9), Savings, Investment Spending, and the Financial System (Ch10), Income and Expenditure (Ch11), Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply (Ch12), and Fiscal Policy (Ch13). These range from 10 minutes to 40 minutes in length and I recommend watching them before doing the homework for that chapter.

LaunchPad also contains “LeaningCurve” which provides sample questions in an interactive environment and tests the student’s understanding of the material in the chapter. “LeaningCurve” directs students to the relevant content in the e-book to assist them in getting the correct answer.

Class Policies

Attendance

I will not regularly take attendance on a daily basis. In that sense, attendance is not technically mandatory. However, attendance is expected and missing class is highly frowned upon. Throughout the semester, I may offer extra credit in-class quizzes or extra credit in-class activities in order to encourage class attendance. A student must be in attendance the day of the quiz or activity in order to receive the extra credit. If you do miss a class, be sure to get the missed notes from a classmate.

If you miss a test, then your absence must be documentable. If it is a “of the moment” type absence, such as illness, please let me know at least by the morning before the class. If you are sick enough to miss a test, then you are sick enough to go to the University Health Services and get a note. If the absence was known in advance, such as jury duty or a family wedding, please let me know at least 3 days in advance. I reserve the right to see the documentation for the absence. With the exception of very extreme circumstances, such as being in a coma, final exam make-ups will not be given.

Classroom conduct

You are expected to act professionally in the classroom. This expectation includes but is not limited to: being quiet, silencing your cellular device, 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.

Late Work

Unless there is a “technical difficulty” with LaunchPad, no late homework will be accepted, so plan accordingly. Homework is submitted electronically via LaunchPad. Homework submissions are typically due at 11:59 PM and the specific due dates can be seen on the LaunchPad calendar which will be updated regularly as we go through the class content.

If there is a “technical difficulty” with LaunchPad, take a screenshot of the error screen. Then send me an email explaining that you had a problem with LaunchPad and include the screenshot of the error screen. If I determine that the “technical difficulty” was a valid one, I will offer you a chance to resubmit the homework. If you experience some type of technical error with LaunchPad please notify me as soon as possible.

Doing the homework, but forgetting to press the submit button is not a valid excuse. In that case, you will be allowed to retry the homework.

Office Hours

My office is located on the fourth floor of the Amos Hall room B450. My official office hours are listed on the first page of this syllabus. If those times do not work for you, just send me an email and we can set up an appointment.

Syllabus

This syllabus should be considered a contract between me (the instructor) 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 to LaunchPad.

Calendar and Important Dates

Thursday, January 4	First Day of class
Wednesday, January 10	Add/Drop ends
Tuesday, March 13	No class, Spring Break
Thursday, March 15	No class, Spring Break
Monday, March 19	Withdrawal deadline
Tuesday, April 24	Last Day of class
Thursday, April 26	Reading Day
Tuesday, May 1	Final Exam (3:30 to 6:30 PM)
Monday, May 7	Grades Due

The dates of the three tests will be announced in class. The due dates of the online homework will be posted to the LaunchPad calendar.

University Policies

Academic Honor Code

“As a University of Georgia student, you have agreed to abide by the University’s academic honesty policy, “A Culture of Honesty,” and the Student Honor Code. All academic work must meet the standards described in “A Culture of Honesty” found at: <https://ovpi.uga.edu/academic-honesty/academic-honesty-policy>. Lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy is not a reasonable explanation for a violation. Questions related to course assignments and the academic honesty policy should be directed to the instructor.”

Academic Honor Code violations will not be tolerated and may result in receiving a zero for the assignment, failing the class, and disciplinary action from the University.

Emergencies

If the fire alarm sounds, we will exit the building and reassemble outside to make sure everyone exited the building. If there is a tornado warning, we will move to the shelter location in the hallway outside our classroom and account for everyone. If you have concerns about other emergencies or if you have special circumstances that I need to know about in case of an emergency, please speak to me after class.

Grading Appeals

Grading appeals will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

University Syllabus Statement

“The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.”