



College of Business Administration
Department of Economics
Aggregate Economic Condition Analysis
Lecturer: O. Mikhail
ECO 3203-0001
Fall 2006

Course Outline

Time : Monday, Wednesday 3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.
Location : BA II - 208.
Office : BA II - 302.
Office Hours : Monday and Wednesday 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Thursday 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Or by Appointment
Class Web Page: <http://www.bus.ucf.edu/omikhail/Eco3203/Eco-3203.htm>
E-Mail : omikhail@hotmail.com, omikhail@bus.ucf.edu
Phone : 407-823-4258
Fax : 407-823-3269

Course Objective

Macroeconomics is the most interesting and core part of economics. This course is an intermediate level of macroeconomics. We explore the short-run [business cycle] and the long-run [growth] behavior of the economy. The course presents recent macroeconomic theories and models based on microeconomic principles. Applications to current and historical economic problems are emphasized. By the end of the course, students should be able to apply the material to understand current discussions about the national economy. The course presents a solid ground in modern theoretical macroeconomics with a “Theory Confronts Data” approach. We present the modern theoretical model and then we ask how can this model explain a specific current event in the U.S. economy? The course is designed to prepare the student to undertake advanced macroeconomics, pursue graduate studies and/or to become a policy analyst. The approach is even-handed and not biased toward a particular school of thought. The focus is on the market-clearing approach, but with a more central treatment of Keynesian analysis.

To solve the problems at the end of each chapter, basic knowledge of calculus and algebra are required. Students are responsible for *all* materials covered in class that is presented in the textbook, in the study guide and in the lecture notes.

Attendance at lectures is not mandatory but is recommended. **If you are experiencing any difficulty in this class (or any other), please arrange a meeting with me to discuss it.**

E-mail Policy, Lecture Notes and Class Web Page

During weekdays, I should be able to answer your e-mail within 24 hours. All of the PowerPoint class notes are available at the class web page. Visit the class web page regularly for announcements. Class announcements and extra reading materials – posted on the class web page – are part of your curriculum. I adopt the plus/minus letter grades as outlined on the class web page. **The lecture notes are not substitutes for the textbook; they are a complement to the textbook.**

Office Hours

If my office hours (stated above) conflict with your schedule and you need to meet with me, please let me know so I can arrange a mutually acceptable time to meet.

Required Book

Stephen D. Williamson. (2005) *Macroeconomics*. Second Edition, Pearson Education, Addison-Wesley. ISBN: 0-321-24093-6.

Visit the book Web site for the Study Guide, <http://www.aw-bc.com/williamson> Each chapter of the textbook includes a set of Conference Board Problems that make use of the on-line database. **The book offers an on-line tutorial help with live chat.**

Evaluation (Preliminary)

Quiz I (September 13, 2006)	25 %	
Quiz II (October 18, 2006)	25 %	
Quiz III (November 22, 2006)	25 %	
Final Exam (December 6, 2006)	50 %	NOTE: The FINAL EXAM is held at 1:00 p.m.

I expect you to uphold the guidelines of the Golden Rules, <http://www.ucf.edu/goldenrule>

Only, your best two quizzes will count toward your final grade.

Assignments

On the class web page, I will regularly post a set of voluntary assignments. If you undertake these assignments, I will correct them and hand them back to you, but no grade will be allocated to these assignments. The solution is meant to guide you to answer the question. The purpose of these assignments is to prepare the student for the quizzes.

Class Structure

The class will be held in an active-discussion framework. Due to the class size and the limited class time, I suggest that students form study groups outside of class to work through the study guide and end-of-chapter problems.

Reading List

Weeks 1 – 2 – 3	Introduction, Measurement and Business Cycle Measurement. Chapters 1, 2 and 3.	
Week 3	September 4, 2006	Labor Day
Week 4	September 13, 2006	QUIZ I – Chapters 1, 2 and 3.
Weeks 5 – 6 – 7	Consumer and Firm Behavior: The work-leisure decision and profit max. A Closed-Economy One-Period Macroeconomic Model. Chapters 4 and 5.	
Week 8	Economic Growth Chapter 6	
Week 9	October 18, 2006	QUIZ II – Chapters 4, 5 and 6.
Weeks 10 – 11 – 12 – 13	A Two-Period Model: The consumption-savings decision and Ricardian Equivalence. A Real Intertemporal Model with Investment. Chapters 8 and 9.	
Week 12	November 10-11, 2006	Veteran's Day
Week 14	November 22, 2006	QUIZ III – Chapters 8 and 9.
Week 14	November 23-25, 2006	Thanksgiving
Week 15	Keynesian Business Cycle Theory: The Sticky Wage Model. Chapter 12.	

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ACADEMIC DATES AND DEADLINES

Classes Begin	August 21
Academic Advising Weeks	October 9 - 20
Withdrawal Deadline	October 13
Graduate Thesis Dissertation Format Review Deadline (Doctoral)	October 13
Graduate Thesis Dissertation Format Review Deadline (Master's)	October 27
Graduate Thesis/Dissertation Defense Deadline	November 10
Graduate Thesis/Dissertation Submission Deadline	November 27
Classes End; Last Day to Remove Incomplete	December 2
Final Examination Period	December 4 - 9
Commencement	December 11 - 12
Grades available and will be final at 9 a.m. through MyUCF	December 15

FALL 2006 HOLIDAYS

Labor Day	September 4
Veteran's Day	November 10 - 11
Thanksgiving	November 23 - 25

THE UCF CREED

Integrity, scholarship, community, creativity, and excellence are the core values that guide our conduct, performance, and decisions.

Integrity

I will practice and defend academic and personal honesty.

Scholarship

I will cherish and honor learning as a fundamental purpose of my membership in the UCF community.

Community

I will promote an open and supportive campus environment by respecting the rights and contributions of every individual.

Creativity

I will use my talents to enrich the human experience.

Excellence

I will strive toward the highest standards of performance in any endeavor I undertake.

<http://www.sdes.ucf.edu/Creed/>