



SYLLABUS

ECON 2301-04: Principles of Macroeconomics

Fall 2017

TuTh: 11:00 a.m. – 12:20 p. m.

138 Smith-Hutson Building

Instructor: Dr. Hiranya K. Nath

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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.; Wednesday: 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.; or by appointment on other days

Course Description: This introductory course in macroeconomics focuses on the functioning of the overall economy. The goal is to explain the economy-wide changes that affect many households, firms, and markets simultaneously. In order to achieve this goal, it first discusses some of the data that economists and policymakers use to monitor the performance of the overall economy, such as gross domestic product (GDP), general price level and inflation, unemployment rate, and interest rate. This course uses an analytical framework that consists of simplified models to explain the issues of economic growth and business cycle fluctuations. It also briefly discusses macroeconomic policy debates and selected issues in international trade and finance.

Course Objectives: The student will have learned to

- (i) understand fundamental principles, generalizations, and theories to develop an understanding of how the overall economy works;
- (ii) gain factual knowledge about the basic institutions of the U.S. economy that influence overall economic outcomes through monetary and fiscal policy;
- (iii) apply course materials to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions.

Required Textbook: **Foundations of Economics** (Eighth Edition) *by* Robin Bade and Michael Parkin, Pearson. (An eBook is available from the Pearson website free of cost with instructor-provided code; the students have the option to **print a loose leaf version of the eBook** for \$80; alternatively, they can buy a hardbound copy for \$184.28)

Blackboard: Syllabus, PowerPoint Lecture Slides, Practice Question Sets, and Quizzes will be uploaded on Blackboard. Also, the grades will be posted on it.

Tutoring: Tutors are available to help the students with the lectures and review materials between 11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. in Room # SHB 108, Monday through Friday.

Evaluation:

Exam

There will be four midterm exams and a comprehensive final exam. The final exam is mandatory. However, the student may choose not to take *or* miss one midterm. If he/she takes all five exams, the best four will be counted towards his/her course grade. Each of the best four exams will count 25% of the final grade. Each exam will consist of 50 multiple choice questions and the maximum grade points will be 25.

Practice Question Set

There will be several practice question sets consisting of multiple choice questions, during the semester. No answer key will be provided. The students are expected to work on these practice questions and find the correct answers on their own. However, if they need help they should not hesitate to see the instructor. The students may seek help from the tutors as well. The tutors are available in Room # 108 SHB between 11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Pop Quiz

There will be pop quizzes which will add extra points to total exam scores. Each quiz will consist of 10 multiple choice questions, and will be graded on a scale of 0-1 points.

Under no circumstances will individual extra credit assignments be given, as it is not fair to other students.

Course grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

Total of best four exam scores and in-class quiz scores	Letter Grade
90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
60 – 69	D
Below 60	F

Exam Dates:

Midterm I	: Tuesday, September 19
Midterm II	: Tuesday, October 10
Midterm III	: Thursday, November 2
Midterm IV	: Thursday, November 30
Final Exam	: Thursday, December 7

Course Policies:

1. Attendance is very important to succeed in this class. Because of the federal and SHSU guidelines, the instructors are required to submit reports on student attendance. The instructor will track student attendance using a seating chart. On the first day of class, the instructor will pass on the seating chart for the student to identify his/her seat by writing his/her name on the seat location. The student is expected not to change his/her seat during the semester. At the beginning of each class, the instructor will mark **P** for “present” or **A** for “absent” on the seat assigned to the student on the seating chart. If the student does not miss any class during the semester, he/she will earn 2 bonus points; and for only 1 miss he/she will earn 1 bonus point. However, if a student misses more than 10 classes over the semester, there is a penalty of 5 points. These points will be added to or subtracted from the total grade points the student accumulates for his/her performance in exams and other assignments throughout the semester, before deciding the letter grade.
2. Students are expected to be on time for class. If the student is late, he/she will be marked ‘absent’. Once teaching starts, the student is expected to sit through the entire time in the class. If he/she must leave in the middle of class, he/she is advised to take his/her ‘stuff’ and not to re-enter.
3. As a College of Business Administration (COBA) policy, eating and drinking are prohibited in the classroom. However, students can bring bottled water to the classroom.
4. The use of cellphones is strictly prohibited and they must remain turned off during the class. Tablets and laptops can be used only for taking notes and other class-related activities with prior permission of the instructor. However, if the use of these devices is found to be distracting to other students, the instructor may revoke such permission.

Relevant University Policy: The use by students of electronic devices that perform the function of a telephone or text messenger during class-time may be prohibited if deemed disruptive by the instructor to the conduct of the class. Arrangements for handling potential emergency situations may be granted at the discretion of the instructor. Failure to comply with the instructor’s policy could result in expulsion from the classroom or with multiple offenses, failure of the course.

Any use of a telephone or text messenger or any device that performs these functions during a test period is prohibited. These devices should not be present during a test or should be stored securely in such a way that they cannot be seen or used by the student. Even the visible presence of such a device during the test period will result in a zero for that test. Use of these devices during a test is considered *de facto* evidence of cheating and could result in a charge of academic dishonesty.

5. Students who are members of the university athletic teams should submit their respective game schedules properly signed by the officials in the athletics department at the beginning of the semester. Appropriate arrangements will be made for regular assignments if there is a conflict with the game schedule.
6. Students are expected to be on time for exams. No student will be allowed to begin an exam after the first person to finish that exam has left the room.

7. Academic Dishonesty: All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: <http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/728eec25-f780-4dcf-932c-03d68cade002.pdf>

8. Disability Accommodation: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (Phone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and E-mail disability@shsu.edu). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. Note that no accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: <http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/187f9029-a4c6-4fb4-aca9-2d501f2a60f3.pdf>

9. Religious Holy Day Policy: Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuses a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: “a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20....” A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: <http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/0953c7d0-7c04-4b29-a3fc-3bf0738e87d8.pdf>

Outline of Topics:

1. Introduction to Economics (Ch. 1)
2. The U.S. and Global Economies (Ch. 2)
3. Monitoring the Macroeconomy
 - (i) Measuring a Nation's Total Production and Income (Ch. 21)
 - (ii) Measuring Labor Market Performance (Ch. 22)
 - (iii) Measuring the Cost of Living (Ch. 23)
4. The Real Economy
 - (i) GDP and Unemployment Rate in the Long-run (Ch. 24)
 - (ii) Economic Growth (Ch. 25)
 - (iii) Finance, Saving, and Investment (Ch. 26)
5. The Money Economy
 - (i) The Monetary System (Ch. 27)
 - (ii) Money, Interest Rate, and Inflation (Ch. 28)
6. Short-Run Economic Fluctuations
 - (i) Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply (Ch. 29)
 - (ii) Monetary and Fiscal Policy (Ch. 31, 32, 33)
7. Open Economy Macroeconomics (Ch. 34)

Tentative Time Schedule

Time	Topics
Before Midterm 1	1, 2, and 3(i) & (ii)
Between Midterm 1 and 2	3(iii) and 4(i) & (ii)
Between Midterm 2 and 3	4(iii) and 5
Between Midterm 3 and 4 (and Final)	6 and 7

Important Dates to Remember

August 23 WEDNESDAY	First Day of Class. Late registration and process class schedule changes online.
August 30 WEDNESDAY	Last day to register and to process schedule changes.
September 4 MONDAY	University Holiday – Labor Day
September 8 FRIDAY	Twelfth Class Day. Last day to drop Full Term courses without a “Q” and receive 100% refund. Degree applications to be filed in the Registrar's Office by students graduating in December 2017
September 19 TUESDAY	Midterm Exam 1
October 10 TUESDAY	Midterm Exam 2
November 2 THURSDAY	Midterm Exam 3
November 10 FRIDAY	Last day to drop Full Term courses with a Q. Students will not be permitted to drop Full Term courses after this day, and will receive the grade that is earned.
November 22 - 24 WEDNESDAY - FRIDAY	Thanksgiving holidays for students and faculty
November 30 THURSDAY	Midterm Exam 4
December 1 FRIDAY	Last day to resign.
December 7 THURSDAY	Final Exam

Please visit:

Department of Economics and International Business Website
<http://www.shsu.edu/academics/economics-and-international-business/>

Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/208741956458/>