

# **Economics 2020-90 Principles of Macroeconomics**

Fall 2019 Online

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Office Hours: By appointment (email)
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**Skype/IM/Canvas Conference Office Hours:** By appointment (email)

#### **About this course**

This is an online course, which does not meet in-class. Please read for additional information, and visit the department's page on online classes. This course has no prerequisites; however, a basic understanding of algebra is expected.

## **Required Textbook**

Karl E. Case, Ray C. Fair and Sharon M. Oster, *Principles of Macroeconomics*, 12<sup>th</sup> edition, Pearson Prentice Hall. The textbook can be purchased from the university's bookstore.

# **Complementary Materials**

Various blogs, magazines and newspaper articles that focus on macroeconomic issues. As I find interesting articles for you to read I will post them on Canvas.

#### **Course Description**

This course introduces students to essential macroeconomic principles and core macroeconomic theories. The focus is on understanding the workings of three markets of a modern economy: the goods market, the money market and the labor market. The goal is to learn how to think critically about the economy using formal tools such as algebraic and statistical models. Hence, we will be making use of a fair share of our knowledge of basic algebra and calculus as well as graphs and statistical indicators. Discussions of contemporary macroeconomic policy and extensive references to current economic issues faced by the US and global economies will be one aspect of class instruction. A successful student will become, by the end of the semester, familiar with current debates on fiscal and monetary policy, fiscal deficits and the global economy. To this end, you will be asked to read articles from economic journals and newspapers such the Financial Times or the Wall Street Journal.

#### **Course Outcomes**

At the end of the course, a successful student will be able to:

- 1. Explain essential economic principles, main macroeconomic concerns and know how to calculate basic macroeconomic indicators.
- 2. Explain essential economic principles that underlie the workings of the goods market, the money market and the labor market in a modern economy.

- 3. Analyze the mechanism and channels through which fiscal and monetary policies affect the macroeconomy.
- 4. Evaluate and synthesize current economic debates on macroeconomic policy intervention.
- 5. Use simple macroeconomic models to analyze an economy and to derive the effects of exogenous shocks on output, employment and the price level.
- 6. Explain different perspectives in macroeconomics.

# **Teaching and Learning Methods**

This is an online class. All requirements can be fulfilled online; we will use <a href="Instructure/Canvas">Instructure/Canvas</a> (<a href="https://utah.instructure.com">https://utah.instructure.com</a>). Multiple choice quizzes, essays, projects and discussion assignments facilitate learning. Interaction among students and with the instructor will be fostered, in order to create a dynamic learning experience.

## **Course Schedule and Outline**

Date /Week		Topic/Chapters Canvas	s Modules
Aug. 19 <i>Week1</i> :	Intro	duction to economics (chapters 1, 2 and 3)	Module 1
Aug. 26 <i>Week 2</i> :	Intro	duction to macroeconomics (chapters 5, 6, and 7)	Module 2
Sep. 2 & Sep. 9 Weeks 3 & 4:	Aggro	egate expenditure and equilibrium output (chapter 8)	Module 3
Sep. 16 & Sep. 23 Weeks 5 & 6:	The g	government and fiscal policy (chapters 8 and 9)	Module 4
Sep. 30 & Oct. 14 Weeks 7 & 8: M	Ioney,	the Federal Reserve and the interest rate (Chapter 10)	Module 5
Oct. 21 <i>Week 9</i> :		Midterm Exam	Module 6
Oct. 28, Nov. 4 & Nov. Weeks 10, 11 & 12:		The AS-AD model (chapters 11 and 12)	Module 7
Nov. 18 <i>Week 13</i> :		The labor market (Chapter 13)	Module 8
Nov. 25 <i>Week 14</i> :		Alternative Views in Macroeconomics (Chapter 17)	Module 9
Refer to Canvas		Extra credit assignments	Module 10

Note: This syllabus is meant to serve as an outline and guide for our course. Please note that I may modify it with reasonable notice to you. I may also modify the Course Schedule to accommodate the needs of our class. Any changes will be announced in class and posted on Canvas under Announcements.

Last day to add, drop, audit, and elect CR/NC: Friday, August 30

**The midterm exam** will be held during the week of October 21st through October 25th. **The final exam** will be held during the University exam week which is scheduled for December 9 through December 13. Both exams will be held at the University testing center (<a href="https://testingcenter.utah.edu">https://testingcenter.utah.edu</a>) or, if you are off-campus, at an approved testing center.

We will start with an introduction to economics and macroeconomics based on chapters 1 through 7 (we will not cover chapter 4). The substance for this course is covered by chapters 8-13 in Part III of the textbook (chapters 8-14 if you are using an earlier edition) and by chapter 19 in Part V. We will spend most of the time this semester working on these core chapters. Following the core material and depending on the available time we will move on to specific topics in macroeconomics and particularly to chapter 14 and chapter 17 which is a review of main perspectives in macroeconomics.

## Requirements and grading

It is your responsibility to follow emails and announcements sent through Canvas, and to stay up to date with the deadlines and course materials. The grade breakdown for this class is as follows:

- 1. Chapter quizzes make up 30% of your final grade.
- 2. Two exams -- a midterm and a final exam -- contribute another 30% of your final grade.
- Projects add 25% to your final grade. Projects will include data work, short essays and participation into discussions threads which will be graded on substance.
- 4. Assignments add the remaining 15%. Keep in mind that some of these assignments earn <u>participation credit</u> for meaningful contributions (such as some discussion threads and selected exercises).

## Late assignments and exam policy

All assignments will be administered through <a href="Instructure/Canvas">Instructure/Canvas</a>
(<a href="https://utah.instructure.com">https://utah.instructure.com</a>). The system is set up such that no answers can be submitted after the deadline. In other words, no late assignments, exams, or projects will be accepted. To pass the class you must be on top of these due dates, all of which will be posted in your class calendar. Active, regular participation is crucial for success in this class!

## **Grading**

Grades are not curved but will follow an absolute scale according to the university's requirements:

93% and above A+, 90% -92% A-, 86-89%B+, 82-85% B, 79-81% B-, 76-78%C+, 73-75% C, 70-72% C-, 67-69% D+, 64-66% D, 60-63% D-,<60 F

#### **COURSE POLICIES**

#### **Canvas Notification Preferences**

Please make sure your Canvas notification preferences are set so that you will receive course announcements <u>ASAP</u> or <u>Daily</u> (click the appropriate link to set your preference on canvas). **Make sure to check in frequently** throughout any given week: it is your responsibility to be on top of deadlines! To have a positive learning experience, and to succeed in this course, you **must be constantly engaged** with the material, peers, and instructor through Canvas.

## **Instructor Feedback / Communication**

I will be on canvas several times a week to follow up on any discussion questions. Please allow 48 hours for turnaround time on questions, requests, or feedback. Virtual office hours, as well as face-to-face meetings, can be arranged by appointment.

## **University Policies**

#### The Americans with Disabilities Act

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, (801) 581-5020. CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

#### **University Safety Statement**

The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu.

# **Addressing Sexual Misconduct**

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which Includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building,

801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).

# Faculty and Students' Responsibilities

"All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, according to the Student Code, spelled out in the Student Handbook. Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in Article III of the Code. The Code also specifies proscribed conduct (Article XI) that involves cheating on tests, plagiarism, and/or collusion, as well as fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the Code carefully and know they are responsible for the content. According to Faculty Rules and Regulations, it is the faculty responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors, and I will do so, beginning with verbal warnings and progressing to dismissal from class and a failing grade. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee."

# **Nondiscrimination and Accessibility Policy**

The University of Utah does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, status as a disabled individual, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, genetic information or protected veteran's status, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services.

Additionally, the University endeavors to provide reasonable accommodations and to ensure equal access to qualified persons with disabilities. Inquiries concerning perceived discrimination or requests for disability accommodations may be referred to the University's Title IX/ADA/Section 504 Coordinator:

Director, Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action 201 South Presidents Circle, Rm.135 Salt Lake City, UT, 84112 801-581-8365 (voice/tdd)

801-585-5746 (fax) <a href="https://oeo.utah.edu">https://oeo.utah.edu</a>

Other University policies such as harassment, withdrawal, and the student grievance process can be found at the website of the registrar. <a href="https://registrar.utah.edu/handbook/">https://registrar.utah.edu/handbook/</a>

## **Undocumented Student Support Statement**

Immigration is a complex phenomenon with broad impact—those who are directly affected by it, as well as those who are indirectly affected by their relationships with family members, friends, and loved ones. If your immigration status presents obstacles to engaging in specific activities or fulfilling specific course criteria, confidential arrangements may be requested from the Dream Center. Arrangements with the Dream Center will not jeopardize your student status, your financial aid, or any other part of your residence. The Dream Center offers a wide range of resources to support undocumented students (with

and without DACA) as well as students from mixed-status families. To learn more, please contact the Dream Center at 801.213.3697 or visit dream.utah.edu.

#### **Wellness Statement**

Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural differences, etc., can interfere with a student's ability to succeed and thrive at University of Utah. For helpful resources contact the Center for Student Wellness at www.wellness.utah.edu or 801-581-7776.

#### **Veterans Center**

If you are a student veteran, the U of Utah has a Veterans Support Center located in Room 161 in the Olpin Union Building. Hours: M-F 8-5pm. Please visit their website for more information about what support they offer, a list of ongoing events and links to outside resources: http://veteranscenter.utah.edu/. Please also let me know if you need any additional support in this class for any reason.

#### **LGBT Resource Center**

The LGBT Resource Center offers Gender and Sexuality (formerly Safe Zone) trainings for faculty, staff and instructors at the U. You can also schedule one for your office or Department. The aim of the training is to promote inclusive teaching and foster a respectful, safe environment for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning individuals in our classrooms. For more information about trainings/ workshops, panels and suggesting on how to ask about personal pronouns and preferred student names please go to: http://lgbt.utah.edu/lgbtrc-programs/trainings.php. If you plan to indicate that your classroom is a safe zone, please attend one of these trainings.

# Learners of English as an Additional Language

If you are an English language learner, please be aware of several resources on campus that will support you with your language and writing development. These resources include: the Writing Center (http://writingcenter.utah.edu/); the Writing Program (http://writing-program.utah.edu/); the English Language Institute (http://continue.utah.edu/eli/). Please let me know if there is any additional support you would like to discuss for this class.

Students can find the full Student Code of Conduct and Accommodation Policy at:

- a. Student Code: <a href="http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php">http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php</a>
- b. Accommodation Policy (see Section Q): <a href="http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-100.php">http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-100.php</a>

## Important to remember

Please familiarize yourself with the College of Social and Behavioral Science Emergency Action Plan

(http://content.csbs.utah.edu/~mli/CSBS%20Emergency%20Action%20Plan.pdf).