

Spring 2020, ECON 2020 002

Tu/Th 2:00-3:20PM, BUC 107

Spring, 2020

Instructor Information

Instructor

Soumava Basu
Ph.D. Student
Department of Economics

Email

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Office Location & Hours

260 Central Campus drive
Gardner commons, RM 4100
Salt Lake City, UT 84112
(By Appointment)

General Information

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. The class discussions and the assignments/projects will include extensive references to economic issues faced by the US and global economies. 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.

Expectations and Goals

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

1. Understand essential economic principles that underlie the workings of the goods market, the money market, and the labor market in a modern economy.
2. Understand the mechanism and channels through which fiscal and monetary policies affect the macroeconomy.
3. Be familiar with current economic debates on macroeconomic policy intervention.
4. Understand how to use simple macroeconomic models to analyze an economy and to derive the effects of exogenous shocks on output, employment, and the price level.

Course materials and Organization

Course Material

Principles of Macroeconomics, 12th ed., by Karl E. Case, Ray C. Fair and Sharon E. Oster, Pearson Prentice Hall. The textbook can be purchased from the university's bookstore.

Other materials, including relevant blogs, articles, and videos, will be shared through canvas for in-class or canvas discussions.

Course Organization

The class sessions will follow a lecture/discussion format. In addition to the presentation of formal macroeconomic models and theories I will try to go over as many examples and problems as possible.

Exam Schedule

Both the final and the midterm exams will be in-class, closed book and closed notes and will cover numerical and non-numerical problems as well as multiple choice questions. Prior to each of the two exams I will share a study guide that I will post on Canvas. In preparation for the two exams you should work through the study guide, the problems you have received in your assignments and the problems we will be covering during class sessions

Date	Subject
27 th February/3 rd March (class time)	Midterm
24 th April (1-3 PM)	Final

Grades Disaggregation and Scaling:

Final Exam 25%; Midterm Exam: 25%; Assignments: $10 \times 3\% = 30\%$; Group project: 20%.

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

Requirements

It is your responsibility to read emails and announcements sent through Canvas and to stay up to date with the material (textbook chapters, discussions, etc.). All assignments will be administered through Instructure/Canvas. The system is set up such that no answers can be submitted after the deadline. In other words, no late assignments will be accepted. To pass this class with a good grade, you must be on top of deadlines. Active, regular participation is crucial for success in this class! Concerning make-up exams, you will have to give me at least four weeks' notice otherwise no make-up exam will be available. In case of family or personal medical emergency, you will need to provide a note from a physician/hospital which will be checked by the department.

Disclaimer ADA - 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 the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.

Rights and 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 faculty responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors, 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.