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OFFICE HOURS AND APPOINTMENTS:

I will hold drop in office hours on Tuesdays from 2:00 – 4:00 and Wednesdays from 2:00 – 5:00, during which I will be available in person in my office. In addition, I will be available for appointments as the need arises. To insure availability, appointments should be made with at least 24 hours advance notice.

My teaching assistant, Javad Nosratabadi, will hold office hours in the department’s Undergraduate Tutoring Center (VH 136) on Mondays from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:

- Access to CONNECT

NOTE: Access to CONNECT includes access to a complete digital copy of the course textbook, so you don’t need to buy a physical copy of the book if you don’t want to. On the other hand, since all homework assignments will be distributed and graded through CONNECT, **you can’t pass the course without access to CONNECT**.

REGISTERING FOR CONNECT:

Click on the MCGRAW HILL CONNECT link on the left side of the course homepage in Canvas and follow the instructions to register for access to CONNECT.
COURSE CONTENT:

This course is designed as an introduction to the macroeconomic issues that concern economists as well as the tools used by economists to analyze them. Although I reserve the right to make modifications as I see fit, my tentative plan is to cover the following topics in order:

- The Supply and Demand Model (ch. 3)
- GDP and the Unemployment Rate (ch. 5)
- Measuring the Price Level and the Inflation Rate (ch. 6)
- Real vs. Nominal Interest Rates (ch. 6)
- Output Determination in the Short Run (ch. 13)
- Money Supply, Money Demand, and Interest Rates in the Short Run (ch. 14)
- The AS/AD Model of Output and Inflation in the Long Run (ch. 15)
- Long Run Determinants of Economic Growth (ch. 7)
- The Labor Market (ch. 8)
- Saving, Investment, and Interest Rates in the Long Run (ch. 9)
- Money Supply, Prices, and the Federal Reserve in the Long Run (ch. 10)

COURSE OBJECTIVE:

The objective of the course is to provide a thorough introduction to the macroeconomic issues that concern economists, as well as the tools used by economists to analyze them. It begins by describing four key macroeconomic aggregates that economists use to judge macroeconomic performance: real GDP, the unemployment rate, the rate of inflation, and the interest rate. After explaining how each of them is computed in practice, the course moves on to examine the models that economists use to understand the forces that determine those aggregates. It begins with the Keynesian model of output and interest rate determination in the short run, and then moves on to consider models of the long run. Finally, with the help of those models,
the course examines the channels through which policy-makers can influence macroeconomic outcomes.

ACCOMMODATING DISABILITIES:

In keeping with the Americans with Disabilities Act, I will make every effort to accommodate the needs of students with disabilities. Any student who, because of a disabling condition, may require special accommodations in order to meet course requirements should contact me as soon as possible to make the necessary arrangements.

GRADING:

Each student’s grade will be based on their scores from 10 homework assignments completed in CONNECT, two midterm exams, and a comprehensive final exam. In particular, a student’s overall numerical score for the course will be a weighted average of his/her average homework score, average midterm score, and final exam score. The average homework score will receive a weight of 0.30 in the overall grade. Of the midterm average and final exam grade, the higher score will receive a weight of 0.50, while the lower score will receive a weight of 0.20.

For the purpose of calculating the average homework score, the lowest two scores will automatically be dropped.

Exam scores will be curved as I see fit. Homework assignment scores will not be curved.

Letter grades for the course will be determined by students’ overall numerical scores according to a straight scale (i.e - 90-100: A, 80 – 89: B, etc).

NOTE: No extra credit of any kind will be offered.

LATE HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS:

Each graded problem set in CONNECT has an associated deadline. Any questions left unanswered at a problem set’s deadline will be automatically marked wrong, so be sure to complete each assignment before its associated deadline. To avoid last minute submission difficulties related to hardware or network connection difficulties, be sure to start your homework early!
EXAM SCHEDULE:

- Exam 1: Tuesday, July 2\textsuperscript{nd}
- Exam 2: Thursday, July 18\textsuperscript{th}
- Final Exam: Thursday, July 25\textsuperscript{th}

If you take this class, you must take the exams at the scheduled times. There will be no makeup exams, and I will make absolutely no exceptions.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

I will not tolerate cheating of any kind. Any student who, in my judgment, is found to have cheated on an assignment or exam will receive an automatic zero for that assignment/exam.

CELL PHONES AND TABLETS:

For your benefit, the use of cell phones or tablets during lectures will be strictly prohibited. If I spot you on your phone or tablet during class, I will confiscate the offending item until the end of the lecture.

DROP DEADLINES:

- Monday, June 24\textsuperscript{th}: Drop/Add period ends. You will not be refunded for the course if you drop it after this date.
- Friday, June 28\textsuperscript{th}: Last day to withdraw from the University with a 25\% tuition refund.
- Monday, July 15\textsuperscript{th}: Last day to drop with DR grade or withdraw from the University with a WI grade.