

Florida International University
Department of Economics
Principles of Macroeconomics
(ECO2013)
Fall 2022

Instructor: Andrew Bernal

<https://sites.google.com/view/andrewbernal/teaching>

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Class time: 12:30PM - 1:45PM

Office hours: VH 136

Classroom: Deuxieme Maison (DM) 190

Monday, Wednesday 9:30AM -
12:00PM

Course Description

The main purpose of this course is to introduce students to the principles of macroeconomic theory. Macroeconomics is the study of the aggregate economy, made up of the choices that individuals, firms, and governments make. We will see how individual demands and actions drive the economy as a whole, and what steps governments take in response to shocks to the macroeconomy.

The study of macroeconomics is essential to understanding the many public policy debates you may hear about from the news or your elected officials. We will explore issues that economies around the globe deal with, including: inflation, recessions/depressions, interest rates & the Federal Reserve Bank, and how different national economies interact with one another.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of the course, the student should be able to:

- Explain the basic premises and tools of economic thinking
- Use economic thinking to explain choice in a world of scarcity
- Analyze how buyers and sellers interact in a free and competitive market to determine prices and quantities of goods
- Identify the determinants of supply and demand
- Demonstrate the impact of shifts in supply and demand on prices and output
- Define and measure Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and National Income
- Understand and measure the unemployment rate, as well as the inflation rate
- Describe and analyze sources of economic growth
- Explain Keynesian economics using the Income-Expenditure Model

- Construct the aggregate demand and aggregate supply (AD-AS) model of the macro-economy, and use it to illustrate macroeconomic problems and potential monetary and fiscal policy solutions
- Explain the differences between monetary and fiscal policy, and how they can impact the economy
- Define money and the money supply; describe the process of money creation by the banking system and the role of the central bank
- Explain how different nations interact with one another, and what effects these interactions have on each nation's economy

A (*) indicates optional materials, time-permitting

Course Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Required Materials

- [Principles of Macroeconomics](#). R. Glenn Hubbard and Anthony Patrick O'Brien, 8th Edition, Updated Edition
- Pearson MyLab Economics access code
- **Note:** Online access to the full textbook is included with purchase of MyLab Economics access, **so you are not obligated to buy a physical copy of the textbook.**
- Top Hat account (<https://tophat.com/>)

Homework assignments (discussed in further detail below) will make up a significant portion of your grade and will **require MyLab access through Pearson**. You cannot pass the course without the MyLab access.

Top Hat will be used to track attendance, for (non-graded) in-class quizzes, and extra credit opportunities for exams.

Note: If you have the Panther Book Pack, the above materials will be provided to you by the Bookstore. Without the Book Pack, you would need to purchase the access code and a Top Hat account separately; unless you are already using/paying for Top Hat for another course.

Course Structure

This is a traditional, face-to-face class. I will also use the whiteboard often -- I recommend you bring a notebook (or tablet/laptop that has a stylus) to class, so you can take your own handwritten notes.

Lecture slides will be available to view on Top Hat, but these are not the only things you should be studying from. The examples I show in class will be easier to follow and will be more closely related to homework/exam questions. The textbook also offers good examples and practice questions.

As noted in the grading policy below, some lower-graded assignments will be dropped. Additionally, there will be extra credit opportunities via Top Hat. Because of this, there will be **no additional extra credit** opportunities given this semester. If you have concerns regarding your grade, reach out to me as soon as possible.

Details in this syllabus are always subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

Grades

Grades are based on

- **Attendance (5%)**
- **Homework assignments (20%)**
- **Exams (75%)**

There will be around 14 homeworks total and 3 exams.

I will drop the lowest **two (2)** homework grades. Drops can also be applied to exams/homeworks that are not submitted.

Each exam is worth **25%** of your grade in the course. If you receive a low grade on one of the first two exams, your **final exam** grade can be used to replace the low grade. This will also apply if you miss one of the first two exams.

Skipping/not submitting exams/homeworks should only be done in **emergency situations**. Completing all assignments gives you the best chance of succeeding in this class.

See below for a more detailed explanation of how your final grade will be calculated:

Course Grade =

$$\begin{aligned} & (\text{Exam 1} * 0.25) + (\text{Exam 2} * 0.25) + (\text{Final Exam} * 0.25) \\ & + (\text{Homework Average} * 0.20) + (\text{Participation} * 0.05) \end{aligned}$$

If your Exam 1 or Exam 2 grade is **lower** than your Final Exam grade, your Final Exam will replace the lower score. The following calculation applies:

Course Grade =

$$\begin{aligned} & (\text{Exam 1 or 2, whichever is higher} * 0.25) + (\text{Final Exam} * 0.25) + (\text{Final Exam} * 0.25) \\ & + (\text{Homework Average} * 0.20) + (\text{Participation} * 0.05) \end{aligned}$$

The following scale will be used for grading:

Letter	Range%	Letter	Range%	Letter	Range %
A	95 or above	B	83 - 86	C	70 - 76
A-	90 - 94	B-	80 - 82	D	60 - 69
B+	87 - 89	C+	77 - 79	F	59 or less

Dates of the exams can be found in the Course Outline.

Attendance and Top Hat

FIU mandates attendance records for UCC courses for the first three weeks of class. Not only will attending class help you in preparing for homeworks and exams, **5%** of your grade will be based on your attendance record. The first week of class will not count against you, as it is still add/drop week. Three (3) absences or less in the semester will also not count against your grade. Please be sure to attend exam days.

Top Hat will be used to track attendance. At the beginning of each class, you will input the 4 digit code shown on the PowerPoint and your attendance for the day will be recorded.

Homework Assignments

- Will be done online, following the completion of each chapter covered in-class
- [Click here for instructions to register for this course on Pearson MyLab](#)
- Since we should be covering 14 chapters, you should expect to take 14 homeworks
- They will open at the beginning of each week and **will be due one week after the chapter is covered in class, at 11:59PM**
- Late submissions will be accepted, but penalized. There will be a **five (5)** point deduction per day for late submissions

Exams

- Exams will be taken in-person, in-class, and are **closed-book**
- There will be three (3) exams total: two (2) midterm exams and one (1) final exam
- Exams, including the Final, **are not cumulative, but** in many cases, new material will require you to understand concepts from previous chapters
- **No electronics** are allowed out during exams, other than calculators
- **Bring a calculator**
- **Bring your Panther ID**
- **Arrive on time for exams.** If you enter the room after someone has already turned in an exam, you may not take the exam.
- Any form of cheating or academic dishonesty during exams is, of course, prohibited. See below for the university's official policy on academic dishonesty

Extra Credit (Top Hat)

Top Hat will be used for in-class surveys and quizzes. There will be one (1) question per chapter which can be used as extra credit on your exams.

Getting that one (1) question correct will result in one (1) extra credit point on the upcoming exam. There will be approximately **five (5)** extra credit points available per exam.

Course Outline (Tentative)

Week	
1	M: Syllabus and Course Overview W: Ch 1. Economics: Foundations and Models.
2	M: Ch 2. Trade-offs, Comparative Advantage, and the Market System W: Ch 2. Trade-offs, Comparative Advantage, and the Market System Ch 3. Where Prices Come From: The Interaction of Demand and Supply

3	<p>M: Ch 3. Where Prices Come From: The Interaction of Demand and Supply Ch 4. Economic Efficiency, Government Price Setting, and Taxes</p> <p>W: Ch 4. Economic Efficiency, Government Price Setting, and Taxes</p>
4	<p>M: Ch 4. Economic Efficiency, Government Price Setting, and Taxes</p> <p>W: Ch 8. GDP: Measuring Total Production and Income</p>
5	<p>M: Ch 8. GDP: Measuring Total Production and Income</p> <p>W: Exam 1 (September 21st).</p>
6	<p>M: Ch 9. Unemployment and Inflation</p> <p>W: Ch 9. Unemployment and Inflation</p>
7	<p>M:Ch 10. Economic Growth, The Financial System, and Business Cycles</p> <p>W: Ch 10. Economic Growth, The Financial System, and Business Cycles Ch 12. Aggregate Expenditure and Output in the Short-Run</p>
8	<p>M: Ch 12. Aggregate Expenditure and Output in the Short-Run</p> <p>W: Ch 12. Aggregate Expenditure and Output in the Short-Run</p>
9	<p>M: Ch 13. Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply Analysis</p> <p>W: Ch 13. Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply Analysis</p>
10	<p>M: Ch 13. Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply Analysis</p> <p>W: Exam 2 (October 26th).</p>
11	<p>Monday, October 31st, is the last day to drop the class with a DR grade</p> <p>M: Ch 14. Money, Banks, and the Federal Reserve System</p> <p>W: Ch 14. Money, Banks, and the Federal Reserve System</p>
12	<p>M: Ch 15. Monetary Policy</p> <p>W: Ch 15. Monetary Policy</p>
13	<p>M: Ch 16. Fiscal Policy</p> <p>W: Ch 16. Fiscal Policy</p>

14	<p>M: Ch 18. Macroeconomics in an Open Economy</p> <p>W: Ch 18. Macroeconomics in an Open Economy</p>
15	<p>M: Ch 7. Comparative Advantage and the Gains from International Trade</p> <p>W: Ch 7. Comparative Advantage and the Gains from International Trade</p>
16	<p>M or W: Final Exam (Date TBD).</p>

Office Hours and the Economics Tutoring Center

If you have any questions or difficulties regarding course content, try to make it to my office hours. If you can't attend office hours, we can set up a Zoom appointment. You can also visit the Economics Tutoring Center, located in Viertes Haus (VH) 136. There are typically other graduate students there that can assist you.

Religious Observance Policy

Accommodations will be made for students who wish to observe their religious holidays. Students should make their requests known at the beginning of the semester – during the first week of class.

Top Hat

We will be using Top Hat Pro (www.tophat.com) for class participation. You will be able to review lecture materials and submit answers to questions using Apple or Android smartphones and tablets, laptops, or through text message. For instructions on how to create a Top Hat account and enroll in our Top Hat Pro course, please refer to the invitation sent to your school email address or consult Top Hat's Getting Started Guide (<https://bit.ly/31TGMIw>).

If you already have a Top Hat account, go to: <https://app.tophat.com/e/089736/> to be taken directly to our course. If you are new to Top Hat, follow the link in the email invitation you received or...

- Go to <https://app.tophat.com/register/student>
- Click "Search by school" and input: **Florida International University**
- Search for our course with the following join code: **089736**

If a paid subscription is required, it will be listed at checkout when you enroll in our Top Hat Pro course. If you have already purchased Top Hat for a separate course, you will not be prompted to pay again.

Should you require assistance with Top Hat at any time please contact their Support Team directly by way of email (support@tophat.com), the in-app support button, or by calling 1-888-663-5491. Specific user information may be required by their technical support team when troubleshooting issues.

Email Policy

Please use common courtesy when sending emails. Please provide your name, class section, and other relevant information. I will try to answer each email in 48 hours or less.

Accommodations for Disabilities

Every effort will be made to accommodate students with disabilities. For those students, you should contact the [Disability Resource Center \(DRC\)](#). The DRC provides FIU students with disabilities the necessary support to successfully complete their education and participate in activities available to all students. If you have a diagnosed disability and plan to utilize academic accommodations, please contact the Center at (305) 348-3532 or visit them at the Graham Center (GC) 190.

Academic Integrity and Honesty

Any form of cheating on exams is strictly prohibited. Cheating on an exam will automatically result in a 0 on that exam, and it will **not** be eligible to be dropped. In the worst case, students who engage in academic dishonesty may be suspended or expelled from FIU. Feel free to read through [FIU's Student Conduct and Academic Integrity policy](#).

FIU Academic Calendar

You should keep track of the university's [Academic Calendar](#). It provides add/drop dates, university holidays, and the date when grades will be posted.