

Course Syllabus

Econ 2470: Macroeconomic Theory and its Applications I (Section A01)

Department of Economics, University of Manitoba

Instructor: Dr. Ryan A. Compton

Schedule: 10:30-11:20, MWF in 240 University College

Required Text: Macroeconomics 4th CDN edition, Blanchard and Johnson

Course Web Site: home.cc.umanitoba.ca/~compton/teaching.html

Email: compton@cc.umanitoba.ca.

Phone: email me!!

Office Hours: M 11:30-12:30 in Fletcher Argue 517

Prerequisites: A 'C' grade or better in Econ 1200 or both Econ 1210 and Econ 1220.

Attendance: Lecture attendance is very important to success in this course. The textbook is very useful, but the main source of information in the class will be in the lectures. Exams will be based primarily on lecture notes. Some of this material is not covered in the textbook. Plan to attend class. Also note that I will place the solutions to the homework on my website for 1 week following the due date. A password will be given in class (only in class, I will not email students this password) to access the solutions. Once the week expires, they are taken down. If you do not have the solutions at this point you will have to find someone (other than myself) to give them to you. This is to cut down on paper waste and the rash of emails to me days before exams for solutions already made available over the course of the semester.

Grading Procedures: There will be 2 examinations and 5 assignments during the semester:

Exam 1: (30%) Wednesday, October 19, 2011

Exam 2: (60%) During finals period in December, 2011.

Assignments: (10%) There are 5 assignments.

Your letter grade will be determined by adding the total scores you received in the tests and assignment. The letter grades are distributed as follows (note: all grades are subject to departmental approval):

A+ = 92-100%

A = 83-91.9%

B+ = 75-82.9%

B = 70-74.9%

C+ = 65-69.9%

C = 60-64.9%

D = 50-59.9%

F = 0-49.9%

Email Policy: Due to the large number of students in this class and my past experience with email from students (such as numerous emails the night before a homework is due or an exam is scheduled), I will only respond immediately to emails which request an appointment with me. Other emails will be responded to during my office hours.

Exam and Homework Policy: To be fair to all of the students in the class, I must insist that the following exam policies be followed. Anyone who must miss an exam should notify me as soon as possible, but at least three days before the scheduled exam time. The only exceptions to this rule will be a verified, serious illness or serious family emergency. Even in this case, students should notify me of the illness prior to the exam.

I cannot postpone exams because of deadlines or exam dates in other courses. Such actions would not be fair to other students in the class who likely also face pressure from work in other classes but take the exams at the scheduled time anyway.

The exams will be graded very carefully and I rarely change the original grades. If you believe that a grading mistake has been made on an exam, however, you may submit a re-grade request to me in writing explaining why the question has been graded incorrectly. Keep in mind that if a re-grade request is submitted, I will re-grade the entire exam, not simply the individual question. The exams are closed book, meaning that you may not consult the text, your notes or any other material, nor may you communicate with each other while taking the tests.

You may work in groups for the homework assignments, but each person must turn in answers in their own words. Copying answers from someone else is not considered to be working in a group. If you choose to work with others on the homework, make sure you understand how you arrived at each answer. The homework is designed to prepare you for the exams, so it's in your best interest to completely understand the answers to the assignments. It is important to make use of my office hours (as well as the course teaching assistant) and to make sure that if you find yourself falling behind, you come see me early rather than waiting until exam time.

I look forward to a productive semester, and am always interested in hearing any comments or suggestions you may have, so please don't hesitate to talk with me after class.

As required by the University, please note:

1. Evaluative feedback will be provided by the voluntary withdrawal deadline, which is November 16, 2011.
2. Students will not be permitted to write make-up tests or hand in assignments late, except for documented medical or compassionate reasons.
3. Students should acquaint themselves with the University's policy on plagiarism and cheating and examination impersonation (see Section 8 on academic integrity in general academic regulations section of the 11/12 University of Manitoba Undergraduate Calendar).
4. Penalties for Academic Dishonesty: The common penalty in Arts for plagiarism on a written assignment is F on the paper and F (CW) (for Compulsory Withdrawal) for the course. For the most serious acts of plagiarism, such as the purchase of an essay and repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department in Arts or from all courses taught in this Faculty. The Faculty also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism. The common penalty in Arts for academic dishonesty on a test or examination is F for the paper, F (CW) for the course, and a one-year suspension from courses acceptable for credit in the Faculty. For more serious acts of academic dishonesty on a test or examination, such as repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department in Arts or from all courses taught in or accepted for credit by this Faculty. The Faculty is considering adopting a *zero tolerance* approach for "cheating" on either a term test or a final examination. Under this approach, students for whom allegations of cheating has been upheld will receive a final course grade of F (CW) and a minimum two year suspension.
5. Students appealing any term work whether it is an informal or formal appeal must appeal their term work within 10 working days of receiving their mark.
6. Any term work that has not been claimed by students will be held for four (4) months from the end of the final examination period for the term in which the work was assigned. At the conclusion of this time, all unclaimed term work will be destroyed according to FIPPA guidelines.

Order of Topics Covered

Part 1: Fundamentals of Macroeconomics: A Review

1. A Tour of the World (Chapter 1)
2. Measuring Economic Performance: Output, Employment, and Inflation (Chapter 2)

Part 2: A Short Run Model for Macroeconomic Analysis (IS-LM model)

1. The Goods Market (Chapter 3)
2. Financial Markets (Chapter 4)
3. Goods and Financial Markets: The IS-LM Model in a Closed Economy (Chapter 5)
4. Openness in Goods and Financial Markets (Chapter 6)
5. The Goods Market in an Open Economy (Chapter 7)
6. Output, the Interest Rate, and the Exchange Rate: ISLM in an Open Economy (Chapter 8)

Part 3: Extensions: Expectations

1. Expectations: The Basic Tools (Chapter 18)
2. Financial Markets and Expectations (Chapter 19)

Part 4: Topics I Find Interesting

1. Currency/Financial Crises (Outside Material)
2. Should Policymakers be Restrained? (Chapter 24)