**Econs102: Fundamentals of Macroeconomics**

**Fall 2015, WSU Pullman, Section 3**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Person, Position | Office hours | Office | email |
| Matt Birch, Instructor | By appointment. | Hulbert 111J | matthew.birch@wsu.ed |
| Yoonsoo Nam, TA | Tues,Thu 12:00-1:00 | Hulbert 105F | yoonsoo.nam@wsu.edu |
| Sanghyun Cho, TA | Wed 9:00; Fri 12:15-1:15 | Hulbert 205A | sanghyun.cho@wsu.edu |
| Econ Help Desk | Mon-Wed at 2-7pm | Lighty 260f |  |

**Getting Help:**

For concerns regarding assignment due dates, late work, grading errors, etc., please contact Yoonsoo Nam.

For questions/concerns regarding using LaunchPad, MobLab, Net Tutor, or Top Hat, please email BOTH Yoonsoo and Sangyun with the same email. This will enable you to get help as soon as possible.

For questions on economics, your first resources are the Book and LaunchPad. Your more helpful resources are TA office hours and the help desk. Combined 24 hours of help weekly.

**Text Book and Resources**

Textbook bundle ISBN: 9781319069810

* Macroeconomics in Modules, 3e, written by Krugman and Wells
* LaunchPad Access
* Net Tutor Access
* Mob Lab Access

**Top Hat**

You will need to purchase TopHat access at tophat.com. It is required for the class. Price is as follows: $24 for 4 months, $36 for a year, or $72 for “lifetime” access. We will use TopHat DAILY, meaning that every day you will need to have a computer, tablet, or phone IN class to participate and get the class credit. Class code is 666263.

**Class Websites**

Blackboard: [www.learn.wsu.edu](http://www.learn.wsu.edu)

LaunchPad: Assignments are accessed through LaunchPad folder in Blackboard

Net Tutor: Net Tutor is accessed in NetTutor folder in Blackboard

MobLab: [www.moblab.com](http://www.moblab.com)

Top Hat: [www.tophat.com](http://www.tophat.com)

**Course Goals**

Upon completion of this course, you should understand and be familiar with the how the economy operates in a market-oriented country like the United States, with an emphasis on government policy impacts. The learning goals for the Fundamentals of Macroeconomics specified by the School of Economic Sciences include:

* Students will learn the basic terminology of macroeconomics.
* Students will be able to apply the concepts of choice and opportunity cost to basic situations involving scarcity and clearly identify feasible choices.
* Students will understand the circular flow of the economy.
* Students will understand how the level of economic activity in an economy is determined.
* Students will understand the gains from international trade.

I have additional learning objectives for this class. They are:

* Students will understand how a market based economy achieves short-run and long-run levels of output.
* Students will be able to critically appraise how government policies, monetary policies and policies on spending and taxes, in particular, affect GDP, unemployment, inflation and growth.
* Students will understand how the US economy interacts with the world economy.
* Students will be able to analyze the foreign exchange market and balance of payments, and understand the relationship to international trade and capital flows.

**Course Work & Schedule**

**Top Hat Participation (5%):**

We use Top Hat in class. It is a call and response software that facilitates class discussion and helps me to know how the class is doing. Credit will be given based partially on participation and partially on attendance. Credit is per question and not per day, so some days will be weighted more heavily than others.

**LaunchPad problem Sets (42%):**

Each week (except for week1) there are graded problem sets on LaunchPad. The number of questions varies, so you will be graded on the percent correct on each problem set. You will have 2 attempts at each assignment. After each attempt you will know whether or not you got each problem right and what your score is. You will not see the solutions until after the due date. The average score of the 14 LaunchPad assignments will account for 42% of your grade. You may also complete the practice assignments for each module, but you will receive no credit for doing so. I do not accept late work in LaunchPad.

Please when you sign up for LaunchPad, use your student email! It will make linking LaunchPad and Blackboard significantly easier.

**Tests and Final (40%):**

There are 3 midterm exams in this course and one final exam. Exam 1 covers sections 1-5 in the text. Exam 2 covers sections 6-9. Exam 3 covers sections 10-14. The final is fully comprehensive. Each exam is worth 10% of your grade.

**Writing (10%):**

There are 4 writing assignments. In the Net Tutor folder in Blackboard, you find the topics and rubrics for each assignment. You will access the NetTutor website via the provided link in Blackboard. These are worth 10 percent of your grade. When you submit your assignment, it is due at 9pm PST on the due date. I STRONGLY recommend you do not wait until that night, because that is when problems always happen (especially with Net Tutor).

**MobLab (3%):**

When you purchase the textbook bundle from the Bookie or from Crimson and Gray, it includes a program called MobLab. We will play a few games during the semester in MobLab, and your performance in these will account for 3% of your grade.

**Extra Credit:**

There will be optional practice exams available in LaunchPad. Each can add up to 2% to your grade. I will also occasionally invite volunteers to draw graphs and answer questions in front of the class for extra credit. I do not drop assignments.

**Work Schedule:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Ending Date** | **LaunchPad (Sunday at 11:59pm)** | **Net Tutor (Sunday at 9:00pm)** | **Exams** |
| 1 | 1/17/2016 | None, but don't get comfy! |  |  |
| 2 | 1/24/2016 | Section 1 |  |  |
| 3 | 1/31/2016 | Section 2 | Net Tutor 1: Inequality |  |
| 4 | 2/7/2016 | Section 3 |  |  |
| 5 | 2/14/2016 | Section 4 |  | Exam 1: 2/11/16 |
| 6 | 2/21/2016 | Section 5 |  |  |
| 7 | 2/28/2016 | Section 6 | Net Tutor 2: Unemployment |  |
| 8 | 3/6/2016 | Section 7 |  |  |
| 9 | 3/13/2016 | Section 8 |  |  |
| 10 | 3/20/2016 | SPRING BREAK!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! | !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! | !!!!!!!! |
| 11 | 3/27/2016 | Section 9 | Net Tutor 3: Entitlements | Exam 2: 3/24/16 |
| 12 | 4/3/2016 | Section 10 |  |  |
| 13 | 4/10/2016 | Section 11 |  |  |
| 14 | 4/17/2016 | Section 12 | Net Tutor 4: Austerity |  |
| 15 | 4/24/2016 | Section 13 |  |  |
| 16 | 5/1/2016 | Section 14 |  | Exam 3: 4/26/16 |
| Finals Week | Final Exam | Location and time | TBA | TBA |

**Late Work Policy**

Late work is accepted under extenuating circumstances. Please contact Yoonsoo with regard to assignment scheduling and changes.

**Grading**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Grade** | **Percentage** | **Grade** | **Percentage** |
| A | 93–100% | C | 73-76% |
| A– | 90-92% | C– | 70-72% |
| B+ | 87-89% | D+ | 65-69% |
| B | 83-86% | D | 60-64% |
| B– | 80-82% | F | below 60% |
| C+ | 77-79% |  |  |

**Incomplete Grade Policy**

Incompletes are granted only with permission of the instructor and are subject to the following guidelines:

1. Students must request an incomplete in writing or by e-mail from the instructor before the end of the semester.
2. The request must be signed and dated by the student (or identified by student's e-mail address), and must explain the reasons behind the request for the incomplete.
3. In order to be considered for an incomplete, a student must have a passing grade on the completed assignments. (NOTE: A passing grade is 60 percent or above for the entire course.)
4. If extraordinary circumstances (e.g., family emergency, serious illness) are involved and are documented to the instructor’s satisfaction, the professor/ instructor retains the discretion to grant an incomplete even if the minimum conditions outlined above are not met.

If an incomplete is granted, then the standard WSU policy applies (i.e., all work must be completed within one full year from the end of the enrollment semester at issue. Otherwise, an automatic grade of F, or failing, will be entered on the student’s transcript).

**Academic Regulations**

For the most accurate and up to date information start with your home campus Web site. For information specific to Academic Regulations please use the Website search function.

* WSU Online & Pullman Campus: <http://wsu.edu/>

**MIDTERM GRADE POLICY**

Midterm grades are advisory and do not appear on the student’s permanent record, the WSU transcript.

**Student Privacy**

As a University student, you have legal rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) for protection of your academic records. For a complete explanation of these rights, visit the URL associated with your home campus in the Academic Regulations section or <http://www.registrar.wsu.edu/Registrar/Apps/FERPA.ASPX>.

**Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is the cornerstone of the university. You assume full responsibility for the content and integrity of the academic work you submit. You may collaborate with classmates on assignments, with the instructor's permission. However the guiding principle of academic integrity shall be that your submitted work, examinations, reports, and projects must be your own work. Any student who violates the University's standard of conduct relating to academic integrity will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and may fail the assignment or the course. You can learn more about Academic Integrity on your campus using the URL listed in the Academic Regulations section or to <http://academicintegrity.wsu.edu/>. Please use these resources to ensure that you don’t inadvertently violate WSU's standard of conduct.

Any course-related materials, presentations, lectures, etc. are the instructor's intellectual property and may be protected by copyright. The use of University electronic resources (e.g., Blackboard) for commercial purposes, including advertising to other students to buy notes, is a violation of WSU's computer abuses and theft policy (WAC 504-26-218).

**Reasonable Accommodations**

Reasonable accommodations are available in online classes for students with a documented disability. All accommodations must be approved through your WSU Disability Services office. If you have a disability and need accommodations, we recommend you begin the process as soon as possible.

For more information contact a Disability Specialist on your home campus:

* WSU Online & Pullman: 509-335-3417 [http://www.accesscenter.wsu.edu,](http://www.accesscenter.wsu.edu/) [Access.Center@wsu.edu](mailto:Access.Center@wsu.edu)
* Spokane: [http://spokane.wsu.edu.html](http://spokane.wsu.edu/)
* Tri-Cities: <http://www.tricity.wsu.edu/disability/>
* Vancouver: 360-546-9138 <http://studentaffairs.vancouver.wsu.edu/student-resource-center/disability-services>

**On Campus Safety**

Classroom and campus safety are of paramount importance at Washington State University, and are the shared responsibility of the entire campus population.  WSU urges students to follow the “***Alert, Assess, Act***” protocol for all types of emergencies and the [*“Run, Hide, Fight”*](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.fbi.gov_about-2Dus_cirg_active-2Dshooter-2Dand-2Dmass-2Dcasualty-2Dincidents_run-2Dhide-2Dfight-2Dvideo&d=CwMFAg&c=C3yme8gMkxg_ihJNXS06ZyWk4EJm8LdrrvxQb-Je7sw&r=BpiL5UPBWUo8DGMvP6Gm0r-CLSlEvj33mUwOkOQMeWSwbCg4t4z7mmYg5iPEM3li&m=qJS-kJU_r4Bwkm_zYB2NeBm_0SBwya9P-EuME3OVKHw&s=9TslIDaOy3f-dT4Sy49VRgz4TZClQPLRbpmXTApRZB4&e=) response for an active shooter incident. Remain ***ALERT*** (through direct observation or emergency notification), ***ASSESS*** your specific situation, and ***ACT***in the most appropriate way to assure your own safety (and the safety of others if you are able).

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