



3250 201: Principles of Macroeconomics

(Section 003/A/B)

Fall 2020

Tu/Th 9:15-10:30 AM

Polsky 564 & Online

1 Information

Instructor: Mike DeDad

Email: mdedad@uakron.edu (please include “201:” in the beginning of the subject)

Office Hours: (Online Only) Tu/Th 10:45 AM - 12:00 PM and by appointment.

Prerequisite: 3250 200: Principles of Microeconomics

Class Web Page

Brightspace will be used for class information, announcements, grades, homework, etc.

Required Resources (Included with Your Enrollment)

Pearson MyLab Economics

- For homework quizzes. Access using the link on the left side of Brightspace.

Textbook (eText)

- *Foundations of Macroeconomics*, 8th ed., by R. Bade & M. Parkin. First, access MyLab through Brightspace, then choose “Pearson eText” on the left side of MyLab.

2 Course Requirements

Grades

Your grade will depend on your performance in the following areas:

	Points	% of Total
News Discussions	60	12%
Homework (Online Quizzes)	100	20%
Exam #1	100	20%
Exam #2	100	20%
Final Exam (Cumulative)	140	28%
Total	500	100%

Course Description

This course is a one-semester introduction to macroeconomics that studies the behavior of the economy as a whole, examining issues such as economic growth rates, inflation, unemployment, and the impacts of monetary and fiscal policy. You will learn macroeconomic concepts and models, which you will be expected to apply to hypothetical and real-world situations. You will learn to “think like an economist.” In other words, you will learn to develop economic reasoning, which is the ability to use theories or models to make sense of macroeconomic events that occur in the U.S. and globally in order to devise policy solutions for macroeconomic problems.

Course Learning Objectives

At the end of this course, successful students will be able to:

1. Understand basic economic concepts in macroeconomics.
 - Students will be able to demonstrate that they understand economic concepts such as scarcity, GDP measurement, unemployment, inflation, real and nominal interest rates, real and nominal wages, economic growth, fiscal policy, and the Federal Reserve’s monetary policy.
2. Use basic economic models to analyze the U.S. macro-economy.
 - Students will be able to apply basic economic principles and macroeconomic models to determine equilibrium real GDP and price levels. Students will be able to analyze the effects of fiscal policy, monetary policy, and other macroeconomic shocks on the growth rate and inflation rate.
3. Use basic economic principles to be able to predict how changes in policy are expected to impact the macro-economy.
 - Students will be able to apply basic economic principles and macroeconomic models to analyze how changes in fiscal and monetary policies will impact outcomes such as unemployment and inflation.
4. Apply basic economic principles to meaningfully understand macroeconomic news in publications such as The Wall Street Journal, The Economist, and The New York Times.
 - Students will be able to read a news article and apply basic economic principles to analyze the content of an article related to the macro-economy.

Online Exams

There will be a total of three online exams administered through Brightspace and proctored with **Respondus LockDown Browser/Monitor**. Exams will be composed of mostly multiple choice questions. Any appearance of cell phones, translators, notes, or books, will be considered academic misconduct. You will be permitted to use a **non-programmable calculator**. Any questions regarding the grading of a particular exam must be brought to my attention within one week of the graded exams being returned. The following dates for exams #1 and #2 are *tentative*. Your schedule must permit you to be free to take the final exam at the time listed below. **There are no alternatives to taking the final exam at this time and date.**

Exam #1:	Thursday, October 1	9:15-10:30 AM
Exam #2 (not cumulative):	Thursday, November 12	9:15-10:30 AM
Final Exam (cumulative):	Tuesday, December 8	12:15-2:15 PM

Respondus LockDown Browser/Monitor

Exams will be proctored using Respondus Lockdown Browser/Monitor. You have two options:

1. Use Respondus LockDown Browser/Monitor on your personal computer (Recommended). You must download Respondus Monitor before taking an online assessment. Select this link (http://www.uakron.edu/it/instructional_services/dds/online/respondus) for more information on Respondus Monitor, including directions on how to download and install it on the computer you will be using.
2. Take the exam at The University of Akron's Computer-Based Testing Center. To log in to the Brightspace exam through Respondus LockDown Browser, the proctor overseeing the exam will enter a password for you, and you will then be able to begin. Please refer to the following link for more information: http://www.uakron.edu/it/instructional_services/cbae/.

Missed Exam #1 or #2

If you find it necessary to miss Exam #1 or #2, contact me as soon as possible. Notification before the exam is strongly preferred as it is much easier to accommodate. If you receive my permission to miss an exam, I will transfer the weight of the missed exam to your final exam. Permission to do so, however, is limited to cases involving official excuses or unpredictable occurrences and is at my discretion. If you miss an exam without receiving prior approval, you must notify me as soon as possible and provide any requested documentation within one week (7 days) of the exam. Failure to do so will result in a zero on the exam. It is your responsibility to see that the absence is properly excused within the allotted time frame. You will only be allowed to transfer the weight of *at most* one exam to your final exam and will receive a 0 for the other if you miss both.

Missed Final Exam

Failure to take the final exam at the time listed above will result in a zero for your final exam grade. Make-up for the final will be limited to extraordinary occurrences, such as a well documented medical emergency. If I give you permission to make-up the final, you will receive an incomplete (“I”) grade for the course and you must take the exam in the next semester (Spring 2021), or else the “I” will be converted to an “F.”

Homework (Online Quizzes)

Homework will be in the form of online quizzes through MyLab Economics, which is accessible from the class Brightspace page. There will be 12 weekly quizzes throughout the semester, but only your 10 best quizzes will be counted toward your final grade. Quizzes must be submitted by 11:59pm on Saturday of the week they are due. Any questions regarding the grading of a particular quiz must be brought to my attention within one week of the quiz deadline. You will have three attempts for each quiz, and only your best score will count. There is no time limit for each attempt, and if you need to take a break, you can click “Save for Later” and resume the quiz at a later time, but you will not be able to return to previously answered questions.

No Make-Ups for Homeworks

There will be no make-ups for homework quizzes. If you do not meet the deadline for a homework assignment, you will receive 0 points for that assignment.

News Discussions

There will be 6 Brightspace discussions throughout the semester in which you will discuss a current event of my choosing. Each week that has a discussion, I will post either a news article or a news video along with questions that you must answer in a new thread on the Brightspace discussions page. Your grade for the discussion will be based on:

1. You must post an **initial post** with answers to my questions by **11:59pm on Thursday** during the week they are due. (5 points)
2. Then, using solid economic reasoning, you must post a **reply** to at least one of your classmates’ posts by **11:59pm on Saturday** (5 points).

To receive full points, you must post on time, make a sufficient amount of effort, and not represent ideas from your classmates or any other source as your own.

No Make-Ups for Discussion Posts

There will be no make-ups for discussion posts. If you do not meet the deadline for your post(s), you will receive 0 points for the missing post(s).

Attendance

Attendance of lectures is both expected and important for success in this course. There may be material covered in class that you will be responsible for knowing that may not be covered in the text. There is a very strong correlation between the students that excel in the course and those that attend class regularly.

Grading Scale

Your final letter grade will be based on your performance on the items above and the following grading scale. **Under no circumstance will there be any type of additional credit given to individual students at the end of the semester.**

A	93-100%	C-	70-72.99%
A-	90-92.99%	D+	67-69.99%
B+	87-89.99%	D	63-66.99%
B	83-86.99%	D-	60-62.99%
B-	80-82.99%	F	Below 60%
C+	77-79.99%		
C	73-76.99%		

Tentative Schedule

The following is a tentative list of what we will be covering and the order in which it will appear:

Week of:	Corresponding Chapter(s)
Aug. 25/27	Syllabus and Ch.1 Getting Started
Sep. 1/3	Ch.2 The U.S. and Global Economies
Sep. 8/10	Ch.5 GDP
Sep. 15/17	Ch.6 Jobs and Unemployment
Sep. 22/24	Ch.7 CPI and Cost of Living
Sep. 29/Oct. 1	Review and Exam #1
Oct. 6/8	Ch. 8 Potential GDP and the Natural Unemployment Rate
Oct. 13/15	Ch. 9 Economic Growth
Oct. 20/22	Ch. 13 Aggregate Supply and Aggregate Demand
Oct. 27/29	Ch. 16 Fiscal Policy
Nov. 3/5	Ch. 11 The Monetary System
Nov. 10/12	Review and Exam #2
Nov. 17/19	Ch. 12 Money, Interest, and Inflation
Nov. 24/26	Ch. 17 Monetary Policy and THANKSGIVING (NO CLASS)
Dec. 1/3	Ch. 17 Monetary Policy and Review
Dec. 8	Final Exam: 12:15-2:15pm

3 University Guidelines and Procedures

Drop/Withdrawal

The last day to drop the class without receiving a “WD” is **September 6**. The last day to withdraw from the class and receive a “WD” is **October 11**. A withdrawal may affect your financial aid, eligibility for on-campus employment and eligibility for insurance, so speak with your advisor for details.

Disabilities

If you feel that you need classroom/testing accommodations for a disability, you must first register with the Office of Accessibility (<https://www.uakron.edu/access/students/registering>; Contact information: 330-972-7928 (v), 330-972-5764 (tdd), access@uakron.edu; Office location: Simmons Hall Room 105). Requests for accommodations for disability must be received and authorized in written form no less than two weeks in advance of need, in order to allow adequate time to review and make appropriate arrangements. No accommodation should be assumed until authorized by your instructor.

Code of Student Conduct

Plagiarism/Cheating/Academic Misconduct

At a minimum, a grade of zero will be given for any assignment or examination on which the student is found guilty of cheating, and the incident will be reported to the Department of Student Conduct and Community Standards. Depending on the circumstances, additional sanctions may be considered. Additional information can be found online. (<https://www.uakron.edu/studentconduct/code-of-conduct.dot>) As a reminder, all students at The University of Akron have agreed to uphold this code during their tenure at the university.

Face Coverings/Masks

To protect the health and safety of our community, students, faculty, staff, and visitors must wear face coverings that cover their mouth, nose, and chin while on campus. This includes all hallways, public spaces, classrooms, and other common areas of campus buildings, as well as offices, labs, work spaces, and outdoor settings when 6-foot social distancing cannot be maintained. Students needing accommodations may contact the Office of Accessibility.

Students not wearing a face covering in class will be reminded to do so. If a student refuses to wear a face covering (or to wear one properly), the faculty member will ask the student to leave the classroom. As a last resort, campus police may be called. The faculty member may submit a student conduct referral form to the Office of Student Conduct. Students who fail

to follow this policy will be subject to progressive discipline that may result in the student's removal from the in-person course.

Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence

The University of Akron is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination, including sexual violence and sexual harassment. This includes instances of attempted and/or completed sexual assault, domestic and dating violence, gender-based stalking, and sexual harassment. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences sexual violence or sexual harassment, know that you are not alone. Help is available, regardless of when the violence or harassment occurred, and even if the person who did this is not a student, faculty or staff member.

Confidential help is available. If you wish to speak to a professional, in confidence, please contact:

- Rape Crisis Center, 24-hour Hotline: 330-434-7273. Office located in the Student Recreation and Wellness Center 246. The on-campus office number is 330-972-6328. Help for victims of sexual misconduct.
- University Counseling and Testing Center, 330-972-7082
- Student Health Services, 330-972-7808

Please know the majority of other University of Akron employees, including faculty members, are considered to be “responsible employees” under the law and are required to report sexual harassment and sexual violence. If you tell a responsible employee about a situation, that employee will be required to report it to the Title IX Coordinator and possibly the police.

Additional information, resources, support and the University of Akron protocols for responding to sexual violence are available on our sexual respect site and our Title IX site

Tutoring with Knack

Students looking for free tutoring outside of the classroom are advised to consider working with a peer tutor via Knack. The University of Akron, College of Business Administration has partnered with Knack to provide students with access to vetted peer tutors who have previously aced this course; services are sponsored (free) for students while supplies last. To view available tutors, visit <https://www.joinknack.com/school/university-of-akron> and sign in with your student account.