

SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Economics 304: *Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory*

Sec. #: 001

Term: Fall 2023

Classroom/time: STEV 1211, T/Th, 10:00–11:50 a.m.

Office Hours:

In Person: Tuesdays, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Virtual: Mondays 12:30 – 11:30 p.m.

Contact information

Instructor: Puspa Amri, Ph.D.

Office: STEV 2822

Email: puspa.amri@sonoma.edu

Class website

canvas.sonomastate.edu

I. REQUIRED E-TEXTBOOK AND ONLINE HOMEWORK TOOLS

Mankiw, N. Gregory, *Macroeconomics* (Macmillan Learning), 11th Edition with “Achieve Essentials” (online homework tool). This is an electronic book + online homework. ISBN #: 9781319436643.

The above textbook is required, and it is an electronic textbook + online homework tool referred to *MacMillan Achieve Essentials*. To purchase access to the textbook and online homework, please go to: <https://achieve.macmillanlearning.com/courses/4m9ybo>

All supplemental course materials (news articles, podcasts, videos etc.) and important announcement regarding schedule will be posted on Canvas.

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Econ 304 is an intermediate level class in macroeconomic analysis. Topics include national income accounting, models of short-run equilibrium and long-run economic growth, monetary and fiscal policy, and open economy macroeconomics. We will also study the effects of monetary and fiscal policy on the national income. The course includes selected policy applications such as financial crises and recessions.

Prerequisites: ECON 204, ECON 205, and MATH 165 or the equivalent.

III. ASSESSMENT

A. **Calculating your course grade**. A number of different components will be used to assess mastery of the course materials. Your course grade will be a weighted average of these components:

- Exams: two midterms and one final exam (60%)
- Online homework with Achieve/Macmillan (15%)
- Participation (10%)
- Data and Writing Assignment, to be completed in two-stages (15%)
- **NOTE: Canvas grade weighting system only gives you an estimate of your current course standing.** You are encouraged to calculate your most up-to-date course standing at any time, and I will assist you as necessary.

B. **Exams:** Exams are closed book and will be administered in person during class time. Please see the class schedule starting on page 3 of this syllabus for the scheduled examination dates.

Exam rescheduling policy: Only in very rare cases of university-approved excuses (e.g., death in the immediate family, serious injury/illness with doctor's letter, athletic and sports events representing the university) will rescheduling be permitted, at the **sole discretion of the instructor**. Students making requests for a rescheduled exam must contact the instructor before the exam takes place.

C. **Online homework:** There will be regular homework assignments via *Achieve*, the online homework tool that comes with your textbook. *Weekly homework will be due every Sunday at 11:59 PM. No late assignments will be accepted*, but two of the lowest grades will be dropped.

D. **Participation:** This class will contain periodic in-class problem-solving questions that will count as class participation. Occasionally the work maybe given as homework assignments on Canvas. Students may work individually or in groups complete it. If you miss class, you miss the opportunity to earn credit for this assignment. Periodically, I might assign a news article related to course topics as a form of participation. Two of the lowest participation grades throughout the semester will be dropped.

E. **Data and Writing Assignment:** Students will complete a data and writing assignment that is centered around collecting and analyzing macroeconomic and financial data in the U.S. COVID-19 led to the worst economic recession since the Great Depression, but the recession was short-lived (February-April 2020). Its aftermath has been interesting for financial markets, monetary policy, the labor market, as well as inflation and accordingly interest rates, especially on home loans. We will use the event of COVID-19 (and to an extent, the geopolitical events of 2022) as an opportunity to track economic and financial indicators. More details about this assignment will be given after the first in class exam.

IV. GRADING SCALE AND COURSE LETTER GRADE

The following scale will apply in converting your numeric course grade to a letter grade:
93–100 (A), 90–92 (A–), 87–89 (B+), 83–86 (B), 80–82 (B–), 77–79 (C+), 73–76 (C), 70–72 (C–), 67–69 (D+), 63–66 (D), 60–62 (D–), and <60 (F).

V. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Students are expected to abide by the University's honor code in completing all tasks related to the course, including writing assignments. Two or more students who submit highly similar exam questions or writing assignments could be flagged and reported to the Dean.

VI. CLASS ATTENDANCE AND RELATED UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Class attendance is mandatory and is positively correlated with student performance.

The following is an excerpt from SSU Policy regarding class attendance

Class attendance is an important part of a student's university experience. However, there are legitimate reasons for missing class, such as illness, accidents, death of a close family member, jury duty, religious observance or representing the University at

officially approved University activities. Students should be cautioned that even though absences may be for legitimate reasons, such absences can impair performance and result in a lower grade. Faculty have primary authority for setting class attendance policy according to discipline standards. There are class activities, such as labs, assignments and discussions that cannot reasonably be made up.

Please communicate with me ahead of time if you have difficulties meeting the course attendance policies.

VII. SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

If you are a student with a disability, and think you may need academic accommodations, please contact Disability Services for Students (DSS) at <https://dss.sonoma.edu/>. Once your accommodation has been verified by DSS, please inform me immediately so that accommodations can be made for you. Use of DSS services requires prior authorization.

VIII. DISCLAIMER

All information in this syllabus is subject to change. Students will be notified ahead of time if and when changes are made to course requirements or course topics.

IX. SCHEDULE OF TOPICS

This schedule is a general outline of the course. It may be altered based on the pace of the class.

Week	Dates	Topic and Required Reading
1	Aug 22 & 24	Introduction to the course and course policies- Introduction to Macroeconomics Chapter 1 (The Science of Macroeconomics) Macroeconomic Data Part I: Gross Domestic Product Chapter 2 (The Data of Macroeconomics)
2	Aug 29 & 31	Macroeconomic Data Part II: Inflation, Unemployment, Exchange Rates Chapter 2 (The Data of Macroeconomics) Review of Mathematics
3	Sept 5 & 7	The Long-Run Theory of Output Determination Chapter 3 (National Income: Where It Comes From and Where It Goes)
4	Sept 12 & 14	Chapter 3, continued Money, Banks and Money Supply Chapter 4 (The Monetary System)
5	Sept 19 & 21	Chapter 4 (The Monetary System), continued Review for Exam 1
6	Sept 26	MID-TERM EXAM 1
6	Sept 28	The Long-Run Theory of Money Growth as a Cause of Inflation Chapter 5 (Money and Inflation)
7	Oct 3 & 5	Chapter 5 (Money and Inflation), continued

8	Oct 10 & 12	The Long-Run Model of Unemployment Chapter 7 (Unemployment and the Labor Market)
9	Oct 17 & 19	The Very Long Run Theory of Economic Growth: Introduction to the Solow Model Chapter 8 (Economic Growth I: Capital Accumulation and Population Growth)
10	Oct 24 & 26	Chapter 8, continued.
	Oct 31	SHORT-RUN MACROECONOMIC MODELS: AN INTRODUCTION Chapter 11 (Introduction to Economic Fluctuations) Review for Exam 2
11	Nov 2	MID-TERM EXAM 2
12	Nov 9 & 11	Investment Saving-Liquidity Money (IS-LM) Model: Introduction Chapter 11 (Aggregate Demand I: Building the IS-LM Model)
13	Nov 14 & 16	IS- LM Model II: Fiscal and Monetary Policy in a Closed Economy Chapter 12 (Aggregate Demand II: Applying the IS-LM Model)
14	Nov 21	Chapter 12, continued
	November 23	No Class Thanksgiving Holiday
15	Nov 28 & 30	IS-LM Model in an Open Economy: The Mundell-Fleming Model Instructor Lecture Notes
16	Dec 5 & 8	Aggregate Supply and the Philips Curve Chapter 14 (Aggregate Supply and the Short-Run Tradeoff Between Inflation and Unemployment) Review for Final Exam
	December 12	FINAL EXAM (10:30 am to 12:30 pm)