

SYLLABUS

ECON 2303: Principles of Macroeconomics

CRN 24539, Spring 2022

1 General Information

Time: Tuesday and Thursday 9:00-10:20am

Location: Undergraduate Learning Center 116

UGLC Policy: No food or beverages in the classrooms.

Instructor: Dr. Aaron Sun

Office Hours: Tuesday 10:30-11:30am in person, BUSN Room 237

Wednesday 4:00-5:00pm online via Zoom <https://utep-edu.zoom.us/j/88266527310?pwd=Zk4relcrLzlPZ2c0dXg0SDBPVmVNdz09>

Email: xsun3@utep.edu (Students should contact me using UTEP email)

- *Course Overview:* This course is designed to introduce the student to the study of the economy as a whole. It looks at the big picture rather than the detailed individual choices. Fundamentals which should be learned from this course include basic supply and demand analysis, GDP measurement, aggregate demand and supply, money and banking, interest rates, fiscal and monetary policies, theories of economic expansion and contraction (business cycles), and economic growth. Prerequisite: See Undergraduate Academic Catalog.
- *Course Objectives:* This course will cover the Macroeconomic foundations of Economics which comprise areas such as economic growth, business cycles, measuring total output, unemployment, inflation, money and banking, interest rates, and fiscal and monetary policy, among other. Upon successful completion of the course, the student should possess a fundamental grasp of Macroeconomic concepts and demonstrate a basic understanding of news relating to the macroeconomy.

2 Required Materials

- *Principles of Economics*, 22nd Edition by McConnell, Bruce, and Flynn, McGraw-Hill. ISBN10: 1260226778.
 - Students can choose to purchase the book from the University Bookstore or Publisher's (McGraw Hill) website.
<https://www.mheducation.com/highered/product/economics-mcconnell-brue/M9781260226775.html>

- Connect Online System
 - Access to Connect will be purchased along with your textbook.
 - Section web address: <https://connect.mheducation.com/class/s-xiaojin-spring-2022-econ-2303-crn-24539>

- Reliable Internet connection
 - It is critical that students have access to a reliable Internet connection throughout the semester, especially because of the required online assignments and exams.
 - There are multiple computer labs on campus that student may use; see https://www.utep.edu/technologysupport/ServiceCatalog/COMP_ComputerPrintingLabs.html for more information.

- Blackboard course site
 - It is recommended that students visit our Blackboard course site at least once per day to check for new announcements and updates.

3 Learning Objectives

Throughout the semester, you will develop the skills necessary to:

- Identify the determinants of supply and demand, demonstrate the impact of shifts in market demand or market supply on equilibrium price and quantity.
- Define and measure national income and rates of unemployment and inflation.
- Understand the difference between business cycles and economic growth and the factors that contribute to each.
- Understand the concept of Macroeconomic equilibrium.
- Understand how Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply determine equilibrium price and output and use the AD-AS framework to illustrate macroeconomic problems and potential fiscal policy and monetary policy solutions.
- Understand the concepts, tools, and implementation of fiscal policy, and how it affects aggregate economic activity.
- Understand the concept of money supply and describe the process of money creation by the banking system and the role of the Federal Reserve System.
- Understand the concepts, tools, and implementation of monetary policy, and how it affects aggregate economic activity.

4 Tentative Course Outline

The course outline below provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary.

Week	Tuesday		Thursday		By Friday
01	Jan 18	Syllabus	Jan 20	Introduction	Assignment 1
02	Jan 25	Chapter 3	Jan 27	Chapter 3	Assignment 2
03	Feb 01	Chapter 26	Feb 03	Chapter 26	Assignment 3
04	Feb 08	Chapter 27	Feb 10	Chapter 27	Assignment 4
05	Feb 15	Chapter 28	Feb 17	Chapter 28	Assignment 5
06	Feb 22	Review 1	Feb 24	Midterm 1	Discussion Forum 1
07	Mar 01	Chapter 29	Mar 03	Chapter 29	Assignment 6
08	Mar 08	Chapter 30	Mar 10	Chapter 30	Assignment 7
09	Spring Break				
10	Mar 22	Chapter 32	Mar 24	Chapter 32	Assignment 8
11	Mar 29	Chapter 33	Mar 31	Chapter 33	Assignment 9
12	Apr 05	Review 2	Apr 07	Midterm 2	Discussion Forum 2
13	Apr 12	Chapter 34	Apr 14	Chapter 34	Assignment 10
14	Apr 19	Chapter 35	Apr 21	Chapter 35	Assignment 11
15	Apr 26	Chapter 36	Apr 28	Chapter 36	Assignment 12
16	May 03	Review 3	May 05	Midterm 3	Discussion Forum 3
17	May 10	Final Exam			

5 Grading Policy

Grades will be determined as follows:

- 12 assignments (25 points each) = 300 points
- 4 exams (100 points each, lowest score dropped) = 300 points
- 3 discussions (33.33 points each) = 100 points
- Total = 700 points

Final letter grades will be assigned based on the following scale:

- A, 630 to 700
- B, 560 to 629
- C, 490 to 559
- D, 420 to 489
- F, Below 420

There will not be any extra credit. I will not attend to any emails begging for grade changes.

5.1 Assignments

Students will be given a weekly homework assignment on the Connect online system. The assignment will be made available each Monday and is due by 11:59pm each Friday. Each assignment allows for two attempts and your highest score will be recorded.

No late assignments will be accepted. It is your responsibility to keep up with the due dates and ensure that you do not miss any assignments. I strongly urge the student to use all the homework assignments as preparation for the exams.

5.2 Exams

Three midterm exams and one comprehensive final exam will be given. Your lowest exam score will be dropped. Exams will be administered online using the Connect system. The exams will be posted from 8:00am until 10:00pm on the day that they are due. Each exam allows for 100 minutes. Students are free to complete the exam over any 100-minute interval. Only one attempt is allowed.

There will be absolutely no make-up exams. If you have a valid reason for missing one exam, then the exam will simply be dropped. Valid reasons for missing an exam include a documented medical illness that prevents you from taking the exam, a death in your immediate family, or a documented mandatory court date. Being confused about the date or time of the exam, having non-refundable airplane tickets that conflict with the date, family vacations, etc. are NOT valid reasons for requesting a makeup exam. All valid reasons must be justified with documentation.

5.3 Discussion Forums

The ultimate objective of this course is to help students get a fundamental grasp of Macroeconomic concepts and a basic understanding of news and debates relating to the macroeconomy.

Students are expected to participate in an open discussion on Blackboard by the Friday following each midterm exam. Only one attempt is allowed. Once you create your thread in the forum, you will not be able to delete or edit it. You will not have access to other threads in the forum before you create your own. Topics for the open discussion include, for example, what Macroeconomic concept that has been covered interests you most, what theory can be used to explain a certain macroeconomic phenomenon, etc.

6 Academic Integrity and Scholastic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as ones' own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution](#) (OSCCR) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, please visit [HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline](#).

7 Other Important Information

- **Accommodation Policy:** The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the [UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#) (CASS). Contact CASS at 915-747-5148, or email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the [CASS portal](#).
- **Communication:** Students are welcomed to communicate with the professor via email. Please always put “ECON 2303 + your full name” in the subject line if you want the professor to read and respond your message in a timely fashion. The professor will not reply any email that does not come with a student name. For email etiquette, see <https://www.math.uh.edu/~tomforde/Email-Etiquette.html>.
- **Course Evaluation:** Your constructive assessment of this course plays an indispensable role in shaping education at UTEP. Upon completing the course, please take the time to fill out the online course evaluation.

- **Copyright Statement:** All materials used in this course are protected by copyright law. The course materials are only for the use of students currently enrolled in this course and only for the purpose of this course. They may not be further disseminated.
- **COVID-19 Precautions:** If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results to covidaction@utep.edu, so that the Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors. It is important to follow all instructions that you receive as part of the diagnosis, including isolation and staying at home until a negative test is produced.

If you experience COVID-19 symptoms, please follow the isolation protocol by staying at home and getting tested as soon as possible. If the test is negative but you are still seeking accommodations, please contact the Dean of Students Office for guidance in a timely manner. Your instructor will work with the Dean of Students Office to determine the extent of any such accommodations.

We strongly encourage you to think and act proactively in all matters related to COVID-19 and your academic endeavors. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that people in areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission wear face masks when indoors in groups of people. The best way that Miners can take care of Miners is to get the vaccine. If you still need the vaccine, it is widely available in the El Paso area, and will be available at no charge on campus during the first week of classes. For more information about the current rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit epstrong.org.