

# SYLLABUS

## Macroeconomic Theory, ECON 5303-20885, Spring 2019

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### General Information

Time and Location: W 6:00-8:50PM, BUSN-304

Professor: Xiaojin (Aaron) Sun

Office: BUSN-222

Email: xsun3@utep.edu

Office Hours: By appointment

### Course Overview

The purpose of this course is to further your understanding of the central ideas of macroeconomics. The course provides the theoretical foundations used by modern macroeconomists today. We will focus on models with strong microfoundations and use these models to understand economic growth, business cycles, current macroeconomic problems, and monetary and fiscal policies. Given that any macroeconomics course should balance a strong theoretical background and empirical analysis, we will also test important theoretical results on real world data and examples. Prerequisite: ECON 3302 or ECON 5312.

### Textbook

- *Macroeconomics* by Stephen Williamson, 6th Edition (the 5th edition also works).

### Grading Policy

The class grade will be determined by the following components:

- **Homework assignments (10%×4)** Four homework assignments will be given during the semester. Assignments will be collected at the beginning of class on the due date. No late submissions will be accepted.
- **Presentations (15%×2)** Two journal articles will be assigned to each student for in-class presentations.
- **Replication project (30%)** The replication should consist of (a) a complete data file, (b) nicely formatted figures and tables, and (c) a verbal discussion of these figures and tables.

**Grading Scale:** 90+=A, 80-89=B, 70-79=C, 60-69=D, 59 and below=F.

## **Tentative Course Schedule**

- **Core Chapters**

**Chapter 1** Introduction

**Chapter 2** Measurement

**Chapter 3** Business Cycle Measurement

**Chapter 7** Economic Growth

**Chapter 8** Income Disparity Among Countries and Endogenous Growth

**Chapter 4** Consumer and Firm Behavior

**Chapter 5** A Closed-Economy One-Period Macroeconomic Model

**Chapter 9** A Two-Period Model

**Chapter 11** A Real Intertemporal Model with Investment

- **Additional Chapters** (if time permits)

**Chapter 12** Money, Banking, and Monetary Policy

**Chapter 13** Business Cycle Models with Flexible Prices and Wages

**Chapter 14** New Keynesian Economics