

Syllabus – Fall 2016

Excluding materials for purchase, syllabus information may be subject to change. The most up-to-date syllabus is located within the course in HuskyCT.

Course and Instructor Information

Course Title: Principles of Macroeconomics

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: None. Not open to students who have passed ECON 1200.

Professor: Dr. Steven P. Lanza

Email: steven.lanza@uconn.edu

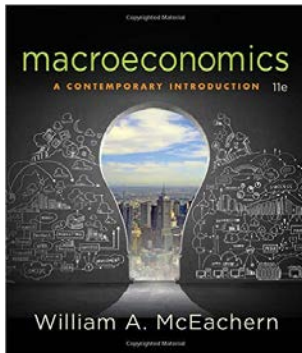
Office Hours: Room 356, Tuesdays from 1:00 - 2:00 PM, and by appointment.

Course Web Page: <https://lms.uconn.edu>

Aplia Course Key: 39DM-KN9W-AW37

Course Materials

Required course materials should be obtained before the first day of class.



Required Materials:

Students are required to subscribe to the Aplia online resources and homework system. This online system includes an e-text version of ***Macroeconomics: A Contemporary Introduction*** by William A. McEachern, Cengage Learning, 10th Edition, 2017. HuskyCT will provide instructions for setting up and using Aplia.

You can purchase an access card for Aplia and an e-version of the text (ISBN 978-1305650145) from the [UConn Co-op](#). You can also buy an access card bundled with a paperback version of the textbook (ISBN 978-1305925946) if you wish to have a printed book in addition to the e-text.

Additional course readings and media are available within HuskyCT, through either an Internet link or Library Resources

Course Description

This is a one-semester course in *macroeconomics*. It provides a basic introduction to large-scale economy-wide phenomena like economic growth, business cycles, and the money supply. (This is as opposed to *microeconomics* – ECON 1201 – which studies how individual decisions come together in a market to allocate resources.) The central tool of microeconomics is aggregate supply-and-aggregate demand analysis, which we will investigate in detail and apply to a variety of economic challenges, including slumps in output, unemployment and inflation.

Course Objectives

By the end of the semester, students should be able to:

- Explain scarcity, opportunity cost, comparative advantage, specialization, and the role of marginal cost and marginal benefit analysis in economic decision making.
- Identify the determinants of market supply and demand, demonstrate the effect of shifts in supply and demand on equilibrium price and quantity.
- Define and measure national income, output, and the price level. Do the same for unemployment and inflation and explain the tradeoff between them.
- Explain the relation between the income-expenditure model and the aggregate demand model and show how changes in desired spending, the price level and interest rates change real output demanded. Distinguish between short run and long run aggregate supply.
- Define money and the money supply; explain how the banking system creates money and the role of the Federal Reserve in this process.
- Construct the aggregate demand and aggregate supply model of the macro economy and use it to illustrate macroeconomic problems and possible fiscal and monetary policy solutions.
- Explain the link between productivity and growth and identify the factors that can affect economic productivity.

Brief Course Outline

Week of	Reading	Topics
August 30	Chapter 1	The Art and Science of Economic Analysis
September 6	Chapter 2	Economic Tools and Economic Systems
September 13	Chapter 4	Demand, Supply and Markets
September 20	Chapter 6 & 7	Tracking the Economy, Inflation and Unemployment
September 27		Exam 1
October 4	Chapter 5	Introduction to Macroeconomics
October 11	Chapter 9	Aggregate Expenditure and Aggregate Demand
October 18	Chapter 10	Aggregate Supply
October 25	Chapter 11	Fiscal Policy
November 1	Chapters 13-1 thru 13-3d, 14 and 15 (skip 15-4)	Money, Banking and Monetary Theory and Policy
November 8		Exam 2
November 15	Chapter 16	Macro Debate: Active or Passive?
November 22		Thanksgiving Break
November 29	Chapter 8	Productivity and Growth
December 6		Exam 3
December 13		Final Exam

Detailed Course Outline

Week 1: August 30 **The Art and Science of Economic Analysis**

Activities	Assessments
Read Chapter 1: The Art and Science of Economic Analysis (including the Appendix)	Complete Introduction to Using Aplia (non-graded) Due 9/1
Watch The Art and Science of Economic Analysis video	Take Syllabus Quiz on HuskyCT (non-graded) Due 9/1
Watch Understanding Graphs video	Complete Aplia Chapter 1 Problem Set Due 9/1
	Take Quiz 1 on HuskyCT Due 9/5

Week 2: September 6 **Economic Tools and Economic Systems**

Activities	Assessments
Read Chapter 2: Economic Tools and Economic Systems	Complete Aplia Chapter 2 Problem Set Due 9/5
Watch Economic Tools and Economic Systems videos, Parts I and II	Take Quiz 2 on HuskyCT Due 9/12

Week 3: September 13 **Supply and Demand**

Activities	Assessments
Read Chapter 4: Demand, Supply and Markets	Complete Aplia Chapter 4 Problem Set Due 9/12
Watch Demand, Supply and Markets videos, Parts I, II and III	Take Quiz 3 on HuskyCT Due 9/19

Week 4: September 20 **Tracking the U.S. Economy, Inflation and Unemployment**

Activities	Assessments
Read Chapter 6: Tracking the Economy Read Chapter 7: Inflation and Unemployment	Complete Aplia Chapter 6/7 Problem Set Due 9/19
Watch Tracking the U.S. Economy videos, Parts I, II and III	Take Quiz 4 on HuskyCT Due 9/26

Week 5: September 27 **Exam 1**

Activities	Assessments
Review all readings, videos and homework assignments.	Take Exam 1 on HuskyCT Due 9/27

Week 6: October 4 Introduction to Macroeconomics	
Activities	Assessments
Read Chapter 5: Introduction to Macroeconomics Watch Introduction to Macroeconomics video	Complete Aplia Chapter 5 Problem Set Due 10/3 Take Quiz 5 on HuskyCT Due 10/10

Week 7: October 11 Aggregate Expenditure and Aggregate Demand	
Activities	Assessments
Read Chapter 9: Aggregate Expenditure and Aggregate Demand Watch Production and Cost in the Firm videos, Parts I, II and III	Complete Aplia Chapter 9 Problem Set Due 10/10 Take Quiz 6 on HuskyCT Due 10/17

Week 8: October 18 Aggregate Supply	
Activities	Assessments
Read Chapter 10: Aggregate Supply Watch Aggregate Supply videos, Parts I and II	Complete Aplia Chapter 10 Problem Set Due 10/17 Take Quiz 7 on HuskyCT Due 10/24

Week 9: October 25 Fiscal Policy	
Activities	Assessments
Read Chapter 11: Fiscal Policy Watch Fiscal Policy videos, Parts I, II and III	Complete Aplia Chapter 11 Problem Set Due 10/24 Take Quiz 8 on HuskyCT Due 10/31

Week 10: November 1 Money and Banking, Monetary Theory and Policy	
Activities	Assessments
Read Chapter 13: Money and the Financial System (13-1 thru 13-3d only) Read Chapter 14: Banking and the Money Supply Read Chapter 15: Monetary Theory and Policy (skip 15-4) Watch Money videos, Parts I thru VI	Complete Aplia Money Problem Set Due 10/31 Take Quiz 9 on HuskyCT Due 11/7

Week 11: November 8 Exam 2	
Activities	Assessments
Review all readings, videos and homework assignments since Exam 1.	Take Exam 2 on HuskyCT Due 11/8

Week 12: November 15 Macro Policy Debate: Active or Passive?	
Activities	Assessments
Read Chapter 16: Macro Policy Debate: Active or Passive?	Complete Aplia Chapter 16 Problem Set Due 11/14
Watch Macro Policy Debate videos, Parts I, II and III	Take Quiz 10 on HuskyCT Due 11/28

Week 13: November 22 Thanksgiving Break	
Activities	Assessments
Review readings, videos and homework assignments you had trouble with in preparation for Exam 3.	

Week 14: November 29 Productivity and Growth	
Activities	Assessments
Read Chapter 8: Productivity and Growth	Complete Aplia Chapter 8 Problem Set Due 11/28
Watch Productivity and Growth videos, Parts I and II	Take Quiz 11 on HuskyCT Due 12/5

Week 15: December 6 Exam 3	
Activities	Assessments
Review all readings, videos and homework assignments since Exam 2.	Take Exam 3 on HuskyCT Due 12/6

Week 16: December 13 Final Exam	
Activities	Assessments
Review all readings, videos and homework assignments.	Take Final Exam on HuskyCT Due as scheduled by the Registrar

Summary of Course Grading:

Course Components	Weight
Participation	5%
Quizzes	15%
Aplia Homework	15%
Hourly Exams	30% (10% each)
Final	35%

Grading Scale:

Grade	Letter Grade	GPA
93-100	A	4.0
90-92	A-	3.7
87-89	B+	3.3
83-86	B	3.0
80-82	B-	2.7
77-79	C+	2.3
73-76	C	2.0
70-72	C-	1.7
67-69	D+	1.3
63-66	D	1.0
60-62	D-	0.7
<60	F	0.0

Participation

Students are expected to come to class regularly, to participate in class discussions, and to take part in small-group problem-solving activities that will involve reporting out to the larger classroom.

Aplia Homework

Students must subscribe to Aplia, a graded, online homework system. Students can attempt up to three different versions of each question and will receive immediate grading and feedback (multiple attempts are averaged for a final score). Note that Aplia also can and should be used for unlimited practice questions.

Quizzes

Each week’s assignment will include a timed quiz administered via HuskyCT. These will test your mastery of the week’s course content and give you a good sense of the kinds of questions to expect on the midterm and final. Quizzes will require the use of the Respondus LockDown Browser (see below).

Hourly Exams

Three timed, hourly exams will be administered following the completion of 3-4 weeks of material. The hourlies will require the use of the Respondus LockDown Browser (see below).

Final

A timed and proctored final exam will be administered at the end of the course. The final will be comprehensive and include material from the entire course. It will also require the use of the Respondus LockDown Browser (see below).

Expectations for the Course and for Weekly Sessions

This course relies heavily on educational technology (see sections below on required software and minimum technical skills). The course content will be delivered in a blended format, with online videos, access to online materials, and in-class review and problem-solving. Homework, quizzes and exams will also be completed online.

Consider the following a checklist for each weekly session:

1. Read the assigned material in the McEachern text.
2. Review the session's online video(s) in HuskyCT.
3. Complete the Aplia homework assignment.
4. Come to class prepared to ask questions about any material you're not clear on.
5. Complete the online quiz in HuskyCT.

Due Dates and Late Policy

All course due dates are identified above and in HuskyCT and Aplia. Deadlines are based on Eastern Standard Time; if you are in a different time zone, please adjust your submittal times accordingly. *The instructor reserves the right to change dates accordingly as the semester progresses. All changes will be communicated in an appropriate manner.*

Since each assessment is available in a window of several days with clearly stated due dates, there will be no make-ups of missed assessments except under very *unusual* circumstances. Being away and having no Internet access is **not** a valid reason.

Feedback and Grades

The instructor will make every effort to provide feedback and grades in a timely manner. Expect a response to emailed questions within 24 hours. If you do not receive a response within that time, ask again. Graded materials will be returned within 48 hours after due dates, unless otherwise noted. To keep track of your performance in the course, refer to My Grades in HuskyCT and Grades in Aplia.

Email

I will communicate with you via your UConn email address (usually firstname.lastname@uconn.edu). It is your responsibility to check this email account for messages. If you have a personal email address that you prefer to use, forward your UConn email to that address.

Using Blackboard Collaborate for Online Meetings

As part of the blended aspect of this course, we will complete any unfinished business from our in-class meetings during online sessions facilitated by Blackboard Collaborate, a web conferencing system. Collaborate also allows for virtual office hours and for the possibility of meeting remotely should inclement weather or other exigencies require the cancellation of a regular class meeting.

You may join a Blackboard Collaborate session either by email invitation or through a link to our virtual classroom in HuskyCT.

For further details on participating in a Blackboard Collaborate session, please consult the Essentials for Participants and Quick Reference guides which can be found under the Collaborate link in HuskyCT.

You should also consult Blackboard's on-demand online learning resources for Collaborate participants which can be found at <http://en-us.help.blackboard.com/Collaborate/v12/Participant>. There, you can explore links with information on getting started, configuring your session, navigating the interface and more.

Using Lockdown Browser for Quizzes and Exams in HuskyCT

This course requires the use of the Respondus LockDown Browser for quizzes and exams in HuskyCT. You will need to install the LockDown Browser software on the computer that you will be using to take the assessments.

Please read the following carefully.

1. Go to the "Student Help" tab in HuskyCT to
 - a. watch a video about using LockDown Browser
 - b. access the PDF help file that is available
 - c. download the software you need to install.
2. To take a quiz or exam that requires LockDown Browser, start LockDown Browser on your computer, log into HuskyCT, and navigate to the quiz. The quiz title will indicate whether it requires LockDown Browser. Please note: any quiz requiring LockDown Browser cannot be taken using a regular browser. You will be directed to close your current browser and open LockDown Browser.
3. When taking an online exam, follow these guidelines:
 - Turn off all mobile devices, phones, etc.
 - Clear your desk of all external materials — books, papers, other computers, or devices
 - Remain at your desk or workstation for the duration of the quiz
 - LockDown Browser will prevent you from accessing other websites or applications; you will be unable to exit the quiz until all questions are completed and submitted
4. For assistance, contact UITS – HuskyTech (860-486-4357 (HELP), HelpCenter@uconn.edu)

Student Responsibilities and Resources

As a member of the University of Connecticut student community, you are held to certain standards and academic policies. Details can be found at: <http://provost.uconn.edu/syllabi-references/>

Students are also expected to follow the following copyright and netiquette and communication standards:

Copyright

Copyrighted materials within the course are only for the use of students enrolled in the course for purposes associated with this course and may not be retained or further disseminated.

Netiquette and Communication

At all times, course communication with fellow students and the instructor are to be professional and courteous. It is expected that you proofread all your written communication, including discussion posts, assignment submissions, and mail messages. If you are new to online learning or need a netiquette refresher, please look at this guide titled, [The Core Rules of Netiquette](#).

In addition, there are numerous resources available to help you succeed in your academic work. This section provides a brief overview to important standards, policies and resources

Adding or Dropping a Course

If you should decide to add or drop a course, there are official procedures to follow:

- Matriculated students should add or drop a course through the [Student Administration System](#).
- Non-degree students should refer to [Non-Degree Add/Drop Information](#) located on the registrar's website.

You must officially drop a course to avoid receiving an "F" on your permanent transcript. Simply discontinuing class or informing the instructor you want to drop does not constitute an official drop of the course. For more information, refer to the:

- [Undergraduate Catalog](#)
- [Graduate Catalog](#)

Academic Calendar

The university's [Academic Calendar](#) contains important semester dates.

Academic Support Resources

[Technology and Academic Help](#) provides a guide to technical and academic assistance.

Software Requirements and Technical Help

The technical requirements for this course include:

- Word processing software
- [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#)
- Internet access
- Respondus LockDown Browser

This course is facilitated online using the learning management platform, [HuskyCT](#). If you have difficulty accessing HuskyCT, students have access to the in person/live person support options available during regular business hours through [HuskyTech](#). Students also have [24x7 Course Support](#) including access to live chat, phone, and support documents.

Minimum Technical Skills

To be successful in this course, you will need the following technical skills:

- Use electronic mail with attachments.
- Save files in commonly used word processing program formats.
- Copy and paste text, graphics or hyperlinks.
- Work within two or more browser windows simultaneously.
- Open and access PDF files.

University students are expected to demonstrate competency in computer technology. Explore the [Computer Technology Competencies](#) page for more information.

Evaluation of the Course

Students will be provided an opportunity to evaluate instruction in this course using the university's standard procedures, which are administered by the [Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness](#) (OIRE).

Additional informal formative surveys may also be administered within the course as an optional evaluation tool.