



KELCE
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
Pittsburg State University

Course Syllabus:
Principles of Macroeconomics
ECON 201-02
Kelce 224
TTh 2:00pm – 3:15pm

Instructor: Alex Binder
Office: Kelce Room #211B
Hours: MW 9am-12pm, 1-2pm; TTh 1-2pm; or by appointment
Phone: (620) 235-4546
E-mail: abinder@pittstate.edu

Textbook and Readings

This course is zero textbook cost (ZTC) and uses open educational resources (OER). All readings are free and will be provided on Canvas.

Catalog Course Description

The course focuses on the fundamental economic concepts and principles that are needed to understand the behavior of the macro economy. This includes a description and definitions of all of the basic concepts in macroeconomics which includes postulates of human behavior, aggregate demand, aggregate supply, the market mechanism and national income accounting; the basic interrelationship between different sectors of the macro economy are analyzed, including the international sector; and some basic fundamental tools are developed and applied to analyze problems that arise in the macro economy. Prerequisite: sophomore standing.

Prerequisites

Sophomore standing; 25 credit hours completed.

Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes

The course focuses on the fundamental economic concepts and principles that are needed to understand the behavior of the aggregate economy. At the end of the semester you should be able to:

1. Describe and define the basic concepts/vocabulary in economics;
2. Use and manipulate the basic models and tools in economics;
3. Apply economic tools/models to analyze macroeconomic problems;
4. Explain and evaluate how economists assess the health of the macroeconomy;
5. Describe the major macroeconomic problems confronting the United States; and
6. Predict and analyze the likely policy response economists would propose to those macroeconomic problems.

General Education Goals

This course satisfies the E2 Human Systems/Social Responsibility requirement in the Pitt State Pathway.

Definition of Elements

Human Systems within a Global Context:

Humans have developed complex systems that structure interaction. It is important to understand how and why these systems developed, change through time, vary by location, and are interconnected at all levels (local/regional/global), and the implications of that interconnectedness.

Competency in this element means:

- Analyzing the structure, development, and change of human economic, political, social and/or cultural systems over time;
- Analyzing the individual's role and responsibility to society at all levels;
- Evaluating how human systems are interconnected at all levels.

Social Responsibility:

Social responsibility within a global context is the ability to recognize one's accountability to society – locally, nationally, and globally. This incorporates the importance of active citizenship through the application of concepts such as equity, inclusiveness, collaboration, and building constituency in government, civic institutions, business, and community at large.

Competency in this element means:

- Applying the concepts associated with active, responsible citizenship;
- Analyzing the ethical, social, and environmental consequences of local, national, and global organizations;
- Analyzing the historical consequences of local or national decisions on global systems

Teaching Methods

Class sessions will be a combination of lectures, discussions, and problem-solving sessions.

Canvas

Most course content is available on Canvas. It is imperative that you know how to use Canvas for this course. Canvas help can be found here: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701>

Classroom Conduct

It is expected that students display professional behavior in class and proper etiquette in writing emails. Please use all instructional technology appropriately. Phones, laptops, and all 'smart' technology are prohibited during exams, but are allowed during all other sessions. The instructor may dock Attendance and Participation points if your use of technology becomes a distraction.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is required and will be graded. Please review the impact of attendance on your grade below.

Course Outline

Date	Lesson	Quiz
17-Jan	Intro/Syllabus	Quiz 0
19-Jan	What is Economics?	Quiz 1
24-Jan	Economic History & Systems	Quiz 2
26-Jan	Economic Agents	Quiz 3
31-Jan	Markets	Quiz 4
2-Feb	Markets	
7-Feb	Households, Businesses, & Industries	Quiz 5
9-Feb	Exam 1	
14-Feb	Review Exam 1	
16-Feb	Output	Quiz 6
21-Feb	Employment	Quiz 7
23-Feb	Prices & Inflation	Quiz 8
28-Feb	Macrodynamics: Growth & Recessions	Quiz 9
2-Mar	Macrodynamics: Growth & Recessions	
7-Mar	Foreign Sector & Trade	Quiz 10
9-Mar	Exam 2	
14-Mar	<i>Spring Break</i>	
16-Mar	<i>Spring Break</i>	
21-Mar	Review Exam 2	
23-Mar	Fiscal Policy	Quiz 11
28-Mar	Fiscal Policy	
30-Mar	Money & Banking	Quiz 12
4-Apr	Money & Banking	
6-Apr	Monetary Policy	Quiz 13
11-Apr	Covid-19 Crisis	Quiz 14
13-Apr	Covid-19 Crisis	
18-Apr	Exam 3	
20-Apr	Review Exam 3	
25-Apr	Financial Crisis	Quiz 15
27-Apr	Financial Crisis	
2-May	Poverty & Inequality	Quiz 16
4-May	Course Review	
9-May	Final Exam	

The schedule is subject to change, but the exam dates will not change except in cases of school closures or other significant circumstances. You will be notified of any changes.

How to Pass this Course

This is a sophomore-level course, but be sure to follow these tips to be successful:

1. Come to class
2. Complete assignments on time
3. Spend at least 3-5 hours per week studying for this course outside of class

Academic Integrity

All Pitt State students are bound by the academic integrity policies of the university as described and outlined in the current Syllabus Supplement. Please familiarize yourself with these rules and guidelines. In addition, as a course offered through the Kelce College of Business, students in this class are obligated to adhere to the college's Student Code of Ethics as outlined below.

Students pledge to:

- Arrive on time, remain until dismissed at all class sessions, and notify instructors in advance of anticipated absences, late arrivals, or early departures whenever possible.
- Turn off cell phones or other electronic devices while in class, unless permission to use them has been granted.
- Refrain from class disturbances.
- Refrain from use of profane or vulgar language in a threatening or disruptive manner.
- Treat fellow students, staff, faculty, administrators, and property with respect.
- Refrain from giving or receiving inappropriate assistance.
- Prepare assignment and exams honestly, refraining from such unacceptable conduct as plagiarism or unacknowledged appropriation of another's work in any academic work.
- Obey the policies, regulations, and laws of the United States of America, the State of Kansas, The Kansas Board of Regents, Pittsburg State University, and the Gladys A. Kelce College of Business.

If a student observes someone committing dishonesty in connection with academic work, the student is encouraged to report that dishonesty to the appropriate individual (e.g. faculty member or administrator).

Student Accommodations

Each student may inform the instructor if a learning or physical disability requires accommodation. Assistance and/or appropriate accommodations are available through the contacts listed on the current Syllabus Supplement.

Class Cancellation Policy

If campus is closed due to inclement weather, then that particular class session will be canceled and the planned content for that session will be made up in a subsequent session. All other class cancellations will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Please check your email for an announcement from the instructor in the event that class is canceled for any reason.

Course Evaluation Methods

Each student's final grade will be based on their ability to demonstrate their proficiency in accomplishing the course objectives. To evaluate progress in accomplishing these objectives and to provide feedback on each student's learning the instructor will look at the following items:

Component	Weight
Midterm Exams	36%
Final Exam	20%
Quizzes and Assignments	24%
Attendance and Participation	10%
Macro Report	10%

Exams (56%): There will be three midterm exams worth 12% each or 36% total. There will also be a final comprehensive exam worth 20% of each student's overall grade. Each exam may be composed of a variety of questions including multiple-choice questions, true/false questions, short answer questions, analytical problems, and/or a short essay. The exams are designed to evaluate each student's ability to recall, intelligently communicate, and demonstrate their understanding of the ideas covered throughout the semester. Any incidences of academic dishonesty will be treated on a case-by-case basis. Any student with 'smart' technology out during an exam will receive an automatic zero on the exam. Please bring a calculator and green half-sheet scantron to each exam.

Quizzes and Assignments (24%): There will be one online quiz for each lesson within a unit or about seventeen total. The quizzes are designed to help each student learn and practice the material needed to be successful on the exams. There are also a few assignments graded on completion. Instructions for the quizzes and assignments are on Canvas. The instructor will drop each student's lowest grade in this category at the end of the course.

Attendance and Participation (10%): Mountains of evidence show that attendance is crucial to each student's success. Students who attend this class at a high rate do NOT fail. Each student is expected to attend and participate in class discussions. There are 30 scheduled class sessions prior to the final exam. Each student gets two free absences for any reason. Any absence beyond the second will result in reduction of this portion of your grade. Absences will not be marked as excused or unexcused, except for sessions when there is an exam. Students who miss for an excused reason should be prepared to provide documentation. Students with an excused absence on an exam day may take an alternative exam composed of short answer and essay questions for full credit. Students with an unexcused absence on an exam day may take an alternative exam composed of short answer and essay questions for half credit. Please notify the instructor of any prolonged absences and alternative arrangements for the completion of course material will be made. Attendance will be taken via a quiz at the *beginning* of class using the Kahoot app. Participation in class is required. Students may be docked points for distracting or otherwise harming the learning experience of their classmates.

Macro Report (10%): Each student will be tasked with writing a report on the status of the US national economy. Each student will collect and report statistics and then write a short summary. Further details will be available at the time of the assignment. This report is designed to help the student learn the statistical indicators economists use to assess the health of the economy and to provide practice writing reports often expected of employees in the business sector.

Late Submission Policy: Exams can be completed for full credit if the absence is marked as excused. Exams can be completed for half-credit if the absence is marked as unexcused. Alternative exams will be given in the event of any absence. No other assignments and quizzes will be accepted after the due date. Exceptions to this policy are determined by the instructor and on a case-by-case basis.

Letter grades will be assigned according to the standard scale.

A: 90%-100%, B: 80%-89%, C: 70%-79%, D: 60%-69%, F: below 60%

Syllabus Supplement

https://www.pittstate.edu/registrar/_files/documents/syllabus-supplement-spring-2023.pdf

Note

The instructor reserves the right to amend and to reorganize this syllabus at any time.