



# ECON 2: Principles of Macroeconomics Online Spring 2015 Syllabus

## Instructor Information

Instructor: Rima Mabsout.

Email: [mabsourk@wlaac.edu](mailto:mabsourk@wlaac.edu), after the first day of classes PM messages through Etudes only please.

Website: [www.myetudes.org](http://www.myetudes.org)

Time & Place: Online

Online section: 8033

## Prerequisite:

Elementary Algebra (Math 115). Students may take Economics 1 or 2 as the first course.

Macroeconomics is concerned with the economy as a whole and the relationships between broad economic indicators. The course will cover the aggregate economy: GDP, inflation, business cycles, unemployment, fiscal and monetary policies, economic growth, productivity, and the federal deficit.

The tools of macroeconomic analysis will be developed and applied to national economic problems facing the U.S. and other market-oriented economies. Contemporary macroeconomic problems including concern about the economy moving into a recession, economic growth rates, inflation, consumer spending and personal saving, fiscal policy, monetary policy, national debt and deficits, unemployment rates, international value of the dollar, and trade deficits will be discussed. Understanding underlying economic issues, economic policies and their probable consequences is a focal point of this course.

## Required Textbook :

William A. McEachern, ECON Macro, Student Fourth edition, South- Western. 2014.

ISBN: **978-1111826697**. The textbook will be on two-hour, overnight, and 3 day reserve in the library.

The ebook version of the textbook is available for rent, and for a limited amount of time at

[http://www.coursesmart.com/IR/6501915/9781111826697?\\_hdv=6.8](http://www.coursesmart.com/IR/6501915/9781111826697?_hdv=6.8)

Textbook Website: <http://www.cengagebrain.com/shop/search/9781111826697>, you have a direct link to these websites in Etudes.

## Student Learning Outcomes:

- Demonstrate a solid understanding of modern macroeconomics, including the dominant theories of decision-making and markets.
- Think analytically using both the verbal and quantitative tools employed in economics and to apply those tools to solve both theoretical as well as practical real world problems.
- Evaluate how changes in technology, government regulation, and market circumstances will impact society.
- Define and demonstrate an understanding of basic macroeconomic terms, such as Gross Domestic Product, Unemployment, Inflation, and Economic Growth.
- Differentiate between and explain fiscal and monetary policy.
- Use the aggregate supply and demand model to analyze the theoretical effect of fiscal and monetary policy on the economy.
- Demonstrate a basic understanding of some of the advanced issues in macroeconomic policy, such as the effects of expectations, the debate over the use of stabilization policy, and the significance of the national debt.

## Technical Requirements

Please carefully review the ETUDES system requirements located at:

[https://etudes-ng.fhda.edu/portal/site/!gateway/page/4243c7b4-9b68-45fc-0016-](https://etudes-ng.fhda.edu/portal/site/!gateway/page/4243c7b4-9b68-45fc-0016-148ad08653aa)

[148ad08653aa](https://etudes-ng.fhda.edu/portal/site/!gateway/page/4243c7b4-9b68-45fc-0016-148ad08653aa). Make sure you have configured your computer correctly *before* the course starts.

## Course Requirements and Expectations

Your online course offers several advantages to a traditional classroom. Not only does the site offer easy communication with other students and your teacher, it allows access to a wealth of online resources. I encourage you to use this forum to exchange ideas, resources and comments with your fellow students and learn from what others know. I will be available through PM (Private Messages) in the discussion Forum if you feel you need help at any point in time through the course. When you send me a PM message you should expect an answer within 12-24 hours. Please no emails after the first day of classes. I might miss your email; therefore, you won't have a prompt and quick reply.

Please note, this is a 16 weeks class, students are responsible of turning in the Assignments by the due date, you will have one week to prepare the Assignments and the grade will be posted in your Gradebook 2 to 3 days after the due date. No exceptions will be given for extension. Each week we cover approximately 1 to 2 chapters.

You are required to 'attend' class by keeping up on announcements, readings, assignments, and exams, in addition to participating in weekly discussions. A student in an online course must be prepared to act independently and to encounter technical glitches of all kinds. If you experience technical difficulties that may prevent you from keeping up with the curriculum, you must let me know immediately via e-mail so we can work out a solution.

## Grading Scale

Your grade will be based on two timed tests, a final exam, discussions, and homework assignments. Weight of each evaluation component is as follows:

2 out of 3 Timed Tests	40%	480 points
8 Homework Assignments	20%	240 points
8 Discussion/Participation	10%	120 points
Final Exam	30%	360 points
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1200 points</b>

Grading scale is as follows:

1200-1080	89 - 100 %	A
1079-960	80 – 89 %	B
959-840	70 – 79 %	C
839-720	60 – 69 %	D
Below719	Below 59 %	F

## Timed Tests:

There will be three timed tests. The lowest test grade will be dropped. Each test is worth 20%. No test will be given early or late. If you miss a test it will simply be the test you drop. There will be one final exam.

Timed Test #1, covering Ch. 1 – 4 will be available on **Friday, March 13, 2015, due on Sunday March 15.**

Timed Test #2, covering Ch. 5 - 8 will be available on **Friday, April 10, 2015 due on Sunday April 12.**

Timed Test #3, covering Ch. 9 - 12 will be available on **Friday, May 8, 2015 due on Sunday May 10.**

Final exam, covering Ch. 13-16 will be available on **Friday June 5, 2015 due on Sunday June 7th.**

## Homework Assignments:

There will be 8 homework assignments posted with due dates on ETUDES under Assignments, Tests and Surveys. Assignments will be based on end-of-book questions and problems as well as some web-based materials and analyzing Case studies. The homework assignments are provided as a learning aid for students and are designed to synthesize information from lecture, textbook and outside sources. If you understand the assignments, you will likely do well on the exams.

**Assignment #1** will be available on **Monday, February 16, 2015**, due February 22.

**Assignment # 2** will be available on **Monday, March 2, 2015**, due March 8.

**Assignment #3** will be available on **Monday, March 16, 2015**, due March 22.

**Assignment #4** will be available on **Monday, March 30, 2015** due April 5.

**Assignment #5** will be available on **Monday, April 13, 2015** due April 19.

**Assignment #6** will be available on **Monday, April 27, 2015** due May 3.

**Assignment #7** will be available on **Monday, May 11, 2015** due May 17.

**Assignment #8** will be available on **Monday May 25, 2015** due May 31.

Please note, If you miss an Assignment you have to inform the instructor within the first 24 hours through PM. The instructor will then give permission for the student to resubmit. The student cannot opt to send the Assignment attached in a PM messages. This can result in a missing grade.

## Participation:

Discussion topics related to current material will be posted on ETUDES-NG under discussion and Private Messages tool. It will be announced every week each time there is a new discussion. Discussion is an important part of the class. It is part of your grade, it will be graded 2 to 3 days after the due date. Discussion is where students can talk about topics in detail and explore difficult issues. You are encouraged to find articles (from the internet or other sources) and share them with the class.

## Practice Web Quizzes:

There will be Practice timed Web quizzes under Assignments, Tests and Surveys as part of your weekly practice. It is highly recommended for students as it gives a great idea about the type of questions asked in a timed test as well as the Final exam. (it is not part of your grade)

## Make-up Exam Policy:

NO Make-up Exams in this course. No special considerations will be given if you need a particular grade for whatever reason.

## College Policies and Standards

**Professional Conduct in Our Classroom Community** The West LA College faculty, staff and administrators are dedicated to maintaining an optimal learning environment and will not tolerate any disruptive behavior in or outside of the classroom or any academic dishonesty. These standards apply to all students.

### **Dropping a Class**

Student wanting to drop a class should drop online at [www.wlac.edu](http://www.wlac.edu), click "For Students," then "Student Information System." Students who stop attending a class are responsible for withdrawing from the class to prevent being issued a failing "F" grade in the class.

### **Special Instructional Accommodation**

If there are special accommodations that you require to be successful in this course, please discuss your situation with the professor. To receive accommodations for a special need or disability, students must register with the Office of Disabled Student Program and Services, HLRC

The DSP&S Office provides special assistance in areas including: registration assistance specialized tutoring, academic and career guidance counseling, instructor liaison, special instruction and testing assistance.

### **Academic Integrity**

Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors. When there is evidence of cheating or plagiarism in classroom work, the instructor may assign a failing grade, "F," or zero points to the examination or assignment in which the alleged cheating or plagiarism occurred. Before a substandard grade is issued the instructor will provide the student with supporting documentation of the plagiarism or

cheating charge. Instructors have the authority to use plagiarism detecting instruments such as “Turn It In” to detect academic dishonesty.

### **Forms of Behavior which Violate Academic Integrity**

**Cheating:** Using any materials or devices or strategies which provide undue advantage on any exam, assignment, activity or other method of assessment for a course. This includes, but is not limited to, looking at another student's exam, using phones or other communication systems to text message during exams, taking pictures or images of exams, talking with others during exams, using Internet to find information, or any other system of inappropriate "help." Exams are to be measures of what YOU, as an individual, have learned.

**Collaboration:** Working together on projects, papers, exams or other forms of assessment which are to be completed individually.

**Plagiarism:** Taking anyone else's work as one's own. Presenting another's words, ideas, forms of expression, materials, or labor without proper citation, referencing, and declaration that this material originated outside the student's own work.

For assistance with classroom projects, papers and assignments, please visit the Learning Skills Center, HLRC.

### **Standard of Student Conduct**

Faculty members are charged with responsibility for building and maintaining a classroom atmosphere conducive to learning. Disruptive, disrespectful, or obstructive behavior will be dealt with in terms specific to this syllabus and in accordance with the LACCD Standard of Student Conduct. Select forms of disciplinary action appropriate to the misconduct may be taken by an instructor when there is evidence that the student's behavior interferes with classroom instruction.

### **The following types of disciplinary action may be taken by an instructor:**

- 1) Warning- A verbal or written notice, given to the student by an instructor. Continuation or repetition of the specified conduct may be cause for further disciplinary action.
- 2) Removal by Instructor - An instructor may remove (suspend) a student from his or her class for the day of the incident and the next class meeting. During this period of removal, the student shall not return to the class from which he or she was removed without the permission of the instructor of the class. Students may refer to the College Catalog or the online student orientation at [www.wlac.edu](http://www.wlac.edu); click “Counseling, Assessment and Orientation,” then scroll down to “Orientation” for complete details regarding the aforementioned policies.

### **Electronic Mail**

Electronic mail is the official method of communication for delivery of college information. Student email addresses will be recorded in the college's electronic directories and records. If you need to update an email address, visit [www.wlac.edu](http://www.wlac.edu), click “For Students,” then “Student Information System.” Once you log in, you can change your email by clicking “edit” at the top of the page next to your email address.

### **Instructional Support and Monitoring**

Monitor your academic progress online at [www.wlac.edu](http://www.wlac.edu) click “Counseling, Assessment and Orientation,” then on the DegreeWorks icon, or visit the Counseling Office in A13.

For instructional support and assistance with research projects, visit the Learning Skills Center and Library in HLRC.

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### Professional Conduct in Our Virtual Classroom Community:

I encourage you to participate in the DISCUSSIONS, and to ask questions and post items of interest in the Student Lounge or Chat Room. This class is a "safe harbor" for you to have discussions. One of the unifying objectives in this course is to familiarize you with best practices and give you exposure to becoming a member of a professional community. I also have the responsibility to insure that our virtual community is a conducive learning environment for all students. As such, all students will please follow these policies of our classroom community for all emails, discussion groups and chat rooms:

1. No profanity or foul language, either in writing or pictures, of any kind at any time.
2. Please address everyone politely by their name.
3. Under no circumstances may you ask for a classmate's personal contact information or in any way ask for a personal meeting or date.
4. Unless I specifically ask you to do so as a proper part of an assignment, do not include in your email signatures or other material in your messages any kind of a personal nature, including a photo, sales solicitation, information about a business, or a political or religious message of any kind. Do not include a blind or other kind of hyperlink to such information. Violators will be excluded from the course.
5. Please use common sense and common courtesy as if you are already a professional in the business community, even when posting Avatar. Please check with me first if you have any questions about what is appropriate.

### Online Student Resources

Technical Requirements:

<https://myetudes.org/portal/site/!gateway/page/4243c7b4-9b68-45fc-0016-148ad08653aa>

ETUDES Student Guide:

[http://www.wlac.edu/online/documents/Student\\_guide\\_etudesng.pdf](http://www.wlac.edu/online/documents/Student_guide_etudesng.pdf)

WLAC Online Homepage: <http://www.wlac.edu/online/students.asp>

WLAC Online Academic Counseling: <http://www.wlac.edu/online/counselingonline.asp>

WLAC Online Tutoring: <http://www.wlac.edu/online/tutoring.asp>

WLAC Library: <http://www.wlac.edu/library/>

WLAC Online Bookstore: <http://onlinestore.wlac.edu/>

### Course Outline:

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Reading &amp; Assignments</b>
<b>Week 1</b>	The Art and Science of Economic Analysis	Read Chapters 1, 2, 3
<b>Week 2</b>	Economic Tools and Economic Systems	
<b>Week 3</b>	Economic Decision Makers	
<b>Week 4</b>	Demand, Supply, and Markets	
<b>Week 5</b>	Introduction to Macroeconomics	
<b>Week 6</b>	Tracking the U.S Economy	
<b>Week 7</b>	Unemployment and Inflation	Read Chapters 7, 8 & 9
<b>Week 8</b>	Productivity and Growth	
<b>Week 9</b>	Aggregate Expenditure	
<b>Week 10</b>	Aggregate Expenditure and Aggregate Demand	Read Chapters 10, 11, 12 & 13
<b>Week 11</b>	Aggregate Supply	
<b>Week 12</b>	Fiscal Policy	
<b>Week 13</b>	Federal Budgets and Public Policy	
<b>Week 14</b>	Money and the Financial System	Read Chapters 14, 15 & 16
<b>Week 15</b>	Banking and the Money Supply	
<b>Week 16</b>	Monetary Theory and Policy	



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