

ECON 2020: Principles of Macroeconomics

Fall 2025

Instructor	Ayixunbati (Eisen) Nuerlantai
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Office hours	By appointment
Section	ECON 2020-002
Class time	Monday and Wednesday, 3:00–4:20 PM
Classroom	GC 2560
Credit hours	3
Prerequisites	None

Course Description

This course introduces students to essential macroeconomic principles and core macroeconomic theories. The focus is on understanding the workings of three markets of a modern economy: the goods market, the money market, and the labor market. Students will learn to think critically about the economy using algebraic and statistical models, graphs, and basic calculus. Contemporary macroeconomic policies and current economic issues in the United States and the global economy will also be discussed.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Explain essential economic principles and the main macroeconomic concerns, and calculate basic macroeconomic indicators.
- Analyze the workings of the goods, money, and labor markets.
- Understand the mechanisms through which fiscal and monetary policies affect the economy.
- Evaluate current debates on fiscal deficits, monetary policy, and the global economy.
- Use simple macroeconomic models to analyze the effects of shocks on output, employment, and the price level.
- Discuss alternative macroeconomic perspectives.

Required Materials

MindTap for Mankiw's *Principles of Macroeconomics*, one-term instant access (180 days).

The textbook is available through the University's Inclusive Access program, which offers discounted access to a digital textbook through the Canvas course site. You may opt in to or out of Inclusive

Access using the “Bookshelf” tab in the Canvas course menu, following the instructions in the file titled “Access the textbook.”

Important Dates

Classes begin	Monday, August 18
Last day to add without a permission code	Friday, August 22
Last day to wait list	Friday, August 22
Last day to add, drop (delete), elect CR/NC, or audit classes	Friday, August 29
Last day to withdraw from classes	Friday, October 24
Last day to reverse CR/NC option	Friday, November 28
Classes end	November 28

Assignments and Grading

Assignment type	Details	Weight
Homework and exercises on MindTap	Each exercise has a set due date.	45%
Three timed quizzes	Tentatively scheduled for Weeks 5, 9, and 13. They are timed, so review the materials and prepare ahead of time.	30%
Timed final exam	Scheduled for the final exam period. Like the quizzes, the final is timed; plan accordingly.	15%
Discussion participation and peer reviews	Your own posts (5%): respond thoughtfully to the prompts. Peer reviews (3%): provide meaningful and constructive feedback to at least two peers each round.	8%
Self-evaluation	At the start of the course you will draft a detailed weekly self-evaluation plan outlining your goals and strategies. At the end, you will revisit this plan to reflect on what worked well and what did not, helping you evaluate your learning habits.	2%

Late work. Due dates on quizzes and assignments are intended to help you stay on track. It is your responsibility to turn in each assignment on the required date. Assignments turned in after the due date will be lowered 10% for each 24-hour period in which they are late. Exceptions may be considered for sickness, university-excused functions, or circumstances beyond the student's control. The instructor reserves the sole right to determine what constitutes a reasonable excuse and to require verification. Vacations are not an excuse for missing or late work. You have one week after the due date to contact me regarding a late submission. If you foresee a problem meeting a deadline, please reach out as soon as possible.

Grades and regrades. Final grades will not be rounded up. Requests for regrades of a particular assignment must be made by email within one week of the grade being posted on Canvas. The

instructor may regrade the entire assignment, which may result in a higher or lower grade.

94–100%	A	80–83.9%	B–	67–69.9%	D+
90–93.9%	A–	77–79.9%	C+	64–66.9%	D
87–89.9%	B+	74–76.9%	C	60–63.9%	D–
84–86.9%	B	70–73.9%	C–	0–59.9%	E

Preliminary Course Schedule

Week	Dates	Topic	Reading	MindTap due
1	08-18 to 08-22	Introduction and review of micro foundations	Ch. 1	08-23
2	08-25 to 08-29	Measuring a nation's income	Ch. 10	08-30
3	09-01 to 09-05	Measuring the cost of living (<i>Labor Day 09-01</i>)	Ch. 11	09-06
4	09-08 to 09-12	Production and growth	Ch. 12	09-13
5	09-15 to 09-19	Saving, investment, and the financial system	Ch. 13	09-20
6	09-22 to 09-26	The basic tools of finance	Ch. 14	09-27
7	09-29 to 10-03	Unemployment	Ch. 15	10-04
8	10-06 to 10-12	<i>Fall Break</i>		
9	10-13 to 10-17	The monetary system	Ch. 16	10-15
10	10-20 to 10-24	Money growth and inflation	Ch. 17	10-18
11	10-27 to 10-31	Open-economy macroeconomics: basic concepts	Ch. 18	10-25
12	11-03 to 11-07	A macroeconomic theory of the open economy	Ch. 19	11-01
13	11-10 to 11-14	Aggregate demand and aggregate supply	Ch. 20	11-08
14	11-17 to 11-21	Monetary and fiscal policy; the short-run trade-off	Chs. 21 and 22	11-15
15	11-24 to 11-28	Review and debates over macroeconomic policy (<i>Thanksgiving 11-27</i>)	Ch. 23 (optional)	11-22

Technology Issues and Tech Help

- Contact the instructor immediately when you notice broken links or inaccessible files. Points lost because of inaccessible links or files cannot be made up if the problem was not reported before the due date.

- The instructor will fix broken links and inaccessible files as soon as possible and will post an announcement describing alternatives or new due dates if there is a significant delay.
- If a technical problem prevents you from submitting an assignment, immediately email the instructor (attaching a copy of the assignment where possible), contact the Canvas help desk, and then email the instructor an update on whether the problem was resolved. Emails about tech problems sent after the due date are not appropriate.
- Read all assignment instructions and submit work in the required file format. Work submitted in an improper format will not be considered on time.
- 24/7 help is available via the Help button in the far-left Canvas menu.

University Policies and Resources

Updated mandatory syllabus policies regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act, Safety at the U, Addressing Sexual Misconduct, and Academic Misconduct can be viewed at <https://cte.utah.edu/instructor-education/syllabus/institutional-policies.php>.

Academic misconduct. It is expected that students adhere to University of Utah policies regarding academic honesty, including but not limited to refraining from cheating, plagiarizing, misrepresenting one's work, and/or inappropriately collaborating. This includes the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools without citation, documentation, or authorization. Any student who engages in academic dishonesty may be subject to academic sanctions as per the University of Utah's Student Code: <https://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-410.php>.

Drop and withdrawal. Students may drop a course within the first two weeks of a given semester without any penalties. Students may officially withdraw (W) from a class or all classes after the drop deadline through the midpoint of a course. A "W" grade is recorded on the transcript and appropriate tuition/fees are assessed. The grade "W" is not used in calculating the student's GPA. See the University's Academic Calendar for deadlines.

Campus resources.

- *Accommodations:* Center for Disability & Access, 162 Union Building, 801-581-5020, <https://disability.utah.edu>
- *Safety:* To report suspicious activity or request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677); <https://safeu.utah.edu>
- *Title IX:* Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 383 South University Street, 801-581-8365
- *Wellness:* Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776, <https://wellness.utah.edu>
- *Basic needs:* Basic Needs Collective, <https://basicneeds.utah.edu>
- *Tutoring:* Learning Center, <https://learningcenter.utah.edu>; Writing Center, <https://writingcenter.utah.edu>
- *Other student support:* <https://studentsuccess.utah.edu/resources/student-support/>

Syllabus changes. This syllabus is meant to serve as an outline and guide for our course. I may modify it with reasonable notice to you, and I may also modify the course schedule to accommodate the needs of our class. Any changes will be posted to Canvas under Announcements.