

Econ 102: Macroeconomic Theory

Instructor: Chris Surro	Time: T/Th 8:30-10:35
Office Hours: TBD	Place: Haines A18

Goal of the class:

This class will introduce you to many of the most important concepts in macroeconomic theory as well as connect these theories to real world applications. By the end of the course you should be able to comment intelligently on topics such as business cycles, economic growth, inflation, unemployment, and macroeconomic policy.

Course Materials:

No textbook is required for this class. All necessary material will be presented in the lecture.

Additional readings/notes will be posted on the class website. Some of these will be mandatory and included on the exams and problem sets and others will be optional but recommended if you are interested in that specific topic.

Grading Policy:

Your grade for the class will be based on the following components:

Midterm: 250 points or 500 points (if you do better on the midterm than the final)

Final: 250 points or 500 points (if you do better on the final than the midterm)

Problem Sets: 30 points each (Maximum 120 points)

Quizzes: 16 Points each (Maximum 80 points)

Excel Assignment: 150 points

Important Dates:

Problem Set 1 Due
 Problem Set 2 Due
 Problem Set 3 Due
 Midterm
 Problem Set 4 Due
 Problem Set 5 Due
 Solow Model Assignment Due
 Final Exam

Graded Material:

Exams: The midterm will cover everything covered in lecture and problem sets during the first 5 weeks. It will be held during class time on Monday of week 6. The final will be cumulative, covering everything in the class. Please see MyUCLA for the final exam location. Exams will consist of both multiple choice and free response questions.

Excel Assignment: This assignment will help you understand one of the most important models from the first half of the class (the Solow growth model) and practice your Excel skills (Google sheets will also be sufficient if you don't have Excel). More information will be provided on the details of the assignment in the second half of the class. Late assignments will lose 15 points per day. No assignments will be accepted beyond 3 days after the due date.

Problem Sets: There will be 4 problem sets in this course. While you will not be graded on getting the correct answer, you will lose points if you don't give an honest attempt at each question. The problem sets will include some questions based on additional readings posted on the course website. You may work in groups, but your answers should be your own (for questions on the readings, your responses must be in your own words). Problem sets are due at 11:59pm PT on the scheduled due date. No late problem sets will be accepted, but you are allowed to miss 1 problem set and still get max points.

Quizzes: Following each lecture there will be a short quiz posted online for you to complete. The goal of these quizzes is to see how well you understood the topics in lecture and are meant to be taken before you review the material from lecture without referring back to your notes (you can always review them later). Quizzes are due before the start of the next lecture. No late quizzes will be accepted, but you can miss up to 2 quizzes and still get max points.

Important Grading Note: Quizzes and problem sets are not required. However, any points earned on quizzes and problem sets will add points to both the numerator and denominator of your final grade in the class. For example, if you scored a 80% on both exams and the Excel assignment and full points on the training questions/mandatory attendance, you would have 820/1000 in the class (82%). If you get full points on the problem sets and quizzes, your score will increase to 1020/1200 or 85%.

Exam Policies:

Exams will be offered at the scheduled class time (8:30am-10:35am). If you have a good excuse for not being able to make the times offered (different time zone, class conflict, etc.), you must let me know at least one week before the exam and we will set up alternative exam times.

Exams will be open notes and open internet, but you may not contact any other person during the exam.

Please see the course website for detailed exam logistics.

Email Policy:

Please do not email me with questions about the class material. Instead, you can post your question on our class Campuswire forum (you will have to make a free account). This will allow others to see your question and prevent me from answering the same question many times. You are also encouraged to try to answer other students' questions, which can be a great way to check your understanding of class material! You may email me with personal questions.

Academic Integrity:

Please refer to the University of California's policies on academic integrity <http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/Academic-Integrity>. Any cheating, plagiarism, or other violations of academic integrity will be reported to the Office of the Dean of Students.

Tentative Course Outline:

Week	Topic
1	Introduction and Measuring the Economy Basic Macro Concepts and Intro to the Solow Growth Model
2	The Solow Growth Model (Continued) No Class (4th of July)
3	Classical Theory of Interest Rates and Labor Markets Midterm Review
4	Midterm Keynesian Economics and the IS-LM Model
5	Expectations, the Lucas Critique, and the IS-MP-PC Model International Macroeconomics
6	Macro History/Current Events and Final Review Final Exam