Macroeconomics A
Econ 110A
University of California, San Diego
Spring 2020

Instructor

- Maria Teresa Cândido

- Office Hours:
  - Mondays 11:15 am – 12:15 pm,
  - Thursdays 2 – 3 pm

- Email: mcandido@ucsd.edu

Instructor

- Born in Portugal

- Childhood in Angola

- PhD at UCSD

- Worked in NY

Teaching Assistants and Readers

- **Teaching Assistants**
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- **Readers**
  - Ariel Chiang
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  - Jeffrey Alex Garland
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Lectures and Discussion Sections

- As you all know, we are in the middle of a global COVID-19 pandemic, which has required dramatic changes to how we teach and learn.

- All instruction will be conducted remotely using Zoom and Canvas.

- Our hope and aim this quarter is to provide as high quality an intellectual experience for students as would have been the case if we were to have been able to meet in person. Of course, there will be some trial and error and we will need to make adjustments along the way. Not everything we will do is going to work and we need your cooperation.

Lectures

- All lectures will take place at the regular scheduled time for the class. All lectures will take place through Zoom Pro and will be recorded and posted on Canvas.

- I usually like to make the lectures quite interactive and call on students. I would like to continue doing this this quarter, as much as possible. You can ask questions by typing them in during the lecture in the Zoom chat. We will have a TA answering some of the questions or redirecting them to me. I will try to periodically pause the lectures to check and review the questions and answer them.
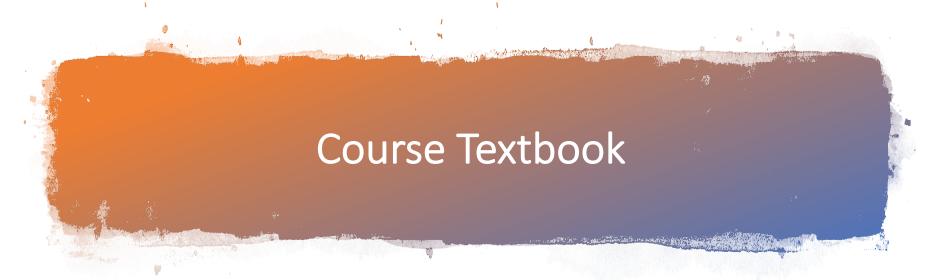
Discussion Sessions

- Mondays 6:00 – 6:50 pm, online
- Mondays 7:00 – 7:50 pm, online

- There are weekly discussion sections for this course. They will take place remotely, using Zoom meeting. These sessions will be recorded and posted on Canvas.

- You may attend any of the two discussion sessions, regardless of which class you are registered for. The discussion sessions aim to cover the same information, so you do not need to attend more than one.

- Synchronous attendance in the discussion sessions or accessing them asynchronously is strongly recommended since the TAs will go over practice problems, the kind of problems you may encounter on tests.

- The first discussion sessions will take place on **April 6th.**

Support for Students

- The Commons have put together a site to offer students academic support for remote learning.
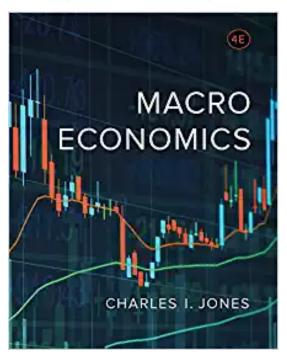
- https://commons.ucsd.edu/covid-19/students.html

Course Textbook

Title: **Macroeconomics**

Author: Charles I. Jones

Edition: 4th (3rd is fine too)

Chapters to be Covered:

1 through 8.

Course Webpage

- Canvas
- https://canvas.ucsd.edu/

- It will include information relevant to the course, such as slides of lectures, zoom recordings, announcements, practice problem sets and tests, solutions to end of chapter problems, syllabus, schedule and more.

- You should check this page regularly.

Other Course Materials

- Practice Problem Sets and Solutions

- Lecture Slides

- End-of-chapter Problem Answers

- Practice Midterms and Finals and Solutions

Course Discussion Board

- Piazza

- Please sign up here

- https://piazza.com/ucsd/spring2020/econ110a

GRADING

My prediction on how I will assess you in this course is to base your course grade in the following assessments:

- 1 assessment on "technology" in week 2 – April 8th

- 4 assessments on the course material:
  - Assessment 1: April 20 – 9am (during class time)
  - Assessment 2: May 1 – 6pm
  - Assessment 3: May 21 – 8pm
  - Assessment 4: June 10 – 8am

GRADING

- The weight of the week 2 "technology" assessment is 2%. The weight on the course material assessments is 98%. We will drop your lowest score on the four course material assessments. Your grade will be based on the average scores of other three assessments.

- All assessments will be done on Canvas. Please make sure you have a good and stable internet connection.

- The questions asked on the assessments will be based on lectures, textbook reading and practice problems.

- While I will do what I can to keep to the predicted assessments for this course, the evolving situation may take it necessary for me to make a change.

GRADING

- We will likely use Zoom/Loom/LockDown Browser for proctoring this quarter. These programs use video and audio recording or other personal information capture for the purpose of facilitating the course and/or test environment. UC San Diego does not allow vendors to use this information for other purposes. Recordings will be deleted when no longer necessary. However, if cheating is suspected, the recording may become part of the student's administrative disciplinary record.

- Finally, I reserve the right to give an oral test if I feel it is necessary to uphold academic integrity.

Academic Integrity

- Students are expected to do their own work, as outlined in the UCSD policy on Academic Integrity. Cheating will not be tolerated, and any student who engages in suspicious conduct will be confronted and subjected to the disciplinary process. Students found guilty of academic dishonesty will earn a failing grade for the course. In addition, the Council of Deans of Student Affairs will impose a disciplinary penalty.

- The following are a few examples of academic dishonesty
    1. Having another student complete an assignment for you or give you answers to specific questions
    2. Using unauthorized materials in an exam
    3. Having someone else take your exam for you
    4. Lying about having taken an exam or completed an assignment

How to Succeed in Econ 110A?

- *Attend class and discussion sessions*
- *Ask questions*
- *Work on practice problems*
- *Be active on Piazza*
- *Take advantage of office hours!*

Course Description

- This course is the first part of the intermediate macroeconomic theory. The objective of the sequence is to teach students how to understand broad movements in the aggregate economy.

- Econ 110A focuses on long-run inflation and economic growth and their underlying economic fundamentals.

- Topics include measurement of aggregate economic activity and inflation, determinants of long-run economic growth, unemployment, inflation and monetary policy, and microfoundations of macroeconomic modeling.

Tentative Schedule

Days	Number of Lectures	Topic	Textbook Chapters
Mar 30th – Apr 6th	4	Class Introduction Introduction to Macroeconomics Measuring the Macroeconomy	1-2
Apr 8th – Apr 13th	3	An Overview of Long-Run Economic Growth	3
Apr 15th – Apr 27th	5	A Model of Production	4
Apr 29th – May 11th	6	The Solow Growth Model	5
May 13th – May 22nd	5	Growth and Ideas	6
May 27th – Jun 1st	3	The Labor Market, Wages and Unemployment	7
Jun 3rd – Jun 5th	2	Inflation	8

Why Macroeconomics?

➢ **Economic Growth**

1880: $5,000*

2016: $53,000*

*median income in 2011 dollars, source: Maddison Project Database

Why Macroeconomics?

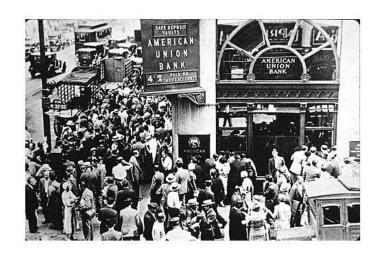➤ **Economic Inequality**

San Diego, 2019

San Diego, 2019

Why Macroeconomics?

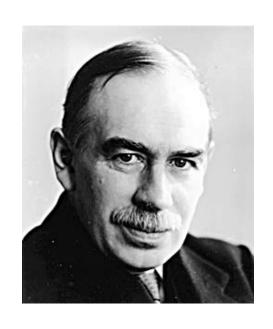> ## Economic Cycles

1929-1933
Great Depression

2008-2010
Great Recession

The "Father" of Macroeconomics

John Maynard Keynes (1883-1946)

University of Cambridge - UK

"General Theory of Employment,

Interest and Money"

What are our goals in Econ 110A?

1. *learn how to measure*

2. *learn how to model*

3. *learn how to think*