

Economics 110B - Macroeconomics
Fall 2020
MWF 9:00 - 9:50 pm, Online

Instructor:

Maria Teresa Cândido
Office Hours: Mondays 12:30 – 1:30 pm, Thursdays 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Email: mcandido@ucsd.edu

Teaching Assistants

Edoardo Briganti ebriganti@ucsd.edu
Office Hours: Tuesdays 3:00 – 4:30 pm

Junyuan Chen juc212@ucsd.edu
Office Hours: Fridays 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Ali Uppal asuppal@ucsd.edu
Office Hours: Mondays 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Phil Choi pchoi@ucsd.edu
Office Hours: Fridays 10:00 – 11:30 am

Chengming (Peter) Gu chg054@ucsd.edu
Office Hours: Wednesdays 5:00 – 6:30 pm

Alex Klauss aklauss@ucsd.edu
Office Hours: Thursdays 1:00 – 2:30 pm

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 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

Tuesdays 6:00 – 6:50 pm, online
Tuesdays 7:00 – 7:50 pm, online

There are weekly discussion sections for this course. 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. Discussion sections will be recorded and published on Canvas. Attendance in the discussion sessions 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 **October 13th**.

Course Description

This course is the second part of the intermediate macroeconomic theory. The objective of the sequence is to teach students how to understand broad movements in the aggregate economy. While Econ 110A focused on the long-run, the objective of Econ 110B is to understand business cycles, government policy, and international macroeconomics. Topics include the analysis of the Great Recession, the IS and the Philips curves, AS/AD model, government policy, and international trade and finance and exchange rates.

Course Textbook

Required Textbook: “Macroeconomics” by Charles I. Jones (2014), 4th edition, W.W. Norton and Co.
We will be covering chapters 9-14 and 18, and 20.

Course Web Page

A course web page is available at <https://canvas.ucsd.edu/>

It will include information relevant to the course, such as announcements, practice problem sets and tests, solutions, to end of chapter problems, syllabus, schedule and more. You should check this page regularly.

Discussion Board

We will use Piazza for our discussion board for this class. You need to sign up to it. It is free to do so. Here is the link:

<https://piazza.com/ucsd/fall2020/econ110b/home>

In Piazza, you will be able to post questions about the material, and the questions will be answered by us and/or your fellow classmates.

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 – October 13th

4 assessments on the course material in the following dates:

Midterm 1: October 21 – 6 pm

Midterm 2: November 5 – 6 pm

Midterm 3: November 23 – 6 pm

Final: December 16 – 8 am

The weight of the week 2 “technology” assessment is 2%. To compute your course grade we will compute two scores for you: One that puts a weight of 2% on the technology assessment, 21% in each of the three midterm, and 35% on the final. The other puts a weight of 2% on the technology assessment, 27% in each of your two best midterms and 44% on the final. Your course grade will be the higher of the two scores.

All assessments will be done on Canvas. Please make sure you have 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 go keep to the predicted assessments for this course, the evolving situation may take it necessary for me to make a change.

We will likely use Zoom with Respondus LockDown Browser and Monitor 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.

Tentative Schedule (exams dates will not change)

The reading assignment for our course is outlined in the tentative class schedule below. Lectures will focus on the more difficult material in the readings, but you will be responsible for all of the material in each chapter. You will get more out of this class if you read the required chapters prior to each lecture.

Days	Number of Lectures	Topic	Textbook Chapters
Oct 2 nd – Oct 7 th	3	Class Introduction An Introduction to the Short Run	9
Oct 9 th – Oct 14 th	3	The Great Recession: A First Look	10
Oct 16 th – Oct 26 th	5	The IS Curve	11
Oct 28 th – Nov 6 th	5	Monetary Policy and the Philips Curve	12
Nov 9 th – Nov 23 rd	6	Stabilization Policy and the AS/AD Framework	13
Nov 25 th – Dec 2 nd	3	The Great Recession and the Short-Run Model	14
Dec 4 th – Dec 7 th	2	The Government and the Macroeconomy	18
Dec 9 th - Dec 11 th	2	Exchange Rates and International Finance	20