



Welcome to Principles of Macroeconomics!

ECON 3, Winter 2021

All Information in the Syllabus is Tentative

Normally, I consider the syllabus my contract with the class. However, this quarter some flexibility might be desirable due to all the uncertainty related to the pandemic. The information that follows is based on my current prediction. While I will do what I can to keep to the current parameters for this course, the evolving situation may make it necessary for me to make changes. If that happens, I will make sure to inform you as early as possible, and to explain as best as I can the rationale behind the change.

Basic Information and Key Links

Professor: Valerie Ramey

Office: Zoom

Course web page: canvas.ucsd.edu.

Class Email: econ3ramey@gmail.com

econ3ramey@gmail.com should be used for all class-related email correspondence.

- **Do not send** email to my UCSD professor account **except** in the case of an emergency concerning an exam or a non-class related matter.
- **Do not use** Canvas for email.

MATERIALS FOR THE CLASS

Required:

1. Principles of Economics, 7th Edition, by Frank, Bernanke, Antonovics, Heffetz. Also used for Econ 1 and Econ 2. The older editions are not suitable substitutes because of major changes made to the macro chapters in this edition. You are not required to buy the LearnSmart/Connect supplement.
2. A **nonprogrammable scientific calculator** – needed for exams. (Example, TI-30XA.)
3. **Materials and videos** that I will post on Canvas. These include:
 - Partial lecture notes - to print/download and take notes on them
 - Videos of lectures
 - Homework assignments
 - Current events articles
 - Supplementary videos and articles

PREREQUISITES FOR THE CLASS

1. Previous successful completion of **Econ 1**.
2. Knowledge of **college-level mathematics** (calculus is not required).
3. College-level reading and writing skills, in particular, the ability to:
 - read and comprehend a college-level textbook.
 - read and comprehend articles from newspapers and magazines.
 - write clearly and coherently (even if not with perfect grammar or spelling) in English.
 - understand spoken English.

The lectures are recorded so that students in different time zones can watch asynchronously. Also, students who are not yet fluent in English may replay my lectures if they didn't understand something I said.

I encourage you to ask about vocabulary you do not understand, through the class email or in office hours.

Grades

10%:	Homework	I will drop the lowest 10% of points
20%:	Midterm #1	Thurs. Jan. 21 , 8 pm – 9:20 pm, online
30%:	Midterm #2	Thurs. Feb. 18 , 8 pm – 9:20 pm, online
40%:	Final exam	10 am lecture is on Fri. 3/19 8:00 am -11:00 am 11 am lecture is on Mon. 3/15 11:30 am -2:30 pm

- The material before the first midterm is an important foundation but is easier than the material that follows.
- Going to discussion sections is strongly recommended but not required. You may attend any discussion section of your choosing.
- The final exam is cumulative since the later material builds on the earlier material. However, more emphasis will be put on the later material.

Homework

- The homework consists of questions that I and my teaching assistants write on Canvas.
- Most of the homeworks will be Canvas “quizzes” that are multiple choice and numerical answers.
- A few of the homeworks will consist of questions and templates posted on Canvas with answers uploaded to Gradescope.
- You are allowed only one attempt on the homework. However, you have unlimited time to work on it before the due date and you may work on it in multiple sittings.
- The correct answers and your scores will be made available after the due date.

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Academic Integrity Coordinator. Students found guilty of academic dishonesty will earn a failing grade for the course in addition to the penalties imposed by the Academic Integrity Review Board.

The following are just a few examples of academic dishonesty:

- Using unauthorized materials during an exam.
- Copying another student's answers for a homework or during an exam.
- Having someone else take your exam for you or give you the answers.
- Lying about having taken an exam or completed an assignment.

For more information, go to: <http://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu/excel-integrity/define-cheating/index.html>

Academic Integrity (continued)

- We will likely use Zoom/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.
- If anything raises our suspicions about an exam, we reserve the right to administer a short quiz, either written or oral, to verify whether the performance on the exam reflects the student's own knowledge.
- Log on promptly for exams. I will not allow students who log on very late to take the exam because of cheating concerns.

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

If you need to **miss a midterm** for a valid and verifiable medical/legal/sports reason, you will have to take a longer final exam. Failure to notify me promptly that you must miss a midterm will result in a zero grade for that midterm. Unexcused absences will also result in a zero.

LECTURES

- **Lecture attendance is strongly encouraged.** If your time zone makes synchronous attendance difficult, you should watch all lectures on the videos posted on Canvas.
- Lecture Etiquette
 - It is disconcerting for instructors to teach to nothing but faceless Zoom boxes. If your circumstances permit, **please turn on your video camera** as much as possible.
 - Please keep yourself muted until you want to ask a question. **Student questions**, comments, and discussion are **strongly encouraged!**
 - You may also use the chat feature of Zoom to ask questions. However, we may temporarily halt the chat if it is disrupting a particular explanation.
 - I will also pose **practice problems** for students to solve in class. Student responses are strongly encouraged. **It is okay to get a wrong answer** – your fellow students often learn more when I explain why an answer is wrong.

Instructional Team

Jacob Orchard	50% TA
Tyler Paul	50% TA
Mitch Vanvuren	50% TA
Molly Shatto	50% TA
Steven Yee	50% TA
Michael Chua	25% TA
Tara Sullivan	25% TA
Xiyue (George) Liu	UIA
Lehan (Wendy) You	UIA
Chen-Fan (Jeff) Wang	UIA
Vincent Armentano	Reader
Paula Donaldson	Reader
Heather Song	Academic Achievement Hub

Office hours will be posted on Canvas.

Discussion Sections

The current discussion sections are on Wednesdays, at 4 pm, 5 pm, 6 pm, and 7 pm PST.

Notes:

- Attendance is strongly encouraged, but not required.
- You may go to your official section or any other section (as long as there is room).
- If attendance is low at two sections that are scheduled for the same time, we may combine them into one section.

Topic Outline

Part 6: Macroeconomics: Issues and Data

Chapter 16: Macroeconomics: A Bird's-Eye View of the Economy

Chapter 17: Measuring Economic Activity: GDP and Unemployment
(+ Chapter 20: "Types of Unemployment & their Costs" p. 544-546.)

Chapter 18: Measuring the Price Level and Inflation

Part 7: The Economy in the Long-Run

Chapter 19: Economic Growth, Productivity and Living Standards
(Skip Chapter 20)

Chapter 21: Savings and Capital Formation

Chapter 22: Money, Prices, and the Federal Reserve

Chapter 23: Financial Markets and International Capital Flows

Part 8: The Economy in the Short-Run

Chapter 24: Short-Term Fluctuations: An Introduction

Chapter 25: Spending and Output in the Short Run

Chapter 26: Stabilizing the Economy: The Role of the Fed (as much as time permits)
(Skip Chapter 27)

Chapter 28: Exchange Rates and the Open Economy (if time permits)

Questions about Syllabus?