San José State University  
Department of Economics  
Econ 102 - Macroeconomic Analysis Course No. 23946 Section 2, Spring 2019

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Justin Rietz  
Office Location: DMH 143  
Telephone: (408) 924-5416  
Email: justin.rietz@sjsu.edu  
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursdays, 12:00pm – 1:00pm.  
Class Days/Time: Tuesday and Thursdays, 3:00pm to 4:15 pm.  
Classroom: DMH166  
Prerequisites: Econ 1A

Course Format

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on Canvas Learning Management System course login website at http://sjsu.instructure.com. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU at http://my.sjsu.edu and your SJSU email to learn of any updates.

Course Description

Theory of aggregate demand and related topics: national income accounting, employment and inflation, monetary and fiscal policies, economic stability, growth, and balance of payments equilibrium.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

This is a course in intermediate macroeconomics. Using models of the economy overall, it emphasizes the interrelationships among economic variables and the impact of public policy on those variables. By the end of the course, the student should have a good grasp of what we know and what we do not know about economic growth, sustained inflation, and the business cycle. Although this course touches on the full range of Economics PLOs, it emphasizes PLO2.

PL0 2. Macroeconomics: Apply tools from Intermediate Macroeconomics to modeling the economy overall and explaining the interrelationships among economic variables and discussing the impact of public policy on the economy.

PL0 5: Communication: Demonstrate efficient communication skills.

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to demonstrate the following:

CLO 1. Explain the relationship between economics and public policy.

CLO 2. Identify the macroeconomic aggregates that measure the price level, employment, and output and explain both their strengths and weaknesses.
CLO 3. Discuss what we know and what we do not know about economic growth.
CLO 4. Discuss what we know and what we do not know about sustained inflation.
CLO 5. Discuss what we know and what we do not know about the business cycle

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook


   Two notes:
   - This is an older version of the textbook. You can find used copies of *Macroeconomics* 7th edition on many online bookstores, including Amazon at [http://amzn.to/2bIb1FV](http://amzn.to/2bIb1FV), typically for under $10.
   - Don’t confuse it with Mankiw’s *Principles of Macroeconomics* which is an introductory textbook.


   If you choose to use a different version of either of the texts, it is your responsibility to account for any differences in assigned readings and homework problems.

Other Readings

Econ 102 Course Reader, available at Maple Press, 330 South 10th Street.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Final Examination or Evaluation

There will be a final exam for the course.

Grading Information

Determination of Grades

The final examination, which will be comprehensive, is worth 30 points out of the total of 100 for the course. There are two midterm exams worth 15 points each, and four online homework assignments worth 5 point each for a total of 20 points. In addition, there will be twelve short, objective quizzes based exclusively on assigned weekly readings worth another 20 points. Each quiz individually is worth 2.5 points, allowing students to drop or miss four out of the twelve quizzes. There will be no make-ups for any quizzes. Cheating on homework, quizzes or exams will result in an automatic F for the entire course.
Final grades will be curved. However, the curve will never hurt your grade. I do not round up grades, e.g. an 86.9 is a B, not a B+.

I do not provide study guides. Instead, I will hand out brief, unit outlines with key concepts and terms.

**Classroom Protocol**

The use of laptops, tablets, or other electronic device is prohibited in class. Studies have proven that students who take notes on these devices significantly impair their comprehension of the material and disturb other students. Therefore, you need to come prepared to take hand-written notes. Those who violate this policy will have a half a percentage point deducted from their final grade for the course for each infraction.

Because class participation helps enliven the course, it is greatly appreciated and can earn students up to one extra point toward their final grade.

If you experience any difficulty in this course, please do not hesitate to come to me for help. I am available during office hours and by appointment. However, I greatly appreciate questions asked during class – I guarantee that if you have a question, many of your classmates have the same one!

**University Policies**

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs’ Syllabus Information web page at http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/” Make sure to review these university policies and resources.
## Econ 102 – Intermediate Macroeconomics, Course No. 23946, Spring 2019
### Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jan 24</td>
<td>First Day of Class. Overview.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jan 29</td>
<td>Topic: Microeconomic Review&lt;br&gt;<strong>Readings:</strong>&lt;br&gt;Buchholz, preface, chs. 1-4.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jan 31</td>
<td>Topic: Macroeconomic Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Feb 7</td>
<td>Topic: Public Choice</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Feb 14</td>
<td>Topic: Macroeconomic Data and Inflation</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Feb 21</td>
<td>Topic: Unemployment</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Feb 26</td>
<td>First Exam Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Feb 28</td>
<td>First Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Mar 7</td>
<td>Topics: Economic Growth</td>
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</tbody>
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| 8    | Mar 12 | Topics: Money and Inflation  
Readings:  
1. Mankiw, chs. 4, 19.  
| 8    | Mar 14 | Topics: Money and Inflation               |
| 9    | Mar 19 | Topics: Money and Inflation  
Readings:  
| 9    | Mar 21 | Topics: Money and Inflation               |
| 10   | Mar 26 | Topics: Macroeconomic Modeling  
Readings:  
1. Mankiw, ch. 9, 13 (except the appendix)  
2. Buchholz, pp. 271-82 from ch. 11. |
| 10   | Mar 28 | Topics: Macroeconomic Modeling            |
| 11   | Apr 2  | Spring Break                              |
| 11   | Apr 4  | Spring Break                              |
| 12   | Apr 9  | Topics: Business Cycles  
Readings:  
1. Mankiw, pp. 415-16 and ch. 15 (except the appendix);  
2. Buchholz, ch. 12;  
| 12   | Apr 11 | Topics: Business Cycles                   |
| 13   | Apr 16 | Review                                    |
| 13   | Apr 18 | Second Exam                               |
| 14   | Apr 23 | Topic: Government Debt  
Readings:  
1. Mankiw, ch. 16 |
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<th>Week</th>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Apr 25</td>
<td>Topics: Government Debt</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>Topics: International Economics</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>May 7</td>
<td>Special Topics: The Great Recession</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>Special Topics: TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Tuesday, May 21st at 2:45-5:00pm (<a href="http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/final-exam-schedule-spring.html">http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/final-exam-schedule-spring.html</a>)</td>
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**Course Units:**

I. Fundamentals of Public Policy.  
II. Measuring the Macroeconomy.  
III. Economic Growth.  
IV. Monetary Theory.  
V. Modeling the Macroeconomy.  
VI. The Business Cycle: Causes and Cures.  
VII. The International Economy (if time).