

San José State University
Department of Economics
Course No. 47832, Econ 202 - Seminar in Macroeconomic Analysis, Fall 2018

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Justin D. Rietz
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Office Hours:	Monday and Wednesday, 10:30-11:30am
Class Days/Time:	Thursday, 6:30-9:15pm.
Classroom:	DMH 358
Prerequisites:	Econ 101, 102

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](http://sjsu.instructure.com) at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU](http://my.sjsu.edu) at <http://my.sjsu.edu> to learn of any updates.

Course Description

Aggregate analyses of inflation and unemployment (and of alternative fiscal and monetary policies) using general equilibrium and dynamic disequilibrium adjustment models of real output, labor, real capital and financial markets (both domestic and international).

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

This is a course in advanced macroeconomics. Using models of the economy overall, it emphasizes the interrelationships among economic variables and the impact of public policy on those variables. It puts special emphasis on competing theories as they emerged in the history of economic thought. This course emphasizes Economics MA PLO 2 (*Macroeconomics*).

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand the relationship between economics and public policy, as illuminated by public-choice theory.
- Identify the macroeconomic aggregates that measure the price level, employment, and output and explain both their strengths and weaknesses.
- Display a good grasp of what we know and what we do not know about economic growth.
- Display a good grasp of what we know and what we do not know about sustained inflation.
- Display a good grasp of what we know and what we do not know about the business cycle.

Required Texts/Readings (Required)

Textbook

1. Brian Snowdon and Howard R. Vane, *Modern Macroeconomics: Its Origins, Development and Current State* (Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar, 2005); **ISBN-13:** 978- 1845422080.
2. N. Gregory Mankiw, *Macroeconomics*, 7th edn. (New York: Worth, 2010); **ISBN-13:** 978-1429218870.

Other Readings

Econ 202 Online Course Reader (see Canvas). Hard copy will be available at Maple Press, 481 E. San Carlos.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Participation in class discussions will determine 15 percent of a student's overall grade. The final examination, which will be comprehensive, is worth another 50 percent out of the total of 100, whereas a mid-term examination is worth 35 percent. If a student misses a class, they must turn in at the next class a brief written summary of the readings assigned for the class they missed. These written summaries must be at least 400 words long, neatly typed.

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 cumulative, final exam.

Grading Information

Converting Number Grades to Letter Grades

97-100 A+	93-96 A	90-92 A-
87-89 B+	83-86 B	80-82 B-
77-79 C+	73-76 C	70-72 C-
67-69 D+	63-66 D	60-62 D-
below 60 F		

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+.

Classroom Protocol

We will conduct this class as a graduate seminar. Rather than only listening to lectures, students should be prepared to discuss the assigned readings for each session.

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](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/> Make sure to review these university policies and resources.

Course Number 47832, Seminar in Macroeconomic Analysis

Fall 2018, Semester

Course Schedule

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Aug 23	Snowdon & Vane, ch. 1; Mankiw, chs. 1, 2, 6.
2	Aug 30	Mankiw, chs. 3, 7, 8.
3	Sep 6	Snowdon & Vane, ch. 11.
4	Sep 13	Snowdon & Vane, ch. 2; Mankiw, ch. 9.
5	Sep 20	Snowdon & Vane, ch. 3 [except sec. 3.5 (pp. 123-35)]; Mankiw, chs. 10, 11.
6	Sep 27	Snowdon & Vane, ch. 4 [except sec. 4.4 (pp. 187-92)]; Mankiw, chs. 13, 17.
7	Oct 4	Snowdon & Vane, ch. 5 [except secs. 5.5.3-5.5.4 (pp. 249-62)]; Mankiw, ch. 18.
8	Oct 11	mid-term examination.
9	Oct 18	Snowdon & Vane, ch. 6.
10	Oct 25	Snowdon & Vane, ch. 7 [except sec. 7.6 (pp. 376-78) and secs. 7.11-7.12 (pp. 409-27)]; Mankiw, ch. 14.
11	Nov 1	Snowdon & Vane, ch. 9.
12	Nov 8	Snowdon & Vane, ch. 10, secs. 5.5.3-5.5.4 (pp. 249-62), secs. 7.11-7.12 (pp. 409-27); Mankiw, chs. 15, 16.
13	Nov 15	Snowdon & Vane, sec. 3.5 (pp. 123-35), sec. 4.4 (pp. 187-92), sec. 7.6 (pp. 376-78); Mankiw, chs. 5, 12.
14	Nov 22	No Class – Thanksgiving Break
15	Nov 29	Snowdon & Vane, ch. 12; Mankiw, epilogue.
16	Dec 6	Special Topics
Final Exam	Dec 13	Thursday, December 13 in DMH 358

Optional Recommended Readings:

General

John H. Wood, *A History of Macroeconomic Policy in the United States* (London: Routledge, 2009).

Economic Growth

Robert J. Barro and Xavier Sala-i-Martin, *Economic Growth*, 2nd edn. (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2004).

P. T. Bauer, *Dissent on Development: Studies and Debates in Development Economics* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1972).

Michele Boldrin and David K. Levine, *Against Intellectual Monopoly* (New York : Cambridge University Press, 2008).

William Easterly, *The Elusive Quest for Growth: Economists' Adventures and Misadventures in the Tropics* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2001).

Charles I. Jones, *Introduction to Economic Growth*, 2nd edn. (New York: W. W. Norton, 2002).

Michael Maren, *The Road to Hell: The Ravaging Effects of Foreign Aid and International Charity* (New York: Free Press, 1997).

Debraj Ray, *Development Economics* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1998).

Julian L. Simon, *The Ultimate Resource* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1981).

Hernando de Soto, *The Mystery of Capital: Why Capitalism Triumphs in the West and Fails Everywhere Else* (New York: Basic Books, 2000).

Hernando de Soto, *The Other Path: The Invisible Revolution in the Third World* (New York: Haper & Row, 1989).

David Warsh, *Knowledge and the Wealth of Nations: A Story of Economic Discovery* (New York: W. W. Norton, 2006).

David N. Weil, *Economic Growth* (Boston: Addison-Wesley, 2005).

Business Cycles

Robert J. Barro, *Macroeconomics*, 5th edn. (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1997).

James M. Buchanan and Richard E. Wagner, *Democracy in Deficit: The Political Legacy of Lord Keynes* (New York: Academic Press, 1977)

Tyler Cowen, *Risk and Business Cycles: New and Old Austrian Perspectives* (New York: Routledge, 1997).

James Rolph Edwards, *Macroeconomics: Equilibrium and Disequilibrium Analysis* (New York: Macmillan, 1991).

Roger W. Garrison, *Time and Money: The Macroeconomics of Capital Structure* (London: Routledge, 2001).

Robert J. Gordon, *Macroeconomics*, 8th edn. (Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley, 2000).

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Optional Recommended Readings (continued):

Robert J. Gordon, ed., *Milton Friedman's Monetary Framework: A Debate With His Critics* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1974).

Robert E. Hall and John B. Taylor, *Macroeconomics*, 5th edn. (New York: W. W. Norton, 1997).

Steven Horwitz, *Microfoundations and Macroeconomics: An Austrian Perspective* (London: Routledge, 2000).

John Maynard Keynes, *The General Theory of Employment, Interest, and Money* (New York: Harcourt, Brace, 1936).

Steven E. Landsburg and Lauren J. Feinstone, *Macroeconomics* (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1997).

David Romer, *Advanced Macroeconomics*, 4th edn. (New York: McGraw-Hill, 2012).

Monetary Theory

H. Geoffrey Brennan and James M. Buchanan, *Monopoly in Money and Inflation: The Case for a Constitution to Discipline Government* (London: Institute of Economic Affairs, 1981).

Kevin Dowd and Richard H. Timberlake, Jr., eds., *Money and the Nation State: The Financial Revolution, Government and the World Monetary System* (New Brunswick, NJ : Transaction Publishers, 1998).

Friedrich A. von Hayek, *The Denationalization of Money--The Argument Refined: An Analysis of the Theory and Practice of Concurrent Currencies*, 2nd edn. (London : Institute of Economic Affairs, 1978).

Miles Livingston, *Money and Capital Markets: Financial Instruments and Their Uses* (Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1990).

J. Huston McCulloch, *Money and Inflation: A Monetarist Approach*, 2nd edn. (New York: Academic Press, 1982).

Ludwig von Mises, *The Theory of Money and Credit*, rev. edn. (London: Jonathan Cape, 1934).

Don Patinkin, *Money, Interest, and Prices: An Integration of Monetary and Value Theory*, 2nd edn., abridged (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1989).

Murray N. Rothbard, *The Mystery of Banking* (New York: Richardson & Snyder, 1983).

Thomas J. Sargent, *Rational Expectations and Inflation*, 2nd edn. (New York: HarperCollins, 1993).

George A. Selgin, *A Theory of Free Banking: Money Supply Under Competitive Note Issue* (Totowa, NJ: Rowman & Littlefield, 1988).

Lawrence H. White, *The Theory of Monetary Institutions* (Oxford: Blackwell, 1999).