ECO 3260: Intermediate Macroeconomics

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Office Hours: MW 10:00am-12:00pm, 1:00pm-3:30pm   Class Hours: MWF 9:00am-9:50am
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Course Description

An extension of ECO 2210 designed to provide students with a richer treatment of modern macroeconomic principles and policy. Topics include national income and employment determination, unemployment and inflation, economic growth theory and policy, monetary and fiscal policy, and the influence of international trade and trade policy on the U.S. economy.

Objectives and Goals: Upon completion of this course students should be: 1) familiar with general economic and macroeconomic terminology, concepts, and theories; 2) able to utilize graphs and equations in analyzing general economic and macroeconomic problems; and 3) able to use logical economic reasoning to analyze real-world situations and events.

Method(s) of Instruction: Lecture and discussion.

Mission Statement of the Massey College of Business

The Jack C. Massey College of Business is a Christ-centered, student-focused, and entrepreneurial learning community, cultivating impactful leaders who are recognized for their business expertise and moral clarity in pursuit of a flourishing world.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

I am dedicated to creating a safe and supportive learning environment for all people regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, religion, sexual orientation, or disability.

Prerequisites/Corequisites

Prerequisites: ECO 2210 or ECO 2220.

Course Objectives

Successful students will be able to:

1. Understand fundamental economic concepts and principles.

2. Apply economic reasoning, analytical skills, and technical methods to inform decision making.

3. Utilize economic tools to advance human flourishing by addressing complex problems.

4. Effectively communicate the costs and benefits of economic interdependence and global connectivity.

Required Materials

- The main required textbook is Carlin, W., and Soskice, D. 2015. *Macroeconomics: Institutions, Instability, and the Financial System*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

- Other assigned readings will be posted on Blackboard.

- Finally, we will be working with data in this class. To facilitate that work we will be using an open-source program called GRETL. You will need to download and install GRETL as soon as possible. It is available here: http://gretl.sourceforge.net/.

Course Requirements

Attendance

Belmont University is committed to the idea that regular student engagement is essential to successful scholastic achievement. Absence is permitted in cases of illness or other legitimate cause, as determined by the professor. Attendance and engagement are assessed from the first class meeting, whether in the traditional classroom setting, in an online classroom, or a hybrid of the two. Late registrants will automatically have accrued some absences prior to formal registration in the course. In the case of an excused absence from class, students have the right and responsibility to make up all class work missed. If a student demonstrates no engagement in more than 20% of synchronous and/or asynchronous sessions, the faculty member may assign the grade "FN" (failure for non-engagement) to that student. For this course, engagement will be assessed via attendance and participation at class meetings.

Exams

There will be two midterm exams and a comprehensive final exam. Each midterm will cover only new material. The final exam will cover material from the entire course. The tentative dates for the exams are included on the "Course Outline" section of the syllabus. Each exam will be in a "take-home" format. Exams will be posted on Blackboard at midnight on the day of the exam and due by 11:59pm the next evening. **There will be no make-ups or re-scheduling of exams**. However, in your final grade I will weight your midterm exams such that your best midterm

score gets the highest weight and your worst midterm score gets the lowest weight. This process is detailed in the "Grading Policy" section below.

Problem Sets

There will be four take-home problem sets. Problem sets will consist of practice problem-solving type questions. Students may work together in groups of 3 or 4 on problem sets. Each student should make an effort to work through the problems on her own. However, if you choose to work in a group each group needs to turn in only one copy of their solutions. The problem sets will be due one or two class periods prior to the corresponding exam. Problem sets are to be turned-in on Blackboard on the day they are due with **no late credit or make-ups given**.

Grading Policy

Points for each assignment are distributed in the following fashion:

Table 1: Grading Scheme

Assignment	Points	Percent
Problem Sets (4 × 50 Points)	200 Points	≈ 53.3%
Lowest Midterm	25 Points	≈ 6.67%
Highest Midterm	75 Points	≈ 20%
Final Exam	75 Points	≈ 20%
Total	375 Points	

Unless you have an excuse from the Provost **I do not accept late work**.

Grading Scale

A standard grading scale will be used:
A: 93.5% and up. A-: 90%-93.4%. B+: 87.5% - 89.9%. B: 83.5% - 87.4%.
B-: 80%-83.4%. C+: 77.5% -79.9%. C: 73.5% - 77.4%. C-: 70% - 73.4%.
D+: 67.5%-69.9%. D: 63.5%-67.4%. D-: 60%-63.4%. F: Below 60%.

University Policies

Honor Code

The Belmont community values personal integrity and academic honesty as the foundation of university life and the cornerstone of a premiere educational experience. Our community believes trust among its members is essential for both scholarship and effective interactions and operations of the University. As members of the Belmont community, students, faculty, staff, and administrators are all responsible for ensuring that their experiences will be free of behaviors, which compromise this value. In order to uphold academic integrity, the University has adopted an Honor System. Students and faculty will work together to establish the optimal conditions for honorable academic work. Following is the Student Honor Pledge that guides academic behavior:

"A Bruin does not lie, cheat, or steal, and does not tolerate those acts."

Accommodation of Disabilities

In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act, Belmont University will provide reasonable accommodation of all medically documented disabilities. If you have a disability and would like the university to provide reasonable accommodations of the disability during this course, please notify the Office of the Dean of Students located in the Beaman Student Life Center (615-460-6407) as soon as possible.

Course Evaluations

Belmont University provides all students with the opportunity to evaluate their courses. Toward the end of each semester, students will be made aware that the online course evaluations are open. Students are expected to participate in course evaluations when they are made available.

Tentative Course Schedule

The tentative course outline will be as follows. I reserve the right diverge from this outline based on the pace of the course. In what follows I will use "CS" to refer to Carlin and Soskice (2015). Any assigned readings not in the textbook will be posted on Blackboard.

Week 01, 01/09 - 01/13: Introduction, Pre-Test, and Math Review.

Week 02, 01/16 - 01/20: Math Review Continued. Introduction to the Consumption Function (CS Ch. 1)

Week 03, 01/23 - 01/27: The Demand-Side: Consumption, Aggregate Expenditure, and the IS-LM Model (CS Ch. 1, Luke's Lecture Notes)

Week 04, 01/30 - 02/03: The Supply-Side: Wage Setting, Price Setting, and the Phillips Curve (CS Ch. 2)

Week 05, 02/06 - 02/10: Policy Analysis in a Three-Equation Macroeconomic Model (CS Ch. 3)
- **Problem Set #1 Due Monday 2/6 at the start of class.**
- **Exam #1 Due Friday 2/10 at 11:59pm.**

Week 06, 02/13 - 02/17: Expectations, Inflation, and Policy (CS Ch. 4)

Week 07, 02/20 - 02/24: Labor Market Microfoundations, the Beveridge Curve, Efficiency Wages (CS Ch. 15)
- **NO CLASS Friday 2/24. Dr. Petach at a conference.**

Week 08, 02/27 - 03/03: Fiscal Policy, Deficits, and Debt (CS Ch. 14)
- **Problem Set #2 Due Monday 2/27 at the start of class.**

Week 09, 03/06 - 03/10: **NO CLASS, SPRING BREAK**

Week 10, 03/13 - 03/17: Money and the Macroeconomy (CS Ch. 5, CS Ch. 14, Selected Readings on Blackboard)

Week 11, 03/20 - 03/24: Growth: The Solow Model (CS Ch. 8)
- **Problem Set #3 Due Friday 3/24 at the start of class.**

Week 12, 03/27 - 03/31: Growth: The Romer Model (Selected Readings on Blackboard)
- **Exam #2 Due Monday 3/27 at 11:59pm.**

Week 13, 04/03 - 04/07: Growth: The Kaleckian Model (Selected Readings on Blackboard)
- **No Class Friday 4/7 - Easter Break**

Week 14, 04/10 - 04/14: Inequality: Stratification Economics.
- **No Class Monday 4/10 - Easter Break**
- **Problem Set #4 Due Friday 4/14 at the start of class.**

Week 15, 04/17 - 04/21: Additional Topics as Time Allows.

Week 16, 04/24 - 04/28:
- Monday, 4/24 - Last Day of Class.
- Final exams begin Friday 4/28.