ECON 420

Intermediate Theory: Money, Income, and Employment Summer Session I 2020

| Course/Section Number: | ECON 420-003 | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Department: | Department of Economics | | |
| Class Meeting Times/Days: | M,T,W,Th,F 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM | | |
| Classroom: | Zoom (Meeting ID: 927 0111 4209, Password: SS1-420-3) | | |
| Prerequisites: | ECON 410 with a grade of C or better | | |
| Instructor: | Jacob Spratt | | |
| Email: | jspratt@live.unc.edu | | |
| Office Hours: | 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM M,W,F & 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM T,TH | | |
| Office: | Zoom (Meeting ID: 973 6375 5577) | | |
| Website: | Sakai.unc.edu | | |
| Group work sessions: | | | |
| Study times: | 6-8 pm | | |
| Study room: | Zoom (Meeting ID: 919 5896 6215, Password: ECON420) | | |
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1. Course Description

An introduction to contemporary macroeconomic concepts and analysis. Topics include the level, fluctuations, and growth of national income, and monetary and fiscal policies designed to achieve economic goals.

2. Course Goals and Key Learning Objectives

The goal of this course is to provide you with the tools necessary to analyze critically current events within the rubric of major schools of macroeconomic thought. We will address three objectives to achieve this goal. First, we will introduce you to the various types, sources, and meaning of major macroeconomic data series. Second, we will explore the structure and myriad assumptions underlying popular economic models. The course will place special emphasis on the Classical and Keynesian Theories. Lastly, we will use these theories to evaluate the economy's response to exogenous shocks, such as changes in fiscal, monetary, and trade policy.

3. Course Resources

Recommended text: Macroeconomics by Richard Froyen

Software: Assignments, exams, announcements, grades, readings, and other information will be posted at sakai.unc.edu. In class assignments will be completed via Poll Everywhere.

4. Course Requirements

By the end of the course, students will:

• Know a wide variety of macro terms, definitions, and measurements (GDP, CPI, UR, etc.)

- Understand the assumptions, implications (including policy recommendations) and mechanisms behind the Classical Model, Keynesian Model, Real Business Cycle Model, New Keynesian Model, Mundell Fleming Model, etc.
- Understand how to analyze shocks applied to the above models and different outcomes associated with each (including manipulation of graphs and changes in equilibrium values).
- Be able to derive how equilibrium values and outcomes change in relation to model parameters specifications.
- Understand where and how to pull macro data and reports to analyze current economic conditions.

5. Course Grades

| Assignment | % of Grade | Date |
|----------------------|------------|----------------------|
| Homework | 30% | N/A |
| In class assignments | 5% | N/A |
| Midterm 1 | 15% | 5/21/20 |
| Midterm 2 | 20% | 6/4/20 |
| Final | 30% | 6/17/20 (11:30-2:30) |

| A | $x \ge 95\%$ |
|----|-----------------|
| A- | $90 \le x < 95$ |
| B+ | $85 \le x < 90$ |
| В | $80 \le x < 85$ |
| B- | $75 \le x < 80$ |
| C+ | $70 \le x < 75$ |
| C | $65 \le x < 70$ |
| C- | $60 \le x < 65$ |
| D+ | $50 \le x < 60$ |
| D | $40 \le x < 50$ |
| F | x < 40 |

6. Course Policies

Lectures

Lectures will be held via Zoom. Lectures will be recorded and uploaded to Sakai.

Excused Assignments

For an assignment or midterm to be excused requires notice to be given prior to the assignment's due date or exam date with documentation proving the legitimacy of the excuse.

Homework

There will be homework assignments throughout the semester. No "make-ups" will be given. If you miss an assignment due to an "excused" absence, your homework grade will be reweighted among the remaining homework assignments. Assignments will be submitted via Sakai.

Assignment deadlines are given in terms of EDT. It is the student's responsibility to understand how any time zone differences impact the due dates.

In Class Assignments (Poll Everywhere)

Each day in class, students will work on questions that must be submitted via Poll Everywhere. It is the student's responsibility to ensure they are logged into a Poll Everywhere account that matches the email you have listed in the UNC student directory.

Exams

As with homework, exams will be submitted via Sakai. There are no make-ups for midterm exams. If you must miss a midterm exam due to some sort of personal emergency, you are permitted to transfer the weight of the midterm to the final examination if the absence was excused (see excused assignments policy). This practice will only be permitted for a single midterm. Exam deadlines are given in terms of EDT. It is the student's responsibility to understand how any time zone differences impact the due dates.

If you are unable to take an exam at a designated time due to special circumstances, you should email the instructor.

Accessibility Resources and Service Office

The University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill facilitates the implementation of reasonable accommodations, including resources and services, for students with disabilities, chronic medical conditions, a temporary disability or pregnancy complications resulting in difficulties with accessing learning opportunities. All accommodations are coordinated through the Accessibility Resources and Service Office.

Academic Integrity

As a student of the University of North Carolina you are expected to behave in accordance with the school's honor code. Plagiarism, forgery, unauthorized collaboration, and the use of unauthorized materials are only some of the behaviors that will not be tolerated in this course. Any violation of the Honor Code will result in, at a minimum, a zero on the assignment in question and usually an F in the course in addition to the possibility of further university sanctions.

7. Course Schedule

Econ420 Summer I 2020 - Tentative Schedule

| Date | Day | Topic | Assignment Due |
|-----------|-----------|---|--------------------------|
| 5/13/2020 | Wednesday | Introduction/Measuring Macro Data | |
| 5/14/2020 | Thursday | Measuring Macro Data\Classical Intro | Math review |
| 5/15/2020 | Friday | The Classical Model | |
| 5/18/2020 | Monday | The Classical Model | Macro Data & Classical 1 |
| 5/19/2020 | Tuesday | The Classical Model | |
| 5/20/2020 | Wednesday | Review/Keynesian Model Intro | Classical 2 |
| 5/21/2020 | Thursday | Midterm I | |
| 5/22/2020 | Friday | The Keynesian Model | |
| 5/25/2020 | Monday | Class Cancelled - Memorial Day | |
| 5/26/2020 | Tuesday | The Keynesian Model | Keynes 1 |
| 5/27/2020 | Wednesday | The Keynesian Model | |
| 5/28/2020 | Thursday | The Keynesian Model | |
| 5/29/2020 | Friday | The Keynesian Model/Macro Theory After Keynes | |
| 6/1/2020 | Monday | Macro Theory After Keynes | Keynes 2 |
| 6/2/2020 | Tuesday | Macro Theory After Keynes | |
| 6/3/2020 | Wednesday | Review | Macro after Keynes |
| 6/4/2020 | Thursday | Midterm II | |
| 6/5/2020 | Friday | Open Economy Macroeconomics | |
| 6/8/2020 | Monday | Open Economy Macroeconomics | |
| 6/9/2020 | Tuesday | Open Economy Macroeconomics | |
| 6/10/2020 | Wednesday | Economic Policy | Open Economy |
| 6/11/2020 | Thursday | Economic Policy | |
| 6/12/2020 | Friday | Neoclassical Growth Model | |
| 6/15/2020 | Monday | Review | Policy |
| 6/17/2020 | Wednesday | Final Exam (11:30 AM - 2:30 PM) | |

^{*}Schedule is subject to change