

# ECON 3: PRINCIPLES OF MACROECONOMICS

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Summer Session 1, 2020

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Student Hours: Tuesdays, 1-2pm	Office: Zoom
Class Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2:00-4:50pm (PST)	Class Room: Zoom
TA: Connor Redpath	TA E-mail: <a href="mailto:credpath@ucsd.edu">credpath@ucsd.edu</a>
TA Student Hours: Wednesdays, 12:00-2:00pm (PST)	TA Office: Zoom
Section: Wednesdays, 2:00-3:50pm (PST)	Section Room: Zoom

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**Last updated: 06/30/2020**

Due to the extenuating circumstances posed by the public health crisis and the online nature of the class, the following policies are subject to change. I will notify you as soon as possible of any changes and post an updated syllabus.

## Main References

**Required:** the primary reference for the course is the textbook. All other relevant academic papers and news articles will be posted on the course web page. The textbook, *Principles of Economics*, 7th edition, by Robert H. Frank, Ben S. Bernanke, Kate Antonovics and Ori Heffetz (2018) is available at the UCSD Bookstore for around \$100. This book is also used for Econ 1 and 2. The older editions are not suitable substitutes because of major changes made to the macro chapters in this edition.

**Highly Recommended:** Connect access code. This will allow you to gain access to the digital materials that accompany the textbook, such as the extra ungraded quizzes, or guides on most efficient chapter reading. You can buy the textbook bundled with a Connect access code for \$100 at the UCSD Bookstore.

## Prerequisites

ECON 1 - Principles of Microeconomics

## Course Objectives

This course provides an introduction to macroeconomics and covers topics such as output, unemployment, inflation, business cycles, and monetary and fiscal policy.

Upon completion of the course, a successful student should:

- be able to understand and critically analyze economic data and arguments presented in the news.
- be familiar with commonly used economic data series, sources and resources.
- be able to describe any given course concept verbally, mathematically, and graphically.
- have developed the foundation for successful completion of ECON 110 series.

More concretely, by the end of this course you should be able to...

- explain how economists define and measure an economy's output.
- describe the true costs of inflation and compute the real value of goods and services by adjusting for inflation.
- define and calculate the unemployment rate and the labor force participation rate.
- discuss the determinants of economic growth and evaluate government policies that promote it.
- analyze the creation of money through the lending behavior of commercial banks.
- recommend appropriate fiscal and monetary policies given various economic situations.

## Tentative Course Outline

### Week 01, 06/29 - 07/03:

- █ Chapter 16 & 17: Spending, Income and GDP

### Week 02, 07/06 - 07/10:

- █ Chapter 18: Inflation and the Price Level
- █ Chapter 19: Economic Growth
- █ Chapter 20: Wages and Unemployment

### Week 03, 07/13 - 07/17:

- █ Chapter 20: Wages and Unemployment *cntd.*
- █ Chapter 21: Saving and Capital Formation
- █ **Midterm - July 16, 3:30-4:50pm (PST)**

### Week 04, 07/20 - 07/24:

- █ Chapter 22 & 23: Money, Prices, the Fed and the Financial Markets
- █ Chapter 24: Short Term Economic Fluctuations

### Week 05, 07/27 - 07/31:

- █ Chapter 24: Short Term Economic Fluctuations *cntd.*
- █ Chapter 25: Spending, Output and Fiscal Policy
- █ Chapter 26: Monetary Policy and the Fed
- █ **Final - August 1, 3:00-6:00pm (PST)**

## Important Dates

Quizzes .....	Each Sunday at 11:59pm
Participation assignment .....	Each Sunday at 11:59pm
Technology check .....	July 9 at 11:59pm
Midterm .....	July 16th, during class
Final .....	August 1

## Grading Policy

Your grade will be determined according to the following break-down:

- 10% Class Participation
- 15% Quizzes
- 30% Midterm
- 45% Final

## Further Information:

- *Class Details – Participation and Structure*

Class participation is essential to your success in the course. Participation in contemporaneous lecture is *highly* encouraged, but demonstrated participation in Canvas posts can substitute for in-class participation.

- Three hour lectures are *long*, and in my experience, seem even longer in an online environment. Interspersed with lectures, I will form “breakout rooms” where students discuss a question relevant to current material. This will be particularly helpful in preparing for examinations.
- In lieu of live participation, you can earn participation points by posting to the participation discussion board for each week by the following Sunday at 11:59pm. If you participated in live breakout sessions, please respond to this board with “I participated” (we will check for participation in the breakout rooms).
- You will receive 2 points for participation each week. Live participation in breakout sessions receives full points. For Canvas responses, reflection posts are graded for demonstrated effort on a 0-2 scale.
- You will receive 1 extra point for participation by participating in the “Who are you” discussion in canvas. This will substitute for any missing participation (max points 10/10)

- *Quizzes*

I will post a short quiz every Thursday after class covering the previous week’s material. You will have 36 hours to submit your response. These will account for 20 total points, and you will be graded out of 15 (with a max score of 15). This gives a buffer in case you feel like you performed poorly or miss a quiz.

- *Sections*

Section attendance is not mandatory but will greatly improve your understanding of the course material and your performance in the class. In the section, the TA will go over the problem set that will be posted on Monday before the section. I encourage you to familiarize yourself with and attempt the problems prior to discussion.

- *Exams*

- We will likely use Zoom for proctoring. This program uses 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. Finally, I reserve the right to give an oral test if I feel it is necessary to uphold academic integrity.

- Exams will be held live – the midterm will occur during class time, and the final will occur as dictated by the registrar.
- Please show any non-programmable scientific calculator you will use on an exam. You may use one on your computer.
- Exams are *closed book*, and you may not use notes.
- If you experience internet connectivity problems, contact me as soon as possible
- I reserve the right to give an oral exam
- If you believe your exam has not been graded properly, you may request a re-grade. I will re-grade your entire exam, not just the question you think may have been graded improperly and therefore your new grade may be higher or lower than your original grade. You may not ask for another re-grade or go back to your original score.

- *Additional support*

Heather Song will be the undergraduate Study Group (SG) leader. She will hold a session every Wednesday from 6:00-7:20 Pacific (San Diego) time. The session link can be found [here](#).

## Administrative issues

- Because of the online format of this course, all class and TA sections *will be recorded*. Office hours will not be recorded. In order to best replicate the classroom setting, I highly encourage you to keep your video feeds on and participate in asking questions.
- If you have a documented disability, please email me as soon as possible so that we can make suitable accommodations for you. If you believe you have a disability and desire accommodation, please register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD).
- Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Academic Integrity Office. Students held responsible for violating academic integrity will earn a failing grade for the course in addition to the penalties imposed by the Academic Integrity Review Board. For more information, visit <http://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu/excel-integrity/define-cheating/index.html>.
- After the University add deadline, students with extraordinary circumstances or with documentation of a university error may petition the Department of Economics to add courses. Extraordinary circumstances do not include: not being added to the course from the waitlist, forgetting to add a course, etc. Students with an extraordinary circumstance may submit a completed petition, with a written explanation (and documentation, if applicable) to the undergraduate economics office.