

Course Syllabus

University of California – San Diego

Economics 1B
Introduction to Macroeconomics
Spring Quarter 2004

Instructor: Prof. Ahmad Seifi
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Office Hours: Tu. 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Prerequisite: Ability to understand graphs and knowledge of elementary mathematics.

Undergraduate Assistant:

Kareina Brazenor: Office Hours: M.,Th. 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
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Course Description

Introduction to macroeconomics: study of the behavior of the economy and how the economy works; determinants of aggregate output, employment, inflation, growth, and exchange rates.

Textbook: Principles of Economics, 2nd Edition
Authors: Robert Frank and Ben S. Bernanke
Publisher: McGraw-Hill/ Irwin, 2004

This text is required. You will find it available at UCSD campus bookstore.

Exams and Grading Procedure: Grades will be based on three exams. Each exam will carry a weight of 1/3. The exams will take place on the following dates:

Exam 1 : M, April 19
Exam 2: M, May 10
Exam 3 : W, June 2

No make-up exams will be given. If you miss an exam, you will receive a score of zero for that exam.

The course grade will be based on a “curve” which will, in turn, depend on the class performance as a whole. So, your grade will really depend on how well you do in relation to the rest of the class.

Reading Assignments:

Part 6: Macroeconomics: Issues and Data

Macroeconomics: The Bird's – Eye View of the Economy, Chapter 17

Measuring Economic Activity: GDP and Unemployment, Chapter 18

Measuring the Price Level and Inflation, Chapter 19

Part 7: The Economy in the Long Run

Economic Growth, Productivity, and Living Standards, Chapter 20

Workers, Wages, and Unemployment in the Modern Economy, ch. 21

Saving and Capital Formation, Chapter 22

Money, Prices, and the Federal Reserve, Chapter 23

Financial Markets and International Capital Flows, Chapter 24

Part 8: The Economy in the Short Run

Short-Term Economic Fluctuations: An Introduction, Chapter 25

Spending and Output in the Short Run, Chapter 26

Stabilizing the Economy: The Role of the Fed, Chapter 27

Inflation and Aggregate Supply, Chapter 28

Part 9: The International Economy

Exchange Rates and the Open Economy, Chapter 29

Part 5: International Trade

International Trade and Trade Policy, Chapter 16

Notes:

1. Discussion sessions will be held in CENTER 222 on Fridays, 5:00 – 5:50 p.m. as they are announced in the class.
2. There may be changes in the reading assignments as the course progresses.