Macroeconomics A
Econ 110A
University of California, San Diego
Winter 2021

Instructor

- Maria Teresa Cândido

- Office Hours:
  - Mondays 11:30 am – 12:30 pm,
  - Thursdays 4 – 5 pm

- Email: mcandido@ucsd.edu

Instructor

- Born in Portugal

- Childhood in Angola

- PhD at UCSD

- Worked in NY

Teaching Assistants and Readers

- **Teaching Assistants**
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- **Reader**
  - Xiao Ma
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Lectures and Discussion Sections

• The COVID-19 pandemic required dramatic changes to how we teach and learn. All instruction this quarter will continue to be conducted remotely using Zoom and Canvas.

• Our hope and aim this quarter is to provide as high quality an intellectual experience for students as would have been the case if we were to have been able to meet in person. The fluidity of the current situation might make it necessary to make adjustments. Not everything we will do is going to work and we need your cooperation.

Lectures
MWF 9 – 9:50 am

• Lectures will take place at the regular scheduled time for the class. All lectures will take place through Zoom Pro and will be recorded and posted on Canvas.

• I usually like to make the lectures quite interactive and call on students. I would like to continue doing this this quarter, as much as possible. You can ask questions by typing them in during the lecture in the Zoom chat. We will have TAs answering some of the questions or redirecting them to me. I will try to periodically pause the lectures to check and review the questions and answer them.

Discussion Sessions

- Tuesdays 7:00 – 7:50 pm, online
- Tuesdays 8:00 – 8:50 pm, online

- There are weekly discussion sections for this course. They will take place remotely, using Zoom. These sessions will be recorded and posted on Canvas.

- You may attend any of the two discussion sessions, regardless of which class you are registered for. The discussion sessions aim to cover the same information, so you do not need to attend more than one.

- Synchronous attendance in the discussion sessions or accessing them asynchronously is strongly recommended since the TAs will go over practice problems, the kind of problems you may encounter on tests.

- The first discussion sessions will take place on **January 12th.**

Course Webpage

- Canvas
- https://canvas.ucsd.edu/

- It will include information relevant to the course, such as slides of lectures, zoom recordings, announcements, practice problem sets and tests, solutions to end of chapter problems, syllabus, schedule and more.

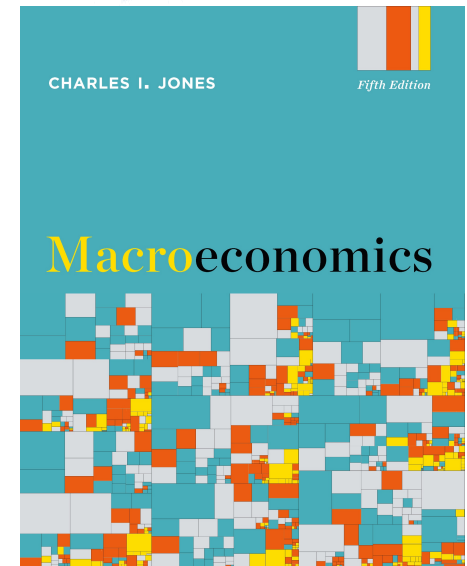- You should check this page regularly.

Course Textbook

Title: **Macroeconomics**

Author: Charles I. Jones (5th edition)

*Your digital textbook is provided by the UC San Diego Bookstore through Canvas and is free for the first two weeks of classes. After two weeks, your student account will be charged a special reduced price unless you opt out. If you decide to opt out you must complete the process by **January 16th, 2021**.*

Chapters to be Covered:1 through 8.

Other Course Materials

- Lecture Zoom recordings

- Lecture Slides

- Practice Problem Sets and Solutions

- End-of-chapter Problem Answers

- Practice Exams and Solutions

Course Discussion Board

We will be using Piazza for class discussion. The system is highly catered to getting you help fast and efficiently from classmates, the TA, and myself. I encourage you to post questions/answers on Piazza. You need to sign up for it.

- https://piazza.com/ucsd/winter2021/econ110a

GRADING

My prediction on how I will assess you in this course is to base your course grade in the following assessments:

- 1 assessment on "technology" in week 2 – Tuesday, January 12

- 3 assessments on the course material:
  - Midterm 1: Tuesday, February 2 at 8 pm
  - Midterm 2: Wednesday, February 24, at 6:30 pm
  - Final: Wednesday, March 17 at 8 am

GRADING

Item	Option 1	Option 2
Technology Quiz: Tuesday, January 12th	2%	2%
Midterm 1: Tuesday, February 2nd, at 8 pm	28%	Best midterm:
Midterm 2: Wednesday, February 24th, at 6:30 pm	28%	40%
Final: Wednesday, March 17th, at 8am	42%	58%

COURSE GRADE = max { OPTION 1 , OPTION 2 }
(I choose for you)

GRADING

- All assessments will be done on Canvas. Please make sure you have a good and stable internet connection.

- The questions asked on the assessments will be based on lectures, textbook reading and practice problems.

- While I will do what I can to keep to the predicted assessments for this course, the evolving situation may take it necessary for me to make a change.

GRADING

- We will likely use Respondus LockDown Browser and Monitor for proctoring this quarter. 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 can't be sure that you follow the rules. I will report you to the academic integrity office if I suspect of any violation of academic integrity.

Academic Integrity

- Students are expected to do their own work, as outlined in the UCSD policy on Academic Integrity. Cheating will not be tolerated, and any student who engages in suspicious conduct will be confronted and subjected to the disciplinary process. Students found guilty of academic dishonesty will earn a failing grade for the course. In addition, the Council of Deans of Student Affairs will impose a disciplinary penalty.

- The following are a few examples of academic dishonesty
    1. Having another student complete an assignment for you or give you answers to specific questions
    2. Using unauthorized materials in an exam
    3. Having someone else take your exam for you
    4. Lying about having taken an exam or completed an assignment

How to Succeed in Econ 110A?

- *Attend class and discussion sessions*
- *Ask questions*
- *Work on practice problems*
- *Be active on Piazza*
- *Take advantage of office hours!*

Course Description

- This course is the first part of the intermediate macroeconomic theory sequence. The objective of the sequence is to teach students how to understand broad movements in the aggregate economy.

- Econ 110A focuses on explaining economic growth, long run inflation and unemployment and their underlying economic fundamentals.

- Topics include measurement of aggregate economic activity and inflation, determinants of long-run economic growth, unemployment, and inflation, and microfoundations of macroeconomic modeling.

Tentative Schedule

Days	Number of Lectures	Topic	Textbook Chapters
Jan 4th – Jan 11th	4	Class Introduction Introduction to Macroeconomics Measuring the Macroeconomy	1-2
Jan 13th – Jan 20th	3	An Overview of Long-Run Economic Growth	3
Jan 22nd – Feb 1st	5	A Model of Production	4
Feb 3rd – Feb 17th	6	The Solow Growth Model	5
Feb 19th – Mar 1st	4.5	Growth and Ideas	6
Mar 1st – Mar 8th	3.5	The Labor Market, Wages and Unemployment	7
Mar 10th – Mar 12th	2	Inflation	8

Why Macroeconomics?

➤ **Economic Growth**

1880: $5,000*

2016: $53,000*

*median income in 2011 dollars, source: Maddison Project Database

Why Macroeconomics?

➢ **Economic Inequality**
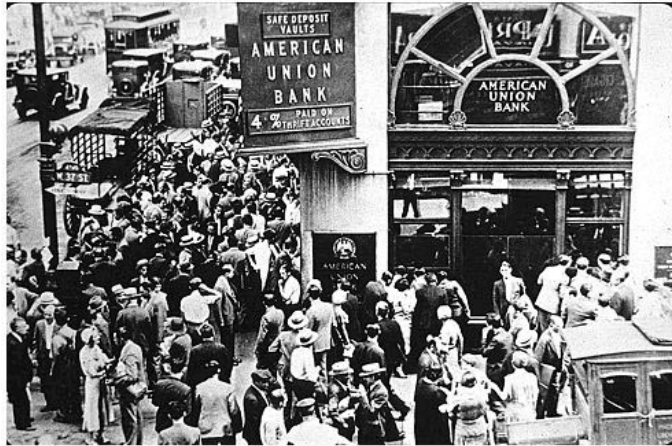

San Diego, 2019

San Diego, 2019
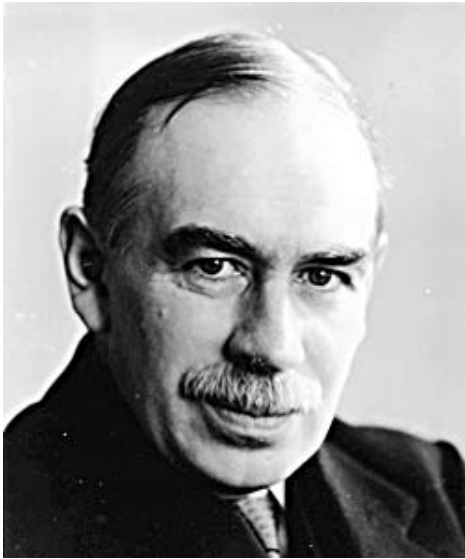
Why Macroeconomics?

➢ **Economic Cycles**

1929-1933
Great Depression

2008-2010
Great Recession

The "Father" of Macroeconomics

John Maynard Keynes (1883-1946)

University of Cambridge - UK

"General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money"

What are our goals in Econ 110A?

1. *learn how to measure*
2. *learn how to model*
3. *learn how to think*