

Principles of Macroeconomics (10020/20020)

Professor Wyatt J. Brooks

University of Notre Dame

Fall 2012

Course Information

Class Time:	Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00 – 12:15
Location:	120 DeBartolo Hall
Website:	www.nd.edu/~wbrooks/MacroF12.html
Office Hours:	Tuesday 9:00 – 10:00 and Friday 1:30 – 2:30
Office Location:	712 Flanner Hall
Email:	wbrooks@nd.edu

Course Overview

This course is designed to introduce students to fundamental issues and concepts in macroeconomics. Students will learn about commonly used economic measures (such as inflation, GDP, and unemployment), major economic institutions (such as the Federal Reserve, World Bank and International Monetary Fund), and contemporary events (such as the recent financial crisis, the ongoing European debt crisis, and the growth of China). By the end of the course, students will be prepared for further study in macroeconomics and will be able to understand and critique news and commentary from the popular press.

Textbook

The only required textbook for this course is *Principles of Macroeconomics* by N. Gregory Mankiw. Readings will be assigned each week, and are expected to be completed before class.

Course Requirements

Problem Sets

There will be 8 assigned problem sets throughout the semester. Problem sets will consist of several questions drawing from material covered in the readings and lectures. Completed problem sets will not be collected for grading. Instead, a short quiz will be administered in class the following Thursday that will consist of one of the questions from the homework. The quizzes will be scored on a scale from 0 to 3 and returned at the beginning of the next class. Solution keys to the problem sets will be posted on the course website after the accompanying quiz has been administered.

Midterm Exams

Two midterm exams will be administered on September 20th and October 30th. Midterms cover material from the lectures and readings. The best study materials for the midterms are the problem sets since the previous midterm.

Final Exam

The final exam is schedule for Wednesday, December 12th from 10:30 to 12:30 in accordance with the university exam schedule. The final exam covers all materials from the course, including material from before the midterms.

Grades

The final grade for the course is composed of three components:

- 18% from the best 6 of 8 quiz scores
- 21% each from the two midterms
- 40% from the final exam

Policies

Make-up Exams

Any missed exam will be given a score of 0 unless the student's absence is excused according to university guidelines. If the student has an excused absence, they must notify me without delay with an explanation so that a make-up exam may be scheduled. If the student also misses the make-up (with a valid excuse) I will apply that exam's weight to the final exam.

Extra Credit

There is no extra credit in this course of any kind.

Study Groups

I will make every effort to encourage the formation of study groups so that students can discuss the readings and problem sets outside of class time.

Re-grading

If any student believes that their work has been graded incorrectly, they must provide a written explanation of the possible error and submit it to the instructor. The instructor will re-grade the entire quiz or exam, and the student's score may increase or decrease.

Academic Dishonesty

The Code of Honor will be strictly applied as described in *The Academic Code of Honor Handbook*. Students will not give or receive aid on quizzes or exams. This includes, but is not limited to, viewing the quizzes or exams of others, sharing answers with others, and using books or notes while taking quizzes or exams. Students can review the code at: honorcode.nd.edu