



**Econ 4020-090- Intermediate Macroeconomics**  
**[Online]**  
Fall Semester 2019

**Instructor:** Soumava Basu

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**Office Hours:** Office hours are by appointment. Please reach out to me at any time, and we will arrange a meeting in person! If you have questions related to the course materials, please consider posting these in the relevant discussion board. Your peers may benefit from reading questions as well as answers!

**Office Location:** Department of Economics  
260 Central Campus drive  
Gardner commons, RM 4100  
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

**Required Materials**

Olivier Blanchard, Macroeconomics, 7th Edition  
[ISBN:9780133780581]

You should not use older editions of the book, as parts of it have been substantially rewritten! Where necessary, complementary readings will be posted on Canvas.

**Course Description**

- This course covers macroeconomic theories, models, and analysis focused on national income determination, unemployment, inflation, and public policy. The course introduces you to standard models of the macroeconomy and the resulting policy recommendations and controversies.
- Prerequisites: ECON 2010 and 2020 and College Algebra (or 1010 and instructor's consent).
- Fulfills Quantitative Intensive BS.

**Course Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course you will be able to:

- Describe, analyze and critically discuss how demand determines output in the short run, and how other factors—such as consumer confidence, the state of the financial system and fiscal and monetary policy—affect demand.
- Identify, describe and critically discuss the natural rate of unemployment, and how the macroeconomy returns to the level of output corresponding to the natural rate in the medium run.
- Identify, describe and critically discuss what growth of real GDP in the long run is, and how saving, technological progress and institutions determine it.

## Teaching and Learning Methods

**Discussions:** Discussion threads are the principle tool of communication in this class. Posts in discussion threads are visible to all students in the class. In this manner, threads facilitate open exchange about materials and organizational matters relating to the course. Some discussion threads will be graded. Put differently, some assignments will be set up as discussion threads. Others are designed to provide space for ungraded and open-ended discussion of views. Specifically, the class forum is the place to voice any and all concerns, though you can of course always write to me directly.

**Projects:** Projects are short essays, slide shows, data work or discussion threads that require you to engage specific topics in-depth. Projects provide the bulk of the grade (60%) in the class, as these are designed to ensure that you are working on and studying theories, evidence and issues in detail even without face-to-face discussions.

**Quizzes:** Quizzes are multiple-choice and cover the substance of the material. The quizzes serve as preparation for the two exams. They provide 10% of the grade. However, successful completion requires to read textbook chapters on time and think through important theories.

**Exams:** Exams are mostly multiple choice. Exams are closed-book, no-notes. You can use a calculator and scrap paper. Exams provide 25% of the grade: 12.5% for the midterm, and 12.5% for the final exam (which is not cumulative). Exams are completed in an approved testing center, which requires a software to lock down the browser. The testing center at the University of Utah and similar centers at universities along the Wasatch Front have these softwares and so will generally be accepted. To schedule an exam, please follow the link in the left main navigation.

**Other assignment:** Other assignments are designed to engage you with your classmates and materials in various forms. You usually get credit for completion. All other assignments count for 5% of the grade.

## University Policies

- 1. *The Americans with Disabilities Act.*** The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, (801) 581-5020. CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.
- 2. *University Safety Statement.*** The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more

information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit [safeu.utah.edu](http://safeu.utah.edu).

3. **Addressing Sexual Misconduct.** Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).
4. **Undocumented Student Support Statement.** Immigration is a complex phenomenon with broad impact—those who are directly affected by it, as well as those who are indirectly affected by their relationships with family members, friends, and loved ones. If your immigration status presents obstacles to engaging in specific activities or fulfilling specific course criteria, confidential arrangements may be requested from the Dream Center. Arrangements with the Dream Center will not jeopardize your student status, your financial aid, or any other part of your residence. The Dream Center offers a wide range of resources to support undocumented students (with and without DACA) as well as students from mixed-status families. To learn more, please contact the Dream Center at 801.213.3697 or visit [dream.utah.edu](http://dream.utah.edu).
5. Other important information to consider including:
  - a. Student Code: <http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php>
  - b. Accommodation Policy (see Section Q):  
<http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-100.php>
6. **Wellness Statement.** Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural differences, etc., can interfere with a student's ability to succeed and thrive at the University of Utah. For helpful resources contact the Center for Student Wellness - [www.wellness.utah.edu](http://www.wellness.utah.edu); 801-581-7776.

## Course Policies

*Punctuality: Students are responsible to fulfill all the due dates for assignment, quiz submissions and other required tasks.*

*Participation: Students must engage in the course by participating actively in the discussion assignments. Students are also encouraged to ask and engage in relevant questions on the course material and related topics in the designated discussion space on canvas.*

*Electronic Devices: Access to computer/laptop and internet connection is required for proper completion of the course.*

*Canvas: Students are expected to be regular in checking Canvas for due dates and other announcements. This is absolutely necessary for successful completion of the course.*

### **Grading Policy**

<b>A</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>to 94%</b>
<b>A-</b>	<b>&lt; 94%</b>	<b>to 90%</b>
<b>B+</b>	<b>&lt; 90%</b>	<b>to 87%</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>&lt; 87%</b>	<b>to 84%</b>
<b>B-</b>	<b>&lt; 84%</b>	<b>to 80%</b>
<b>C+</b>	<b>&lt; 80%</b>	<b>to 77%</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>&lt; 77%</b>	<b>to 74%</b>
<b>C-</b>	<b>&lt; 74%</b>	<b>to 70%</b>
<b>D+</b>	<b>&lt; 70%</b>	<b>to 67%</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>&lt; 67%</b>	<b>to 64%</b>
<b>D-</b>	<b>&lt; 64%</b>	<b>to 61%</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>&lt; 61%</b>	<b>to 0%</b>

### **Course Schedule**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Topic/Discussion</u></b>	<b><u>Reading</u></b>
<b><i>Week 1:</i></b>	Defining Macroeconomics	Chapter 1
<b><i>Week 2:</i></b>	Macroeconomics Topics and Data	Chapter 2
<b><i>Week 3:</i></b>	The Goods Market	Chapter 3
<b><i>Week 4:</i></b>	The Financial Market	Chapter 4
<b><i>Week 5:</i></b>	The ISLM Model	Chapter 5
<b><i>Week 6:</i></b>	Financial Market and ISLM	Chapter 6
<b><i>Week 7:</i></b>	Midterm Week (& The Financial Crisis)	Review
<b><i>Week 8:</i></b>	[Fall Break]	

<b>Week 9:</b>	The Labor Market	Chapter 7
<b>Week 10:</b>	The Phillips Curve	Chapter 8
<b>Week 11:</b>	IS-LM-PC Model	Chapter 9
<b>Week 12:</b>	Unemployment since 2008	Review
<b>Week 13:</b>	The Facts of Growth	Chapter 10
<b>Week 14:</b>	Saving, Accumulation & Output	Chapter 11
<b>Week 15:</b>	Technological Growth & Progress	Chapter 12
<b>Week 16:</b>	Productivity Growth in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century	Review

***Finals Week:***

*Note: This syllabus is meant to serve as an outline and guide for our course. Please note that I may modify it with reasonable notice to you. I may also modify the Course Schedule to accommodate the needs of our class. Any changes will be announced in class and posted on Canvas under Announcements.*