Principles of Macroeconomics Syllabus

Course Information
Principles of Macroeconomics
ECN 1200
Spring 2017
Credit Hour: 3
Course Format: online
Location: https://nuonline.neu.edu

Instructor Information
Florencia Gabriele, PhD
f.gabriele@northeastern.edu
Email me to schedule an appointment

Course Description
This course introduces students to macroeconomics, the study of the economy as a whole. Macroeconomics applies the basic principles of economics to whole economic systems and the relationships among sectors of the economy. Topics include unemployment, inflation, national income and employment theory, government expenditures and taxation, the role of the banking system, and monetary and fiscal policies. The course emphasizes the development of conceptual tools to analyze the economic problems facing modern society.

Expectations
- Workload
  - One (1) academic credit requires 50 minutes a week of classroom or faculty instruction and about two hours of out of class student work for a 15-week course; 100 minutes a week of classroom or direct faculty instruction and about 3.5 hours of out of class student work for a 7.5-week course.
  - For a three-credit course, students should expect 2.5 hours a week of classroom or faculty instruction and a minimum of 5 hours of out of class student work for a 15-week course; 5 hours of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of 10 hours of out of class student work for a 7.5-week course.
- Policy on late/incomplete work: No late assignments will be accepted.
- Communication with instructor: (e.g., response time; best way to reach instructor) : The best way to contact me is by email.

Course Materials
Required:
Your course in Blackboard is in sync with Pearson's MyLab & Mastering. To purchase, register, and log into MyEconLab, you need to go through Blackboard/Tools/Pearson's MyLab & Mastering (click on Tools, click on Pearson's MyLab & Mastering icon, and then follow the instructions). You should always access e-text and other MyEconLab materials from publisher through Blackboard/Tools option; do not try to access them through publisher’s own web-site directly.

Optional Readings:
Textbooks: OPENSTAX MACROECONOMICS
Download this free textbook: Principles of Macroeconomics (OpenStax)
https://openstax.org/details/books/principles-macroeconomics
Podcasts: Audioecon.com

Current events:
You are strongly encouraged to follow important world events that appear in main American and international media, including newspapers, televised news and the web..

Recommended Readings:
• Naked Economics: Undressing the Dismal Science, Charles Wheeland
• Naked Money, Charles Wheeland
• Reinventing the Bazaar: A natural history of markets, John McMillan
• Freakonomics, S. Levitt and S. Dubner

Recommended Movie:
• Freakonomics.
  Preview: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DGh1Qy1hAKg

Student Learning Outcomes

Based on satisfactory completion of this course, students should be able to understand fundamental economic concepts and economic principles, apply macroeconomic tools and concepts that are learned in class to address range of real world economic issues, get a good foundation in economics, and be prepared for further study in this field. Through readings, assignments, class discussions, students would be able to learn the relationships between the major financial and political institutions in the U.S., (e.g., Federal, state, and local governmental entities, The Federal Reserve System). The impacts that these institutions have on economy and society as a whole is critically important.

Students will have the opportunity to explore:
• Basic principles and practice of economics
• Economic methods and basic economic questions
• Optimization concept
• Demand, supply, and equilibrium concept
• The Wealth of nations and how the macroeconomic aggregates are defined and measured
• Aggregate income concept
• Meaning of economic growth
• World development
• Employment and unemployment
• Credit markets
• The monetary system
• Economic fluctuations
• Macroeconomic policies (fiscal and monetary policies)
• Macroeconomics and international trade
• Open economy macroeconomics

Course Methodology (Optional)

Each week, you will be expected to:

1. Review and complete all assigned readings,
2. Complete all lecture materials for the week,
3. Participate in class discussion, and
4. Complete and submit all assignments, reports and take quizzes by the assigned due dates.

In this course, quizzes and reports will be spread out over the term of the course. They will have due dates, and students are expected to complete them on time. On ground class meetings are required and they will be used to highlight and cover the important aspects of course materials; in-class discussions will be integral part of the course. See the “Class Schedule/Topical Outline:” section below for the weekly schedule of readings, assignments, reports, and quizzes.

Grading/Evaluation Standards

Students will be graded in the following manner:

- Online discussions (weekly) in Blackboard
- Homework assignments (weekly) in MyEconLab via Blackboard
- Quizzes (weekly) in MyEconLab via Blackboard
- Current event reports (weekly) in Blackboard

Students will be assessed a grade on each assigned components of the course as soon as they are submitted and evaluated by the instructor. Instructions for these components must be carefully reviewed before taking them. Students are expected to work on them independently, and submit them by due dates. Late submissions will not be graded. Students need to make sure that they have a reliable internet connection and a computer with a compatible web-browser and software (Word, Excel, etc.) so that they can finish their work on time.
Final course grades will be assigned on the following basis:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Numerical Equivalent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-93.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84-86.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-83.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79.99</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>74-76.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-73.99</td>
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<td>D+</td>
<td>67-69.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>64-66.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60-63.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Failure: Below 60</td>
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</tbody>
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Grade Breakdown:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Online Discussions</strong></td>
<td>The participation in the weekly online discussions is required. The discussion questions will be posted in blackboard and your responses to them should appear there. For each discussion question, students must post at least one primary response which should at least two paragraphs long and detailed - directly answering the posted question (students cannot see the posting of other students before posting their own initial response). Your initial/primary response(s) must be submitted by Thursday (11:59PM) of the assigned discussion week. After the initial posting, students are required to post at least two secondary responses (responses to postings of other students); the secondary responses must be submitted by Saturday, 11:59PM of the assigned discussion week. Your secondary responses should be at least a paragraph long, brief, clear and in your own words (i.e., no cutting and pasting from various sources). All postings should be relevant/within the scope of the discussion topic assigned. You may use examples to illustrate your points. In your secondary postings, short responses like “I agree” or “I disagree” are not sufficient. You need to back your statements and make a case for alternatives. Very importantly, complete your readings before posting your response to clarify your thoughts. And also please check your grammar and edit your response for any typos before you submitting them. It is important that you join in on-line discussions on a timely manner, which will be graded based on their timeliness, content, tone, and quality.</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td><strong>Homework Assignments</strong></td>
<td>The weekly homework assignments will be posted on MyEconLab via Blackboard. They contain multiple choice and/or short answer questions covering all readings, class discussions, and lectures for each segment of the course (so they are not cumulative). The homework assignments will have 14</td>
<td>20%</td>
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to 20 questions, some of which could be short answer format at the discretion of the instructor. Questions will attempt to ensure your knowledge, synthesis, and application of various theories and perspectives covered in class and their implications to economy and society at large.

**Quizzes**
The weekly quizzes will be posted on MyEconLab via Blackboard. They contain multiple choice and/or short answer questions covering all readings, class discussions, and lectures for each segment of the course (so they are not cumulative). The quizzes will have 14 to 20 questions, some of which could be short answer format at the discretion of the instructor. Questions will attempt to ensure your knowledge, synthesis, and application of various theories and perspectives covered in class and their implications to economy and society at large.

**Reports**
These reports are assigned and require students to write a page- or two-long reports (with at least couple of paragraphs) based on a recently published magazine, journal, newspaper article, a blog, a viewed video, readings from textbook, lecture materials, etc. Students are required to follow the instructions posted on Blackboard very carefully.

| Total | 100% |

**Online behavior:** Students are expected to maintain a certain level of decorum and conduct themselves in the classroom in a way that is respectful of their fellow students and of the instructor. It is extremely important that we respect each other’s opinions. Discussions in an economics course can, occasionally, be controversial and disconcerting for some. Students should remember that this is an academic environment in which the primary objective is learning. Though it is not necessary to agree with another’s viewpoint (including the instructor’s), students are expected to be respectful of other people’s perspectives and ideas.

Before posting to any discussion forum, sending email, or participating in any course or public area, please consider the following.

Before WRITING or READING a post, ask yourself:

- How would I say this in a face-to-face classroom or if writing for a newspaper, public blog, or wiki?
- How would I feel if I were the reader?
- How might my comment impact others?
- Am I being respectful?
- Is this the appropriate area or forum to post what I have to say?

When you are WRITING, please follow these rules:

- **Stay polite and positive in your communications.** You can and should disagree and participate in discussions with vigor; however, when able, be constructive with your comments.
- **Proofread your comments before you post them.** Remember that your comments are permanent.
- **Pay attention to your tone.** Without the benefit of facial expressions and body language your intended tone or the meaning of the message can be misconstrued.
- **Be thoughtful and remember that classmates' experience levels may vary.** You may want to include background information that is not obvious to all readers.
• **Stay on message.** When adding to existing messages, try to maintain the theme of the comments previously posted. If you want to change the topic, simply start another thread rather than disrupt the current conversation.

• **When appropriate, cite sources.** When referencing the work or opinions of others, make sure to use correct citations.

When you are READING your peers’ communication, consider:

• **Respect people's privacy.** Don’t assume that information shared with you is public; your peers may not want personal information shared. Please check with them before sharing their information.

• **Be forgiving of other students’ and instructors’ mistakes.** There are many reasons for typos and misinterpretations. Be gracious and forgive others’ mistakes or privately point them out politely.

• **If a comment upsets or offends you, re-read it and/or take some time before responding.**

Don’t hesitate to let your instructor know if you feel others are inappropriately commenting in any forum.

**ONLINE ENVIRONMENT**

The online classroom is meant to be a learning environment, both from the instructor and from one another. However, learning is inhibited when there is a lack of respect for one another’s individuality as well as for the class as a whole. Therefore, I have decided to set a few ground rules for the classroom environment.

• **Risk taking.** To learn from each other we are going to ask each other to “step out of our comfort zones.” We may be expressing ideas that others do not agree with, or listening to ideas that challenge our own beliefs or preconceptions. Be willing to listen to one another and be prepared to be respectfully challenged when controversial issues arise.

• **Support.** If we are asking each other to step out of our comfort zones, we need to be there to support one another. This does not mean you have to agree with someone. It means that you have to allow her/him the space and freedom to express her/himself. It is difficult to take risks if you are concerned that people will attack your ideas.

• **Respect.** Every individual’s perspective is valued and legitimate for that person. Respect that someone’s ideas may be different from your own and try to understand where that person is coming from. Being open to other perspectives is important to academic and personal growth.

• **No “put downs.”** All comments should be made with the desire to educate, not hurt. You can express disagreement with an issue or idea, but be aware of HOW you express yourself. Also, express WHY you disagree...this continues the learning process for all of us.

**ALWAYS REMEMBER:** I am only an email away! If you have any questions, or need any clarification, email me and I will help you out!
## Course Schedule

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Exercises/Assignments with due date (EST)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1/7 - 1/13</td>
<td>1. The Principles and Practice of Economics</td>
<td>See <em>Course Material</em> section in Blackboard: This week’s <em>Lecture Materials</em> and <em>Reading, Listening, &amp; Viewing</em> folders.</td>
<td>- Review course materials</td>
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<td>- Submit <a href="#">Current Event Report</a> (by Sunday midnight)</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1/14 - 1/20</td>
<td>2. Economic Methods and Economic Questions</td>
<td>See <em>Course Material</em> section in Blackboard: This week’s <em>Lecture Materials</em> and <em>Reading, Listening, &amp; Viewing</em> folders.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>1/21 - 1/27</td>
<td>3. Optimization: Doing the Best You Can</td>
<td>See <em>Course Material</em> section in Blackboard: This week’s <em>Lecture Materials</em> and <em>Reading, Listening, &amp; Viewing</em> folders.</td>
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<td>Course Material</td>
<td>Assignments</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>1/28 - 2/3</td>
<td>4. Demand, Supply, and Equilibrium</td>
<td>See Course Material section in Blackboard: This week’s Lecture Materials and Reading, Listening, &amp; Viewing folders.</td>
<td>Complete homework assignments (by Saturday midnight) and complete quizzes (by Sunday midnight) posted in MyEconLab via Blackboard/Tools/Pearson's MyLab &amp; Mastering. -Submit Current Event Report (by Sunday midnight).</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>2/4 - 2/10</td>
<td>5. The Wealth of Nations: Defining and Measuring Macroeconomic Aggregates</td>
<td>See Course Material section in Blackboard: This week’s Lecture Materials and Reading, Listening, &amp; Viewing folders.</td>
<td>-Complete homework assignments (by Saturday midnight) and complete quizzes (by Sunday midnight) posted in MyEconLab via Blackboard/Tools/Pearson's MyLab &amp; Mastering. -Submit Current Event Report (by Sunday midnight).</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>2/11 - 2/17</td>
<td>6. Aggregate Incomes</td>
<td>See Course Material section in Blackboard: This week’s Lecture Materials and Reading, Listening, &amp; Viewing folders.</td>
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<td>Dates</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Course Material</td>
<td>Weekly Activities</td>
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| 7    | 2/18-2/24   | Economic Growth                            | See Course Material section in Blackboard: This week’s Lecture Materials and Reading, Listening, & Viewing folders. | - Complete homework assignments (by Saturday midnight) and complete quizzes (by Sunday midnight) posted in MyEconLab via Blackboard/Tools/Pearson's MyLab & Mastering  
     |             |                                            |                                             | - Submit Current Event Report (by Sunday midnight)                                 |
| 8    | 2/25-3/3    | Why Isn't the Whole World Developed?       | See Course Material section in Blackboard: This week’s Lecture Materials and Reading, Listening, & Viewing folders. | - Review course materials  
     |             |                                            |                                             | - Participate in online discussions (initial postings by Thursday midnight, secondary postings by Saturday midnight)  
     |             |                                            |                                             | - Complete homework assignments (by Saturday midnight) and complete quizzes (by Sunday midnight) posted in MyEconLab via Blackboard/Tools/Pearson's MyLab & Mastering  
     |             |                                            |                                             | - Submit Current Event Report (by Sunday midnight)                                 |
| 9    | 3/10-3/17   | Employment and Unemployment                | See Course Material section in Blackboard: This week’s Lecture Materials and Reading, Listening, & Viewing folders. | - Review course materials  
     |             |                                            |                                             | - Participate in online discussions (initial postings by Thursday midnight, secondary postings by Saturday midnight)  
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<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignments and Requirements</th>
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- Submit Current Event Report (by Sunday midnight) |
| 12   | 4/1 - 4/7   | 12. Short-run Fluctuations    | - Review course materials  
- Participate in online discussions (initial postings by Thursday midnight, secondary postings by Saturday midnight)  
- Complete homework assignments (by Saturday midnight) and complete quizzes (by Sunday midnight) posted in MyEconLab via Blackboard/Tools/Pearson's MyLab & Mastering  
- Submit Current Event Report (by Sunday midnight) |

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|   |           |                                   | - Participate in online discussions (initial postings by Thursday midnight, secondary postings by Saturday midnight) |
|   |           |                                   | - Complete homework assignments (by Saturday midnight) and complete quizzes (by Sunday midnight) posted in MyEconLab via Blackboard/Tools/Pearson's MyLab & Mastering |
|   |           |                                   | - Submit Current Event Report (by Sunday midnight) |
| 15| 4/22 - 4/28 | 15. Open Economy Macroeconomics | See Course Material section in Blackboard: This week’s Lecture Materials and |
|   |           |                                   | - Review course materials |
|   |           |                                   | - Participate in online discussions (initial postings |
### End-of-Course Evaluation Surveys

Your feedback regarding your educational experience in this class is very important to the College of Professional Studies. Your comments will make a difference in the future planning and presentation of our curriculum.

At the end of this course, please take the time to complete the evaluation survey at [https://neu.evaluationkit.com](https://neu.evaluationkit.com). Your survey responses are completely anonymous and confidential. For courses 6 weeks in length or shorter, surveys will be open one week prior to the end of the courses; for courses greater than 6 weeks in length, surveys will be open for two weeks. An email will be sent to your HuskyMail account notifying you when surveys are available.

### Academic Integrity

A commitment to the principles of academic integrity is essential to the mission of Northeastern University. The promotion of independent and original scholarship ensures that students derive the most from their educational experience and their pursuit of knowledge. Academic dishonesty violates the most fundamental values of an intellectual community and undermines the achievements of the entire University.

As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their rights and responsibilities. In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, examinations of whatever kind, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Students are responsible for learning the conventions of documentation and acknowledgment of sources in their fields. Northeastern University expects students to complete all examinations, tests, papers, creative projects, and assignments of any kind according to the highest ethical standards, as set forth either explicitly or implicitly in this Code or by the direction of instructors.

Go to [http://www.northeastern.edu/osccr/academic-integrity-policy/](http://www.northeastern.edu/osccr/academic-integrity-policy/) to access the full academic integrity policy.
Student Accommodations

The College of Professional Studies is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities to students with documented disabilities (e.g. mental health, attentional, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical). To ensure access to this class, and program, please contact The Disability Resource Center (http://www.northeastern.edu/drc/) to engage in a confidential conversation about the process for requesting reasonable accommodations in the classroom and clinical or lab settings. Accommodations are not provided retroactively so students are encouraged to register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) as soon as they begin their program. The College of Professional Studies encourages students to access all resources available through the DRC for consistent support.

Student Resources

The We Care program at Northeastern University is a support system to aid students during times of difficulty or crisis. When students experience unexpected challenges in maintaining their academic progress, We Care works with the student to coordinate assistance among university offices and to offer appropriate on and off campus referrals to support successfully resolving the issue. For more information, visit http://www.northeastern.edu/wecare/.

Library Services

The Northeastern University Library is at the hub of campus intellectual life. Resources include over 900,000 print volumes, 206,500 e-books, and 70,225 electronic journals.

For more information, visit http://library.northeastern.edu/.

Tutoring Services

Tutoring can benefit skilled professionals and beginning students alike. NU offers many opportunities for you to enhance your academic work and professional skills through free one-on-one academic support on and off campus. Tutoring is available in multiple subject areas.

For more information, visit http://www.cps.neu.edu/student-resources/tutoring-services.php.

Northeastern University Online Technical Help

Get immediate 24/7 technical support for NU Online by calling 855-836-3520 or visiting the online Support Center. Support via e-mail is also available within one business day at NUOnline@neu.edu.

Undergraduate Catalog

The College of Professional Studies Undergraduate Catalog is a reference/resource with information about curricula, resources, and academic and student policies.
For more information, visit http://www.cps.neu.edu/student-resources/.

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