

**Macroeconomics Syllabus**  
Fall Semester 2009

General Information

Course: Eco 203  
MSF Fine Arts 319  
MoWeFr 1:00-1:50PM  
3 Credits

Instructor: Malcolm C. Gold, PhD  
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Office (715)-384-1709  
MSF 437

Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 11:30-12:30  
and by appointment

Course Overview

This course gives an introduction to the theories and problems of macroeconomic policy. The emphasis of this course is on macro analysis and covers areas such as national income, commercial banking, business fluctuations, monetary and fiscal policies and economic growth. Topics include supply and demand, measurement, inflation, unemployment, macroeconomic relationships and models, as well as fiscal and monetary policy.

Textbooks and Other Resources

Assigned readings are to be completed before the class session. They are assigned for your edification and to provide the necessary background to actively contribute in classroom discussions.

*Macroeconomics*, 17<sup>th</sup> ed. by Campbell R. McConnell and Stanley L. Brue. ISBN 0-073-27308-2 (Required)

*Study Guide to accompany McConnell Brue Macroeconomics*, 17th edition, Irwin McGraw-Hill. (Optional)

Attendance

With the exception of the “First Day No Show Policy” attendance is optional but highly recommended. You are responsible for all announcements made during and materials covered in class. If you miss a class, do not ask me to give a private lesson during office hours.

Cell Phones & Laptop Classroom Policy

Use of a cell phone, laptop or other digital device during a quiz or exam is **PROHIBITED**, use of any digital device during a quiz or exam will result in a zero for that specific quiz or exam.

During regular classroom sessions please be courteous when use any digital device. Shut off or set your cell phone to vibrate only. Use a laptop to follow lecture slides or take notes only.

## Graded Course Components

*Homework and Class Participation:* Homework problems will be assigned throughout the semester. No late homework will be accepted. If you miss a class you are responsible for finding out if homework has been assigned. Problem solving is the best way to learn economic concepts and will be a major component of your exams.

*Quizzes:* There will be unscheduled quizzes given during the semester. The quizzes will be given at the beginning of class with a fixed time allotment. No make-up quizzes will be offered. Your lowest quiz score will be dropped.

*Review Papers:* Choose a magazine article pertaining to macroeconomics and in your own words provide a summary of the key points of the paper and relate the content to concepts from class. Apply concepts learned from class to assess the validity of the key points; you may supplement your argument with outside data. The summary of the key points should not exceed half of your paper. The paper should be no longer than three double spaced, 12 font sized, one inch pages. You must attach a copy of the paper that you are summarizing (Scan and attach the article or make a copy rather than tearing it out of the magazine). The first review paper is due by the end of class on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. This second review paper is due by the end of class on November 25<sup>th</sup>.

*Exams:* You will have three exams, consisting of a combination of problem types. The first two exams will take place during class at the normal time and location. The final exam will take place during the scheduled final exam time.

First Exam	Wednesday October 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	(In Class)
Second Exam	Wednesday November 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	(In Class)

### Percent of Total Grade by Component

Homework and Class Participation	25%
Quizzes	25%
Review Paper (Each at 5%)	10%
Exams (Midterms at 12.5%, Final at 15%)	40%

### Grading Scale

	A	93-100	A-	90-92	
B+	87-89	B	83-86	B-	80-82
C+	77-79	C	73-76	C-	70-72
D+	67-69	D	63-66	D-	60-62
F	less than 60				

### Tentative Schedule of Topics: Changes will be announced in class

Economics as a Science  
Economics of Scarcity and Choice  
Theory and Application of the Market System  
Unemployment and Inflation  
Measuring the Economy's Performance  
Theory of Aggregate Demand and Supply  
Classical and Keynesian Economics  
Economics of Fiscal and Monetary Policy  
Economics of Money, Banking, and the Financial System  
Economics of Deficit Spending and the Public Debt  
Theory and Practice of International Trade and Finance

### The Learning Center

Students with special learning needs, please let me know as soon as possible to ensure that those accommodations are met in a timely manner. Make sure to talk with Steve Kaiser in The Learning Center as I take his recommendations as a prerequisite to giving special accommodations on exams and quizzes.

### Assessment Information

A UW Colleges-wide assessment program has been put into place to enhance the quality and effectiveness of the curriculum, programs and services of the institution. The following areas of proficiency will be assessed because they are of primary importance in the education of our students: Analytical Skills, Quantitative Skills, Communication Skills, and the Aesthetic Engagement. The Business and Economics Department has also determined a number of core proficiencies for students enrolled in departmental classes. For more information on these, please contact the instructor.

As part of this assessment program, students in ECO 203 will be assessed on the analytical skill of interpreting and synthesizing of information and ideas.

### Grade Appeal Policy

See page 36 of the [UW Colleges Catalog](#).

### Academic Misconduct

The Board of Regents, administrators, faculty, academic staff, and students of the University of Wisconsin System believe that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental to the mission of higher education and of the University of Wisconsin System. Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors.

Please familiarize yourself with the codes and guidelines for academic misconduct, found in UWS 14 of the "[Student Rights & Regulations](#)" handbook. A useful write-up and dissemination of Chapter 14 verbiage can be found at the following [link](#).