

Syllabus for Intermediate Macroeconomics

Main Lecture

Instructor	Days	Time	Place
Robert Winslow	Tuesday, Thursday	09:45am-11:00am	Anderson 330

Discussion Sections

Section	Day	Time	Place
002	Friday	09:05am-09:55am	Hanson 1-107
003	Friday	10:10am-11:00am	Hanson 1-107
004	Friday	11:15am-12:05pm	Blegen 125

Instructor Contact Info

Name	Email	Office Hours	Zoom shortlink
Robert Winslow	winsl055@umn.edu	Thursday, 11:00am-1:00pm	z.umn.edu/3102rw
Jakub Pawelczak	pawel042@umn.edu	Thursday, 1:30pm-3:30pm	z.umn.edu/3102jp
Alyssa Ramos	ramos318@umn.edu	Friday, 1:00pm-3:00pm	z.umn.edu/3102ar

Please cc all instructors and include “[**Econ 3102**]” in the subject line.

Office hours will be held online via Zoom. See the course Canvas page for details.

Textbook

Macroeconomics (6th Edition) by Stephen Williamson.

Course Goals

An introductory economics course is meant to teach you the language of economics, while an intermediate course is intended to teach you some of the tools of economics. To that end, our goals for this course will be to:

- Learn about the measurement of macroeconomic data.
- Develop an understanding of the foundations of modern macroeconomic models.
- Subject these various models to data and determine their empirical relevance.
- Use these models to gain a deeper understanding of economic growth and business cycles.

Topics

First Half of the course:

- Macroeconomic Measurement (Chapters 1-3, part of 12)
- One-period Competitive Equilibrium (Chapters 4-5)
- Economic Growth (Chapters 7)

Second Half of the Course:

- Economic Growth, continued (Chapter 8)
- Competitive Equilibrium with Savings and Investment (Chapter 9-11)
- Money and Business Cycles (Chapter 12-14)
- International Macro (Chapter 16-17)

Prerequisites

Students should have completed ECON 3101 and its prerequisites prior to taking this course.

We will frequently be solving systems of equations, taking derivatives, and finding the solutions to constrained optimization problems. Please make sure you are comfortable with these concepts and mathematical techniques.

Grade Weights

Task:	Problem Sets	Midterm	Final Exam
Percentage:	35%	30%	35%

Exams

There will be one midterm exam and one final exam. The midterm will be held during the time normally scheduled for lectures. The final will be in a separate time slot during finals week.

Each exam will be split between multiple choice and short answers. Multiple choice questions will test your conceptual understanding of material from the book, while short-answer questions may require algebra and will be similar to the questions from the problem sets.

The final exam is cumulative, and will cover material from the entire course, but with an emphasis on the second half.

Test	Date	Time	Location
Midterm	Thursday, March 15*	9:45-11:00am	TBA
Final	Monday, May 9	8:00-10:00am	TBA

*: subject to change

Problem Sets

Weekly homework problems will be posted on the course Canvas page. The due date for each problem set will be indicated on the assignment. Late assignments will not be accepted unless you work out accommodations ahead of time.

Notes on submission format:

- Written answers must be typed.
- It is recommended that you type numerical work. I'll give a demonstration of how to do this. But neatly handwritten numerical work is also acceptable.
- Please submit your assignment as a pdf to avoid formatting errors or loss of data

Working in Groups and Attribution

Exams: *Students must work alone on exams.* We have zero tolerance for cheating, and students who submit suspicious work may receive zero points for that test.

Problem Sets: For problem sets, students are allowed to work in groups. In fact, this is encouraged. But note:

- You must still write and submit your own work. Don't just copy and paste another student's work.
- Give credit where credit is due. If you work with another person, acknowledge their help at the top of your assignment.
- Identical problem submissions will result in point deductions, especially if no attribution is given.

Expanded Syllabus

The full syllabus with more information can be found online on the course Canvas page at canvas.umn.edu