**ECON 2101-091**

**Principles of Macroeconomics**

Fall 2013  
Tue, 6:30pm – 9:15pm  
Fretwell 100

**Instructor:** Dr. Carol O. Stivender

*“Try not to have a good time. This is supposed to be educational.”*  
Lucy, “Peanuts”

**Office:**  
219D, Friday Building

**E-mail:**  
costiven@uncc.edu *(Indicate your name and class section in your e-mail)*

**Office Hours:**  
Tue: 2:30pm – 3:15pm, 5:15pm-6:15pm  
Thur: 2:30pm – 3:15pm  
and by appointment as needed.

**Grad Assistant:**  
TBD, 218A Friday Building, e-mail: econtutor@uncc.edu

**Course Website:** All course materials are available on Moodle

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**Textbook:** Principles of Macroeconomics  
**Authors:** Libby Rittenberg and Timothy Tregarthen  
**Publisher:** Flat World Knowledge  
**ISBN:** For color custom text, #978-1-936126-63-7  
**Text Web Page:** [http://www.flatworldknowledge.com](http://www.flatworldknowledge.com) *(see textbook info on Moodle for details)*

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**Course Description:** Principles of Economics-Macro. Scope and Methodology of Economics as a social science, the measurement of national income, the theory of national income determination, money and banking, monetary and fiscal policy, and international economics. (Formerly Econ 1201).

**Course Objectives:** To gain a fundamental understanding of the workings of the macro-economy; to develop a basic understanding of the role that government has in influencing economic activity. Along with other course objectives, this course will help the student to develop problem-solving skills; skills associated with independent thinking; and will address social, political, and global issues using tools of economic analysis. Along with other course objectives, this course will help the student to develop problem-solving skills; skills associated with independent thinking; and will address social, political, and global issues using tools of economic analysis. Additionally, for students enrolled under the guidelines of the 2001-2003 catalog, ECON 2101 is one of the courses that can be used to meet Goal VI (Understanding the Individual, Society, and Culture) of the University’s General Education Requirements. According to this goal:

**UNC Charlotte graduates should be able to:**

- Understand how institutions operate with societies in both contemporary and historical perspectives.
- Understand internal and external influences that promote and inhibit human action.
- Understand the patterns of change that individuals experience at various points in life.
- Recognize the complex, integrated, and dynamic nature of human behavior and human experience.
- Understand the commonalities, differences, and interdependence among and within societies of the world.

For students admitted to the university under the guidelines of the 2003-2005 catalog or later, this course can be used to meet the social science goal under section II, Inquiry in the Sciences. This requirement is designed to introduce students to the methods of the social sciences and to the application of these methods for gaining a scientific understanding of the social world.
Course Policies

Academic Integrity:
Students have the responsibility to know and observe the requirements of The UNC Charlotte Code of Student Academic Integrity. (This code forbids cheating, fabrication or falsification of information, multiple submissions of academic work, plagiarism, abuse of academic materials, and complicity in academic dishonesty. Any special requirements or permission regarding academic integrity in this course will be stated by the instructor and are binding on the students. Academic evaluations in this course include a judgment that the student’s work is free from academic dishonesty of any type; and grades in this course therefore should be and will be adversely affected by academic dishonesty. Students who violate the code can be expelled from UNC Charlotte. The normal penalty for a first offense is zero credit on the work involving dishonesty and further substantial reduction of the course grade. In almost all cases, the course grade is reduced to F. Copies of the code can be obtained from the Dean of Students Office. Standards of academic integrity will be enforced in this course. Students are expected to report cases of academic dishonesty to the course instructor.

Attendance: Research shows us that there is an unambiguous positive relationship between class attendance and class outcomes (grades). One can assume, then, that there is a negative relationship between skipping class and grades (students that cut class more will likely make lower test grades). I have long struggled with the question of whether I, as a college professor, should require my students to attend my class. I usually do not make the ultimate decision about my attendance policy until I sit down to update my syllabus for the upcoming semester. As of this moment, I have decided NOT to require attendance for this semester. I prefer to run a laissez faire classroom, leaving the decision to you whether to attend class. In my experience, there is no attendance-taking method that cannot be cracked by students that are intent upon cutting classes. Therefore, I will not be expending scarce resources in a futile attempt to gather accurate attendance records.

So here’s my policy - Students are expected to attend, to arrive on time and to stay the entire class period. If you do not plan to stay the entire class period, please be kind enough to let me (or the TA) know that you will need to leave early, and choose a seat near the exit. Otherwise, please do not disrupt your classmates by leaving the classroom before class is over. No points are explicitly added for attendance nor subtracted for absences; however, there are no make-ups for tests except for students with written statements from university officials stating that they are participating in university business. When missing class, students will be responsible for all information and materials presented in class, and are expected to obtain class notes or assignments from other students in the class. In other words, your primary source of information is the classroom – if something is announced in class I am under no obligation to also post that information online or notify the class via e-mail. You will find options for e-mailing classmates under the 49er Express link for this course. Please do NOT e-mail me to say, “I cut your class today - what did I miss?” Since I will not be keeping attendance records, you do not need to notify me when you will be missing class for doctor appointments, court dates, or any other reason. Any extra credit opportunities offered in class cannot be made up.

Make-up work and late work: There are NO makeup tests, except for students away representing the university (documentation must be provided well in advance of the scheduled exam date, and the exam must be taken prior to the scheduled date). If you miss a test, the missed test will count as your lowest test score and can be replaced by the cumulative final exam. Missed homework deadlines cannot be made up for any reason. There are NO exceptions to this policy.

Tests: Test grades constitute 90% of the final grade. Due to the large class size, each test will be comprised of multiple choice and true false questions, and will be taken on open computer-graded forms that will be provided. Students should be prepared for the tests by bringing a non-graphing calculator and pencils (cell phones ≠ calculators). Test grades will be made available either via e-mail or on Moodle or both. The TA or I will e-mail the class when grades are available. Please note, students are not allowed to leave the classroom and return during an exam, so please take care of personal business before entering the room for the exam.

Extra Credit: There may be occasional opportunities to earn extra credit points by completing in-class assignments or quizzes. These opportunities will typically not be announced in advance, and will be made available only to the students that are present in class that day.

Students who arrive late for tests and/or the final exam will be permitted to take the test or final exam provided no student has turned in their paper prior to his/her arrival. Once a paper has been turned in, late arriving students will not be permitted to begin the test or exam. A student who begins a test or exam late will not be given extra time at the end of the regular test or examination period.
**Homework**: Homework constitutes 10% of the final grade. Required homework assignments will be completed and submitted through Moodle. I will provide more information about accessing homework assignments in the first week or so of class. Assignments are chapter specific and will be more effective for you if completed AFTER I have presented chapter material. The assignments are intended to help you learn and review for the tests, and to earn some relatively easy points, not to be labor intensive and require a lot of your time, *so relax*. The key to not being overwhelmed and stressed by the homework is to keep current, handle it in small bites. The worst mistake students make is to wait until the last minute, just before the time limit expires, to try and cram in several chapters of homework questions. Then I get desperate e-mails asking me to extend the deadline, though students have had plenty of time to complete the assignments. DO NOT miss your deadlines — I will not extend any deadlines for any reason. All chapter assignments must be submitted by 11:30pm the night before the test for those chapters. For example, Test 1 will cover chapters 1-4, so the homework assignments for chapters 1-4 are due by 11:30 the night before Test 1.

**Final Exam**: According to the current university exam schedule, the final exam is scheduled for Tuesday, December 10, from 8:00pm to 10:30pm. The exam is optional and cumulative, and substitutes for the lowest test grade, including a missed test. The cumulative portion will not substitute for a homework grade or a test grade resulting from a violation of academic integrity.

**Calculating the grade**: Grades will be calculated as follows: (Tests 90%, Homework 10%)

\[
\text{Final Grade} = .90(\text{Test Points}/4) + .10(\text{HW score})
\]

**EXAMPLE**: Assume your grades on tests 1-4 are 80, 77, 74 and 84, and you have earned 95 out of a possible 100 homework points.

\[
\text{Final Grade} = .90[(80+77+74+84)/4) + .10(95) \\
= .90(78.75) + .10(95) \\
= 70.875 + 9.5 \\
= 80.375 \\
= 80.4
\]

**Grading scale**:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 - 59</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Test scores will NOT be rounded up. *Rounding of final course averages only* will follow the standard practice (only .5 or above will be rounded up to the next whole number). Thus 79.5 is a B, but 79.4 is not. NO EXCEPTIONS. Do NOT e-mail me when final grades are calculated to beg for extra points. The answer is always no.

**Cell phones**: Please turn off cell phones and all other electronic devices before class begins. If you are expecting a life-or-death phone call, let me know. Otherwise, NO PHONES! It is very distracting for me and for those around you. As you will soon see, I am easily distracted, and if I get off topic, we may never get back.

**Diversity**: The Belk College of Business strives to create an inclusive academic climate in which the dignity of all individuals is respected and maintained. Therefore, we celebrate diversity that includes, but is not limited to ability/disability, age, culture, ethnicity, gender, language, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status.
**Extremely Tentative Calendar**

This outline is extremely tentative. We will use it as a guide only. We'll regularly regroup throughout the semester to update our schedule. Test dates will not change, though chapters may shift.

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**Week 1**

8/20  Overview of Course, Syllabus, Introduction, etc.
   Chapter 1: Economics: The Study of Choice
      o Defining Economics
      o The Field of Economics
      o Economists’ Tool Kit

**Week 2**

8/27  Chapter 1 (cont)
   Chapter 2: Confronting Scarcity: Choices in Production
      o Factors of Production
      o Production Possibilities Curve

**Week 3**

9/3   Chapter 3: Demand and Supply
      o Demand
      o Supply
      o Equilibrium

**Week 4**

9/10  Chapter 3 (cont)
   Chapter 4: Applications of Demand and Supply
      o Government Controlled Prices
      o Price Floors / Price Ceilings

**Week 5**

9/17  6:30 – 8:00  TEST 1
   8:15 – 9:15  Begin Ch 5

**Week 6**

9/24  Chapter 5: Macro: The Big Picture
      o Real GDP and Business Cycles
      o Price-Level Changes
      o Unemployment

**Week 7**

10/1  Chapter 6: Measuring Total Output and Income
      o Measuring Output
      o Measuring Income
      o GDP and Economic Well-Being

**Week 8**

10/8  NO CLASS

**Week 9**

10/15 Chapter 7: Aggregate Demand (AD)/ Supply (AS)
      o Aggregate Demand
      o Aggregate Supply – Long and Short Run
      o Recessionary and Inflationary Gaps

**Week 10**

10/22  6:30 – 8:00  TEST 2

**Week 11**

10/29  Chapter 8: Economic Growth
      o Growth and LRAS curve
      o Determinants of Economic Growth
   Chapter 9: The Nature and Creation of Money
      o What is Money?
      o Banking System and Money Creation
      o The Federal Reserve System (Fed)

**Week 12**

11/5  Chapter 9 (cont)
   Chapter 10: Financial Markets and the Economy
      o Bond and Foreign Exchange Markets
      o The Money Market

**Week 13**

11/12  6:30 – 8:00  TEST 3

**Week 14**

11/19  Chapter 11: Monetary Policy/The Fed
      o U.S. Monetary Policy
      o Equation of Exchange

**Week 15**

11/26  Chapter 12: Govt and Fiscal Policy
      o Govt and the Economy
      o Fiscal Policy to Stabilize Economy

**Week 16**

12/3   TEST 4

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**TEST SCHEDULE** (Dates are firm. Chapters will be updated if we get behind)

- Test 1 - September 17
- Test 2 - October 22
- Test 3 - November 12
- Test 4 - December 3 (Last Class!)

Optional Final Exam (Cumulative) –
   Tuesday, Dec 10, 8:00pm – 10:30pm