Economics 102: Principles of Macroeconomics
Syllabus
Fall 2007

Instructor: Fatma Ö zgü Serttaş
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Office: 62B Heady Hall
Office Hours: TR 11:15-12:15 and by appointment

Class Hours: TR 9:30-10:45
Place: 2245 Coover Hall

Teaching Assistants:

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Econ Help Room: TAs will be holding their office hours in the Econ Help Room that is located in 178 Heady Hall. Econ Help Room will be open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. TAs help room hours will be announced soon. Even if you can’t make your TAs help room hours, all other TAs in the help room will be there to provide help during the working hours.

Required Textbook:

Test Dates: There will be two mid-terms and a comprehensive final. Tentative dates for the mid-terms are Thursday September 27th and Tuesday November 6th. Final exam will be held during the finals week (Dec. 10-14th).

Web Sites: Class homepage is http://www.econ.iastate.edu/classes/econ102/serttas. It will contain the PowerPoint slides/overheads or any other materials, including lecture notes that are related to class.

You can also reach the course website from Aplia: www.aplia.com. You will need to log in with the course key to reach the website. Course Key: QMHJ-P44N-EAZ3 (more information about Aplia will be provided). In addition to everything you can find in the class homepage above, this site contains the problem sets (graded) and practice questions. I encourage you to complete practice questions, but they do not count towards your homework grade. Graded problem sets have strict deadlines because you will be
completing them through Aplia (software does not take any excuses). Make sure you finish your assignments well before the due date. You can make any changes to your answers as many times as needed before the deadline. After the due date, Aplia displays the correct answers and explanations for graded problems. Lowest 2 grades of the problem sets will be dropped.

I suggest that you check the website regularly for any updates, lecture notes, announcements, grades… etc.

Course Description: ECON 102 is one-semester principles course on macroeconomics. It is designed to acquaint you with the basic essential macroeconomic issues such as: opportunity costs, inflation rate, unemployment rate, national income, economic growth, role of central banks, fiscal and monetary policies and exchange rates.

There are no pre-requisites for this course. Some knowledge of basic algebra, percentages, solving basic equations and ability to draw and interpret two-dimensional graphs is necessary to be successful in this course.

Outcomes: Macroeconomics is about understanding how economy functions as a whole. Studying the behaviors of national income, economic growth, employment level, inflation and trade is important for measuring/analyzing an economy’s well-being. Hopefully by the end of this course, you will be able to understand the essentials of national income accounting and determining the aggregate price level, inflation rate and unemployment rate and be able to identify and explain terminology such as demand, supply, GDP and explore the macroeconomic effects of monetary policy and fiscal policy.

Grading and Exams: There will be two mid-terms and a comprehensive final in addition to the problem sets. Weights of the assignments are as follows:

- Mid-terms 40% (20% each)
- Final 30%
- Quizzes 10%
- Problem Sets 20%

Tentative dates of midterm exams are Thursday September 27th and Tuesday November 6th. All exams are closed book and closed notes. Students will be responsible for the material covered in the assigned chapters of the required textbook and the material that is covered in class. Exams will be a mixture of multiple choice and essay type questions. There will also be questions from Aplia problem sets and/or practice questions. You are not allowed to use cell phones or any other electronic devices instead of calculators during any of the exams.

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1 Disclaimer: Neither ISU nor the instructor is affiliated with Aplia.
Quizzes will be pop-up and will be from the material covered on that day. If you miss a class and a quiz is given in that class you are going to miss the points from that quiz.

Try not to fall behind the topics covered in class. Feel free to ask questions and come and visit me and/or your teaching assistants for questions.

Make-up exams will be given only if you have a documented excuse (ex: written medical excuse or a school related reason like athletic competitions). For medical excuses, a generic “visitation slip” will not suffice. In case of a family emergency, I will accept a letter from your academic advisor. If you know that you must miss a test, please make sure you notify me well in advance.

**Policies:** You are expected to be on time and attend each class. You will be responsible for all the material presented in class and for completing your homework on time. While completing your homework, you can discuss the subjects with your classmates; however, each student should sit and finish his/her homework alone.

TAs will be grading your exams. If you have any questions regarding the grading of your exam, you should first go to the TA and if the dispute still persists you should then come to me.

All exam answers must be your own and you must not provide any help to any other student during any of the exams. Any incidences of academic dishonesty will be pursued under the *ISU Student Information Handbook* regulations. For more on the university policy on academic integrity, see the web page: [www.iastate.edu/~catalog/2005-07/geninfo/dishonesty.html](http://www.iastate.edu/~catalog/2005-07/geninfo/dishonesty.html).

**Classroom Etiquette:** Here are some “Do’s” and “Don’ts” to enhance your own and others’ learning in class. It is better that we all work together to make this class an enjoyable experience and to increase the efficiency of learning.

**Do** come to class on time. **Do** follow the lecture carefully.

**Do not** chat with fellow students during class. **Do** feel responsible for disturbing your classmates around you while they listen to the lecture.

**Do not** start gathering up your materials, stand up, etc. before the class is completely over. If you have to leave early **Do** sit near the door and **Do** let your instructor know about this before class.

**Do** turn your cell phones off during class and all exams. **Do** keep them in your backpacks.

**Note:** If you have a disability and require accommodations, please contact the instructor early in the semester so that your learning needs may be appropriately met. You will need
to provide documentation of your disability to the Disability Resources (DR) office, main floor of the Student Services Building, Room 1076, 515-294-6624.