Please read this syllabus in its entirety. By enrolling in the course you agree to abide by all rules stated here.

Instructor and Class Information

Professor: Oleksandr (Alex) Zhylyevskyy  
Office: 460D Heady Hall; phone: 515-294-6311  
Office hours: MW 2–3pm and by appointment  
Email: oz9a@iastate.edu

Course: Principles of Macroeconomics (Econ 102)  
Period: January 11 to May 6, 2016  
Meetings: MWF 10–10:50am  
Final exam period: May 2 to 6, 2016

Course Learning Objectives

The overall objective is to introduce the student to macroeconomics and the economist’s way of thinking. Specifically, by the end of the course, the student should be familiar with the basic terminology of macroeconomics, the central problems faced by economies at the macroeconomic level, and should understand how different government policies and household behavior affect macroeconomic outcomes.

Broad Objectives:
- Understand and be able to apply key macroeconomic concepts
- Critically think about and relate macroeconomic concepts to the real world
- Understand the use of economic models as a tool for explaining the macroeconomy
- Know how macroeconomic policies are used to achieve specific macroeconomic goals
- Recognize that there are shortcomings associated with economic measures and models

Specific Objectives:
- Know the difference between microeconomics and macroeconomics
- Define and measure different macroeconomic variables including GDP, measures of inflation, and types of unemployment
- Know and understand the nature and determinants of economic growth
- Understand the different types of money, money creation process, money multiplier, and interest rate determination
- Discuss the role of the Federal Reserve and its use of monetary policy
- Understand the foreign exchange market and how the exchange rate is determined
- Understand the business cycle
- Explain the role of government and how it uses fiscal and monetary policy to influence macroeconomic variables

Blackboard Learn

I use Blackboard Learn to administer graded homeworks and to post grades and class materials such as fillable lecture slides (filled-in slides will be shown during lectures), practice problems, and additional readings. Also, I use it to administer exams through the ISU Testing Center.


Grade Allocation

Homeworks: 25%, midterm 1: 20%, midterm 2: 20%, final: 35%.

Homeworks. The online homeworks on Blackboard Learn should be completed by the due date. A late homework will not be accepted. I will drop your two lowest-grade homeworks when calculating the total homework score. You are encouraged to form study groups and discuss your solutions.

Exams. Two midterms and a final exam will be administered through the ISU Testing Center. Each midterm is not cumulative and includes 27 multiple-choice questions. The final is cumulative and includes 70 multiple-choice questions. The exams are closed-book; no collaboration on them is permitted. You may use a calculator but not a cell phone. Also, you may not discuss exam questions with anyone until the solution is posted. Please see Blackboard Learn for tentative exam dates. I do not allow for a make-up after the solution has been posted. In case you have a compelling reason to miss a midterm, I will increase the weights on your total homework score and the other midterm score to 35% and 30%, respectively.

Grading Scale. Your course letter grade will be determined on a grading scale. While it is impossible to predict your letter grade until all point scores are in, if you typically score close to the mean, you are likely headed for a B-. Principles of Macroeconomics can be a challenge. Scoring high on the exams requires hard work. Keep in mind that what actually matters is your score relative to the scores of your classmates.

Attendance. You are strongly recommended to attend all class meetings and are responsible for everything covered and announced in class, including assigned readings.

Work Out-of-Class. You are expected to typically spend two hours in preparation outside of class for each lecture hour.

Electronic Devices. To minimize inconvenience to others, I request that you switch to silent mode all personal electronic devices when in class. You may use a notebook, tablet, or other suitable device to take lecture notes. I reserve the right to direct you to turn off any device that is not being used for a class purpose.
Copyright. You may not sell lecture notes or other course materials. Also, you may not post online in unrestricted public access any course materials. You may not video- or audio-record any part of a lecture without my explicit permission. Copyright violations may be subject to legal action.

Academic Dishonesty. The class will follow ISU’s policy on academic dishonesty. Anyone suspected of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of Students Office.

Students with Disabilities. Iowa State University is committed to assuring that all educational activities are free from discrimination and harassment based on disability status. All students requesting accommodations are required to meet with staff in Student Disability Resources (SDR) to establish eligibility. A Student Academic Accommodation Request (SAAR) form will be provided to eligible students. The provision of reasonable accommodations in this course will be arranged after timely delivery of the SAAR form to the instructor. Students are encouraged to deliver completed SAAR forms as early in the semester as possible. SDR, a unit in the Dean of Students Office, is located in room 1076, Student Services Building or online at [www.dso.iastate.edu/dr/](http://www.dso.iastate.edu/dr/) Contact SDR by email at [disabilityresources@iastate.edu](mailto:disabilityresources@iastate.edu) or by phone at 515-294-7220 for additional information.

Dead Week. This class follows the ISU Dead Week guidelines as outlined in section 10.6.4 of the Faculty Handbook.

Harassment and Discrimination. ISU strives to maintain our campus as a place of work and study for faculty, staff, and students that is free of all forms of prohibited discrimination and harassment based upon race, ethnicity, sex (including sexual assault), pregnancy, color, religion, national origin, physical or mental disability, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, or status as a U.S. veteran. Any student who has concerns about such behavior should contact me, Student Assistance at 515-294-1020 or email [dso-sas@iastate.edu](mailto:dso-sas@iastate.edu) or the Office of Equal Opportunity at 515-294-7612.

Religious Accommodation. If an academic or work requirement conflicts with your religious practices and/or observances, you may request reasonable accommodations. Your request must be in writing, and I will review it. You or I may also seek assistance from the Dean of Students Office or the Office of Equal Opportunity.

Contact Information. If you are experiencing, or have experienced, a problem with any of the above issues, email [academissues@iastate.edu](mailto:academissues@iastate.edu).

Course Outline

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<td>Ch. 1; Appendix to Ch. 1</td>
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<td>2. Review of Demand and Supply</td>
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<td>3. Measurement of GDP and Price Level</td>
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<td>4. Unemployment</td>
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Continuous Improvement Plan

In accordance with Section 262.9 of the Iowa Code this course features a continuous improvement plan. The identified learning outcome is that by the end of the course, students will understand key macroeconomic concepts. Among the concepts to be discussed in class, the following will be tracked to assess student performance using questions on the final exam:

- **Learning Objective 1**: Students will learn the concept of “Gross Domestic Product” (GDP) and will be able to calculate the value of GDP by the expenditure approach, given values of GDP components;

- **Learning Objective 2**: Students will learn the concepts of “Employment,” “Unemployment,” “Labor Force,” and “Not in the Labor Force” and will be able to classify an individual with given characteristics as “employed,” “unemployed,” or “not in the labor force.” Furthermore, students will be able to calculate the rate of unemployment.

Disclaimer. This syllabus is subject to change without prior notice, but any modifications will be announced through and posted on Blackboard Learn.

Last modified on November 14, 2015