

Intro. to Macroeconomics

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Rutgers Newark | Fall 2021

Instructor: Rubaa Saleh

Office Hours: Wed. 2:30 AM - 3:50 PM, or by appt.

Class Meeting Times: Mon. 2:30-3:50 PM, Wed. 1:00-2:20 PM

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Office: Hill 804

Classroom: Ackerson (ACK) 106

Course Description and Goals

Economics is the study of scarcity (scarce resources) in the face of needs and wants. Macroeconomics is the branch of economics concerned with the overall ups and downs in the economy: the bigger picture. Macroeconomists study these fluctuations and how governments can use economic policy to minimize the damage those fluctuations cause. We will first study the basic concepts that are present in both macroeconomics and microeconomics, and then delve into the study of macroeconomics.

By the end of this course, you will have an understanding of basic economic concepts of supply and demand, how price controls affect the economy, the effects of imports and exports, and monetary and fiscal policies. You will learn the basics of money and banking. Ultimately, you will become an informed citizen, better able to comprehend economic news and analysis, and learn to make more rational decisions.

 **Recommended Texts (Not required).** Choose one. To help you decide, preview texts online before buying/renting.)
Krugman, Paul R., and Robin Wells. *Macroeconomics*. 4th ed. New York, NY: Worth Publishers, 2015

Chiang, Eric. *Macroeconomics: Principles for a Changing World* (Worth Publishers) 4th edition (or previous editions)

Supplementary Material

1. NPR's Planet Money podcast
2. The Economist
3. Money magazine
4. The Wall Street Journal (*free for Rutgers students*)
5. Freakonomics Radio

Grade Distribution

Midterm 1/Midterm 2/ Final	70%
Homework/Classwork	20%
Quizzes (3 total)	10%

A = 90

B+ = 85

B = 80

C+ = 75

C = 70

D = 60

F = (you know)

For more information on final grades, visit: < <http://registrar.newark.rutgers.edu/final-grades> >

Midterm 2 & the final are not cumulative. If you miss either of the first two exams for a valid reason, you will have the option to take the exam on the day of the final exam. Quizzes cannot be made up without a valid reason.

- Valid reasons include religious holidays, illness, and death in the family. Documentation must be provided in the case of illness or death of family member.

Multiple choice assignments will be posted on Canvas and will be due usually a week after the assignment is posted.



- [Late assignments \(worksheets & multiple choice assignments\) are not accepted and cannot be made up without a valid excuse for your absence.](#)
- The two lowest homework/classwork grades will be dropped.

≧ Other Course Expectations:

- **When e-mailing** me, please use your Rutgers e-mail address so I can verify your identity especially when asking about grades. (Read up on *The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act [FERPA].*)
- **Please set your phone to silent or vibrate, or turn it off.**

{ Course Outline }

The outline below is tentative. If there are any changes, you will be notified in class and via BlackBoard.

Sept. 1, 8 **Basic Economic Concepts & Principles; Theory of Value**
Krugman, Wells: **Chapter 1** First Principles

Sept. 10 is the last day to drop without a “W” on your transcript.

Part 1: Supply & Demand

Sept. 13, 15 **Supply and Demand (PRE-RECORDED – Media Gallery on Canvas)**
Krugman, Wells: **Chapter 3** Supply and Demand

Sept. 20, 22 **Price Controls and Quotas**
Krugman, Wells: **Chapter 4** Price Controls and Quotas

Part 2: Economic Growth

Sept. 27 **Quiz 1 (on Supply & Demand and Price Controls & Quotas)**
Macroeconomics Overview, Measuring the Size of an Economy
Krugman, Wells: **Chapter 6** Macroeconomics Overview
Chapter 7 GDP and the CPI: Tracking the Economy

Sept. 29 **Macroeconomics Overview, Measuring the Size of an Economy (continuing)**

Oct. 4 Midterm 1 Review

Oct. 6 **Midterm 1**

Oct. 11, 13 **Unemployment & Inflation**
Krugman, Wells: **Chapter 8** Unemployment and Inflation

Oct. 18, 20 ***Savings, Investment, & the Financial System***
Krugman, Wells: **Chapter 10** Savings, Investment, and the Financial System

Part 3: Business Fluctuations

Oct. 25 **Quiz 2** (on **Unemployment & Inflation** and **Savings, Investment, & the Financial System**)

Long-Run Economic Growth
Krugman, Wells: **Chapter 9** Long-Run Economic Growth

Oct. 25 is the last day to drop *with* a “W” on your transcript.

To see how withdrawing from any course affects your financial aid, visit:
<<https://financialaid.rutgers.edu/eligibility/enrollment-requirements/>>

Oct. 27 **Long-Run Economic Growth (continuing)**

Nov. 1, 3 **Income and Expenditure (Aggregate Spending)**
Krugman, Wells: **Chapter 11** Income and Expenditure

Midterm review (time-permitting)

Nov. 8 (M) **Midterm 2** (Unemployment & Inflation → Income & Expenditure)

Nov. 10, 15 **Aggregate Demand and Supply**
Krugman, Wells: **Chapter 12**

Part 4: Macroeconomic Policy & Institutions

Nov. 17, 22 **Fiscal Policy**
Krugman, Wells: **Chapter 13**

Nov. 24 (W) **Thanksgiving Break**



Part 5: International Economics

Nov. 29 **Quiz 3** (on AD-AS and Fiscal Policy)
Money, Banking, and Federal Reserve
Krugman, Wells: **Chapter 14**

Dec. 1 **Money, Banking, and Federal Reserve (continuing)**

Dec. 6, 8 **Monetary Policy**
Krugman, Wells: **Chapter 15**

Dec. 13 Final exam review

Dec. 20 (Mon) **Final Exam** (AD-AS → Monetary Policy)
3:00 PM
ACK 106

Fall 2021 Final Exam Schedule

<https://tls.newark.rutgers.edu/academic-scheduling/academic-scheduling-resources/final-exam-schedule-fall-2021>

Students must bring final exam conflicts to the attention of their dean of students at least two weeks before the first final exam day.