

Truman State University  
**ECON 303: Intermediate Macroeconomics, Fall 2017**

**Professor:** Matthew S. Wilson. My office is MC 207B, and my office hours are 12:20-1:20 on MWF and 10:30-2 on TTh. Phone: (660) 785-4828. Email: mwilson@truman.edu. See Blackboard for the course website, which includes a link where you can email me anonymously.

**Textbook:** *Macroeconomics* by Charles I. Jones, 4th edition, is the required textbook for the course. Lectures will frequently be based on the book and exercises may be assigned as homework problems.

**Course description:** “This course is a study of the determinants of the aggregate level of employment, income, and output of an economy. Attention is given to the role of price adjustments, the microeconomic underpinnings of macroeconomic analysis, as well as the economic impacts of fiscal and monetary policies.” – from the Course Catalog. Prerequisites: C or higher in either Math 198 or Math 192. In addition, you must get at least a C in Econ 205 or both of Econ 200 and Econ 201. This course will cover many of the same topics as Principles of Macroeconomics. However, in this class we will explore them in greater depth and apply more mathematically rigorous methods. By the end of the semester, you should have a deeper understanding of macroeconomics and have greater skill in using mathematical methods to study economic problems.

**Class:** Attendance is part of your grade. Sanctioned absences will be excused; see the university policy for the definition of sanctioned absences. However, you need to provide proof of your reason for missing class in order to avoid losing points. For instance, if you don't come to class because you are sick, then you should send me a copy of a doctor's note. If you are a student-athlete and have a game that conflicts with a class, then you have to get a signed note from your coach or some other proof that confirms your excuse. Even if your absence is excused, it remains your responsibility to catch up on the material that you missed in class. Your attendance grade is  $\left(100 - \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)N^3 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)N^2 - \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)N\right)\%$ , where  $N$  is the number of unexcused absences. *No laptops in class, and no texting. Phones should be either silent or off; they cannot be used during class. Attendance points may be subtracted if you break these rules.*

**Grades:** Your grade depends on exams and homework as follows:

- 10% Attendance
- 10% Online homework
- 10% Homework
- 20% Midterm 1 (Friday, September 22)
- 5% Growth quiz (pop quiz given no earlier than the beginning of Chapter 5 and no later than the end of Chapter 6)

- 20% Midterm 2 (Friday, October 27)
- 25% Final Exam (Monday, December 11, 3:30-5:20)

Online homework will be done through Blackboard. Be sure to budget plenty of time for it; the system will not accept late homework for any reason. Homework and due dates will be assigned in class. With absolutely no exceptions, homework will not be accepted after the answer key is posted. If you cannot attend class on the day that homework is due, remember that it is always possible to turn in your homework early. It can be submitted by email if necessary (no Google docs). If you require a make-up exam, you must inform me by email before the regularly scheduled exam begins. I may decide to have the make-up exam be different than the original. There is no guarantee that the make-up exam will be scheduled at a time that works for you. For more details on grading, see the Grade Policy document posted on the course website.

The homework deadlines are the following.

- Homework 1 – September 8 at the beginning of class
- Homework 2 – September 15 at the beginning of class
- Homework 3 – October 25 at the beginning of class
- Homework 4 – December 4 at the beginning of class
- Online Chapter 1 – September 1
- Online Chapter 2 – September 12
- Online Chapter 4 – September 20
- Online Chapter 5 – October 3
- Online Chapter 6 – October 10
- Online Chapter 7 – October 13
- Online Chapter 8 – October 24
- Online Chapter 9 – November 2
- Online Chapter 11 – November 10
- Online Chapter 12 – November 17
- Online Chapter 13 – November 30

**Academic Integrity:** All exams are closed-book, closed-note. During an exam, you may only use a pencil, pen, eraser, a non-graphing calculator, and a copy of the exam. Cell phones must be turned off during exams. Copying off another student is prohibited on all assignments. A statement from the University: “ACADEMIC HONESTY – Personal and scholarly integrity are expected of everyone in the class. Failure to live up to those responsibilities, risks earning a failing grade on the assignment/examination or a failing grade for the course. The University policy on academic dishonesty as published in the Student Conduct Code and General/Graduate Catalog applies.”

**Course Outline:**

Chapter 1: Introduction to Macroeconomics (Week 1)  
Chapter 2: Measuring the Macroeconomy (Weeks 2-4)  
Data Day (Week 4)  
Chapter 3: An Overview of Long-Run Economic Growth (Week 4)  
Chapter 4: A Model of Production (Week 5)  
Chapter 5: The Solow Growth Model (Weeks 6-7)  
Chapter 6: Growth and Ideas (Weeks 8-9)  
Chapter 7: The Labor Market, Wages, and Unemployment (Week 9)  
Chapter 8: Inflation (Week 10)  
Chapter 9: An Introduction to the Short Run (Week 11)  
Chapter 11: The IS Curve (Weeks 11-12)  
Chapter 12: Monetary Policy and the Phillips Curve (Weeks 12-13)  
Chapter 13: Stabilization Policy and the AS/AD Framework (Weeks 13-14)  
Chapter 10: The Great Recession: A First Look (Week 14)  
Chapter 14: The Great Recession and the Short Run Model (Week 15)  
Chapter 15: DSGE Models: The Frontier of Business Cycle Research (Week 15)

I may adjust the outline during the course, though I will announce any changes in class. If instead we go faster than expected, there may be time for Chapter 16 (Consumption).

### **More University Policies**

“Notice of Compliance – In compliance with federal law and applicable Missouri statutes, the University does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, age, race, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status in admission to or employment in its education programs or activities. The University complies with the regulations implementing Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972; Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; and other state and federal laws and regulations.”

“If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Disability Services Office (x4478) as soon as possible.”

“As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. I also have a mandatory reporting responsibility related to my role as a faculty member. I am required to share information regarding sexual misconduct or information about a crime that may have occurred on Truman’s campus with the University. Students may speak to someone confidentially by contacting University Counseling Services at 660-785-4014 (660-665-5621 for after-hours crisis counseling.)”