



School of Economics and Finance

ECON212 MACROECONOMICS: GROWTH, STABILITY AND CRISES

Trimester 1, 2016

COURSE OUTLINE

Prerequisites

ECON 141 (or ECON140)

Prescription

An introduction to dynamic macroeconomic processes and recurrent problems, including the recent global instability. Themes covered include the theory of economic growth, productivity, business cycle theory and the causes of banking crises, exchange rates and the international transmission of these processes.

Course Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students should be able to

1. Understand the nature of dynamic macroeconomic process.
2. Apply dynamic macroeconomic theory to current and recent crises.
3. Understand theories of economic growth.
4. Understand theories of the business cycle.
5. Understand the international transmission of growth and crises.
6. Analyse significant economic crises in the 20th and 21st centuries, including the Great Depression (1930s) and the Asian Financial Crisis (1997).
7. Analyse significant economic developments in the 20th and 21st centuries.

Course Content

An introduction to dynamic macroeconomic processes and recurrent problems, including the recent global instability. Themes covered include the theory of economic growth, productivity, business cycle theory and the causes of banking crises, exchange rates and the international transmission of these processes.

Trimester Dates

Teaching Period: Monday 29th February – Friday 3rd June

Study Period: Monday 6th June – Thursday 9th June

Examination Period: Friday 10th June – Wednesday 29th June (inclusive)

Withdrawal from Course

1. Your fees will be refunded if you withdraw from this course on or before Friday 11th March 2016.
2. The standard last date for withdrawal from this course is Friday 13th May 2016. After this date, students forced to withdraw by circumstances beyond their control must apply for permission on an '*Application for Associate Dean's Permission to Withdraw Late*' including supporting documentation. The application form is available from either of the Faculty's Student Customer Service Desks or [online](#).

Names and Contact Details

Course Coordinator and Lecturer

Dr Robert Kirkby

Room RH403 (Rutherford House, Room 403). Email: Robert.Kirkby@vuw.ac.nz

Office Hours: by appointment

Course Administrator

Alice Fong in RWW120 (Railway West Wing)

Telephone 463 5353, Email: alice.fong@vuw.ac.nz

Class Times and Room Numbers

Tuesdays, 13:40:14:30, Government Buildings GBLT2 [Pipitea Campus]

Thursdays, 13:40:14:30, Government Buildings GBLT2 [Pipitea Campus]

Tutorials:

There will be 8 tutorials, with the first tutorial occurring during the second week, dates for the rest will be announced via Blackboard.

You need to sign up for a tutorial group online: <https://student-sa.victoria.ac.nz/>. Tutorial signup will be available from 3pm, 1 March to 3pm, 10 March. Sign up as early as possible to get your first choice of day/time. In the event of any difficulty with tutorial allocations, please contact Alice Fong (alice.fong@vuw.ac.nz), in RWW120.

Tutorial times:

Tuesday - 11.30-12.20pm in RWW413

Tuesday - 2.40-3.30pm in RWW315

Thursday - 11.30-12.20pm in GBG04

Thursday - 2.40-3.30pm in RWW413

Friday – 12.40-1.30pm in RWW129

Course Delivery

The course consists of two weekly lectures, with eight tutorials during the trimester.

Readings

The main relevant textbook (required) is:

Olivier Blanchard and David R. Johnson (2013), *Macroeconomics*, 6th edition, Pearson Publisher.

Mandatory course requirements

None.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat

Expected Workload

The course is 15 points and so should require about 150 hours. This averages out to roughly 12 hours per week. This includes the 2 hours of class time per week.

Assessment

The Assessment Handbook will apply to all VUW courses: see

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf>.

There are four assignments, a mid-trimester test (50 minutes) and a final exam (2 hours).

Grades will be determined as:

- Either 30% from the three best assignments
- 15% mid-trimester test (50 minutes)
- 55% final examination (2 hours)

Or 100% final examination, whichever is greater.

Examinations

Students who enrol in courses with examinations are obliged to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal examination period. The final examination for this course will be scheduled at some time during the following period:

Friday 10th June – Wednesday 29th June (inclusive)

Penalties

Late submission of work will not be accepted.

Group Work

A few hours of group work may be required.

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an on-line plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and submitted to Turnitin. A copy of submitted materials will be retained on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions will not be made available to any other party.

Materials and Equipment

Not applicable.

Student feedback

Student feedback on University courses may be found at

www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details made available to VUWSA, the course coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the course coordinator on behalf of students.

Communication of Additional Information

Course material and information will be conveyed mostly via Blackboard.

Link to general information

For general information about course-related matters, go to
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/vbs/studenthelp/general-course-information>

Note to Students

Your assessed work may also be used for quality assurance purposes, such as to assess the level of achievement of learning objectives as required for accreditation and academic audit. The findings may be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of VBS programmes. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential, and the outcome will not affect your grade for the course.
