

Intermediate Macroeconomic Analysis

Course: Economics 321 (Section 04)

Time: Monday and Wednesday, 2:50 pm – 4:10 pm

Room: Murray Hall 211

Instructor: Prof. Todd Keister

307 New Jersey Hall, College Ave Campus

todd.keister@rutgers.edu

Office hours: Monday and Wednesday 11:00 – 12:00 or by appointment

Teaching assistant: Ryuichiro Izumi

427 New Jersey Hall, College Ave Campus

rizumi@economics.rutgers.edu

Office hours: Wednesday 4:30 – 5:30pm or by appointment

Prerequisites: Grades of C or higher in Intro to Microeconomics (220:102), Intro to Macroeconomics (220:103), and Calculus I (640:135 or 640:151, or equivalent).

Course Materials: The required textbook is *Macroeconomics Policy and Practice* (2nd edition) by Frederic S. Mishkin, which is available in hardcover, in an unbound value version, and as an e-text. You are also required to enroll in **MyEconLab**, an online platform where problem sets will be assigned and graded.

Access to MyEconLab can be purchased either bundled together with the physical textbook (from the bookstore or the publisher) or separately at <http://pearsonmylabandmastering.com>. Either way, you will need to register for the course at <http://pearsonmylabandmastering.com>. More information on how to register can be found on the course Sakai site. Please register with MyEconLab within 24 hours of the first class. The course ID for your section is: **keister26657**.

Registering for MyEconLab is mandatory. Assignments will be posted every week and can only be answered online. You can access the site free of charge during a grace period (which lasts 14 days) but you must register to do so.

Exams: There will be three exams on the following dates:

Exam 1	October 9 (in class)
Exam 2	November 13 (in class)
Exam 3	December 22, 12:00 pm

Grading: Course grades will be calculated as follows.

Your lowest exam score	20%
Your other two exam scores	35% each
Homework	10%

Note: Economics majors must earn a grade of **C or better** in this course

Late homework assignments will be accepted, but are penalized 10% per day. In other words, if you submit an assignment one day late, your maximum possible score is 90%. After two days, the maximum score is 80%, and so on.

There will be **no makeup exams**. If a truly extreme situation arises, you must contact me immediately. I must agree the reason was extreme enough to miss the exam and verification of your situation will be required. Otherwise, you will receive a grade of 0 for any exam missed.

There will be **no extra credit** work.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes and to participate in class discussions. If you will miss more than one class because of illness or a family emergency, please use the University absence reporting website: <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the dates and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me.

Cell phones and other electronic devices not used to access course materials **must be turned off** before each class begins.

Academic Integrity: Cheating will not be tolerated. The University has established severe penalties for cheating. The University's policy on academic integrity is found in the official catalogue at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-at-rutgers>

Learning outcomes: This class analyzes general equilibrium models of the aggregate economy. Students will learn how to model the factors affecting long-run economic growth and the determinants of business-cycle fluctuations. They will use these models to study the effects of monetary and fiscal policy on output, prices, unemployment, the trade balance and exchange rates. In addition, students will study the causes and effects of financial crises and the macroeconomic effects of government debt.

Course outline: The outline below provides an overview of the topics we will cover. The precise order/topics may be revised over the course of the semester.

Macroeconomic preliminaries: Chapters 1 – 3

Long-run economic growth: Chapters 6 – 7

Exam 1 (October 9)

Saving and investment: Chapter 4

Business cycle analysis: Chapters 8 – 13

Exam 2 (November 13)

Current policy issues: Chapters 14 – 17 (tentative)

Exam 3 (December 22)