BOSTON COLLEGE
Woods College of Advancing Studies
ADEC113201: Principles of Economics II (Macroeconomics)
Fall 2015 4 Credits

Professor Michael Rife    Monday: 6:15-9:15
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Office Hours: TBD
Email:  rifem@bc.edu     Phone: 360-281-9432

Boston College Mission Statement
Strengthened by more than a century and a half of dedication to academic excellence, Boston College commits itself to the highest standards of teaching and research in undergraduate, graduate and professional programs and to the pursuit of a just society through its own accomplishments, the work of its faculty and staff, and the achievements of its graduates. It seeks both to advance its place among the nation's finest universities and to bring to the company of its distinguished peers and to contemporary society the richness of the Catholic intellectual ideal of a mutually illuminating relationship between religious faith and free intellectual inquiry.

Boston College draws inspiration for its academic societal mission from its distinctive religious tradition. As a Catholic and Jesuit university, it is rooted in a world view that encounters God in all creation and through all human activity, especially in the search for truth in every discipline, in the desire to learn, and in the call to live justly together. In this spirit, the University regards the contribution of different religious traditions and value systems as essential to the fullness of its intellectual life and to the continuous development of its distinctive intellectual heritage.

Course Description
This course focuses on development of the national economy and the models and theory describing the factors behind the changes in the national economy. Course introduces national income determination and government policy. Topics include national income accounting, national income determination, employment, changes in supply and demand, uncertainties in a digital economy, money, interest rates, and inflation, fiscal and monetary policy, international trade, and business cycle.

The course is a basic prerequisite for all other upper division courses in economics and is a general education requirement of the university.

Prerequisites: It is recommended, though not necessary, that Principles of Economics I (Microeconomics) be taken prior to this course.

Course Objectives

1) To gain a knowledge of how the national economy works.
2) To gain a knowledge of how GDP is calculated by the BEA.
3) To gain an understanding of the impact of economic growth, unemployment, and inflation.
4) To gain an understanding of monetary and fiscal policy and how each can potentially affect the national economy.
**Course Web Site:** All course documents and announcements will be posted on the course site.


**Assigned Problems:** A substantial amount of suggested homework problems are assigned in this course to gain knowledge about the field of macroeconomics. However, the homework will not be turned in for a grade, but will be essential in preparation for the exams. It is highly recommended that the student works on the homework problems while we are discussing the topic in class and not wait for the preparation and study of the exam. Working on the assignment while we are discussing the topic could lead to useful questions during the presentation of the topic. Also, it is encouraged that students work together on the homework assignments because better learning of the material usually occurs through student discussion and interaction. It is also helpful to attempt to do unassigned homework problems and the “Quick Quizzes” that occur throughout the chapters.

**Exams:** All exams will be based on questions drawn from material covered in the text, lectures, and problem sets. In other words, all material associated with the course may appear on exams, including lecture material that is not in the text, so students should maintain a good set of class notes. Due to past problems with cheating on exams, students may only use a simple calculator with only a simple single-line display screen during exams (these may be purchased for about $10).

**Exam Dates:**
- **Exam 1:** Chapters 1 – 5, 1/3
- **Exam 2:** Chapters 6 – 10, 1/3
- **Exam 3:** Chapters 11 – 16 (Final Exam) 1/3, December 14 7 PM- 9 PM

The grading scale will be a 10 point scale as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94 – 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 – 93</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 – 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84 – 86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 – 83</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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- 77 – 79 C+
- 74 – 76 C
- 70 – 73 C-
- 67 – 69 D+
- 64 – 66 D
- 60 – 63 D-
- 0 – 59 F

**Makeup Exams:** There will be no makeup exams for the two midterms. If you miss a midterm due to a documented medical emergency, then the points for that midterm will be added to your final exam. Also, please note that under no circumstances will the final exam or midterms be administered on a different date than scheduled because of travel plans or family events (if, though, there is a family medical crisis, you should contact me about this and I may approve shifting points for a midterm to your final exam). Any changes to an announced exam date, time, or place will be announced in class and posted on the course website (emails will also be sent to the class, but if your mailbox is full you may not get the email). It is the responsibility of the student to be aware of these changes. If a student misses the final due to a documented illness I must be contacted on
the day of the exam and every effort must be made to take the makeup final exam as soon as possible (furthermore, no other exams may be taken before the makeup exam for this course is taken, unless you first secure my approval to do so). If a student returns home without first contacting me, no makeup will be given and s/he will receive a zero on the final exam.

**WCAS Grading System**

The undergraduate grading system consists of twelve categories: A (4.00), A- (3.67), excellent; B+ (3.33), B (3.00), B- (2.67), good; C+ (2.33), C (2.00), C- (1.67), satisfactory; D+ (1.33), D (1.00), D- (.67), passing but unsatisfactory; F (.00), failure; I (.00), incomplete; F (.00), course dropped without notifying office; W (.00), official withdrawal from course. The graduate grading system is A (4.00), A- (3.67), Excellent; B+ (3.33), B (3.00), good; B- (2.67), C (2.00), passing but not for degree credit; F (.00), failure.

Grade Reports. All students are required to log into the web through Agora to access their semester grades. Students must utilize their BC username and password to log on. If your username or password is not known the HELP Desk located in the Campus Technology Resource Center (CTRC) in O’Neill Library will issue a new one. The CTRC requires a valid picture ID (a BC ID, driver’s license or passport) to obtain your password.

**Important Policies**

[http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/schools/advstudies/guide/academicinteg.html](http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/schools/advstudies/guide/academicinteg.html)

**Written Work**

Graduate and undergraduate students are expected to prepare professional, polished written work. Written materials must be typed in the format required by your instructor. Strive for a thorough, yet concise style. Cite literature appropriately, using APA, MLA, CLA format per instructors decision. Develop your thoughts fully, clearly, logically and specifically. Proofread all materials to ensure the use of proper grammar, punctuation, and spelling. You are encouraged to make use of campus resources for refining writing skills as needed [http://www.bc.edu/libraries/help/tutoring.html].

**Scholarship and Academic Integrity**

It is expected that students will produce original work and cite references appropriately. Failure to reference properly is plagiarism. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not necessarily limited to, plagiarism, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, cheating on examinations or assignments, and submitting the same paper or substantially similar papers to meet the requirements of more than one course without seeking permission of all instructors concerned. Scholastic misconduct may also involve, but is not necessarily limited to, acts that violate the rights of other students, such as depriving another student of course materials or interfering with another student’s work.

**Request for Accommodations**

If you have a disability and will be requesting accommodations for this course, please register with either Dr. Kathy Duggan (dugganka@bc.edu), Associate Director, Connors Family Learning Center (learning disabilities or AHD) or Dean Paulette Durrett, (paulette.durrett@bc.edu), Assistant Dean for students with disabilities, (all other disabilities). Advance notice and appropriate documentation are required for accommodations. For further information, you can locate the disability resources on the web at [http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/libraries/help/tutoring/specialservices.html](http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/libraries/help/tutoring/specialservices.html).
Attendance
Class attendance is an important component of learning. Students are expected to attend all classes and to arrive by the beginning of and remain for the entire class period. When an occasion occurs that prevents a student from attending class, it is the student’s obligation to inform the instructor of the conflict before the class meets. The student is still expected to meet all assignment deadlines. If a student knows that he or she will be absent on a particular day, the student is responsible for seeing the instructor beforehand to obtain the assignments for that day. If a student misses a class, he or she is responsible for making up the work by obtaining a classmate's notes and handouts and turning in any assignments due. Furthermore, many instructors give points for participation in class. If you miss class, you cannot make up participation points associated with that class. Types of absences that are not typically excused include weddings, showers, vacations, birthday parties, graduations, etc. Additional assignments, penalties and correctives are at the discretion of the instructor. If circumstances necessitate excessive absence from class, the student should consider withdrawing from the class. In all cases, students are expected to accept the decision of the instructor regarding attendance policies specific to the class.

Consistent with our commitment of creating an academic community that is respectful of and welcoming to persons of differing backgrounds, we believe that every reasonable effort should be made to allow members of the university community to observe their religious holidays without jeopardizing the fulfillment of their academic obligations. It is the responsibility of students to review course syllabi as soon as they are distributed and to consult the faculty member promptly regarding any possible conflicts with observed religious holidays. If asked, the student should provide accurate information about the obligations entailed in the observance of that particular holiday. However, it is the responsibility of the student to complete any and all class requirements for days that are missed due to conflicts due to religious holidays.

There may be circumstances that necessitate a departure from this policy. Feel free to contact the WCAS at 617-552-3900 for consultation.

Deadlines
Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the specified dates. Late assignments will be graded accordingly.

There will be no make-up exams except for illness. On the day of the final please let me know as soon as possible that you are ill.

Course Assignments (readings, exercises and/or experiences)

The 4 credit hours for the course will be met mostly through recitation and problem solving each Wednesday night that we meet. Additional learning will occur during email correspondence and office hours. Additional meeting times may be necessary to cover additional information.

It is expected that 2 hours of reading and studying the material as well as producing the homework assignments will be necessary for each credit hour of the class, i.e., 8 hours per week.

Below are the assigned chapters for the course. We will not be covering all of the material within the assigned chapters and the student will only be responsible for what we do cover in class or assigned readings not covered in class. In addition, some material will be presented in class not from the textbook. The student will also be responsible for this additional information.
Course Outline

Topic: Limits, Alternatives, and Choices; Chapter 1

Topic: The Market System and the Circular Flow; Chapter 2

Topic: Demand, Supply and Market Equilibrium; Chapter 3

Topic: Market Failures: Public Goods and Externalities; Chapter 4

Topic: Government’s Role and Government’s Failure; Chapter 5

Topic: An Introduction to Macroeconomics; Chapter 6

Topic: Measuring Domestic Output and National Income; Chapter 7

Topic: Economic Growth; Chapter 8

Topic: Business Cycles, Unemployment, and Inflation; Chapter 9

Topic: Basic Macroeconomic Relationships; Chapter 10

Topic: The Aggregate Expenditures Model; Chapter 11

Topic: Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply; Chapter 12

Topic: Fiscal Policy Deficit and Debts; Chapter 13

Topic: Money, Banking and Financial Institutions; Chapter 14

Topic: Money Creation; Chapter 15

Topic: Interest Rates and Monetary Policy; Chapter 16

Suggested Homework

Chapter 1: 3, 5 (RQ); 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 (Problems)

Chapter 2: 4 (RQ); 2, 4 (Problems)

Chapter 3: 5, 7, 8 (RQ); 1 - 7 (Problems)

Chapter 4: 2, 4 (RQ); 4 - 6 (Problems)
Chapter 5:  2, 3 (Problems)

Chapter 6:  1 - 6 (Problems)

Chapter 7:  3 - 7 (RQ); 1 - 8 (Problems)

Chapter 8:  1 (RQ); 1 - 6 (Problems)

Chapter 9:  3, 6, 8, 9 (RQ); 1 - 7 (Problems)

Chapter 10:  2, 8 (RQ); 1 - 10 (Problems)

Chapter 11:  5, 7, 8 (RQ); 1 - 10 (Problems)

Chapter 12:  6, 8 (RQ); 1 - 5 (Problems)

Chapter 13:  4, 6 (RQ); 1 - 7 (Problems)

Chapter 14:  2, 3, 7, 8 (RQ); 1 - 4 (Problems)

Chapter 15:  1, 2, 6 - 8 (RQ); 1 - 7 (Problems)

Chapter 16:  2, 4 - 6 (RQ); 1 - 7 (Problems)