



**Minzu University of China**  
**ECON302 Intermediate Macroeconomics**  
**Summer 2020**

**Basic Information**

**Class hours:** Monday through Thursday, 2 hours each day  
**Discussion:** Friday, 1 hour (60 minutes)  
**Review Section:** Saturday, 1 hour (60 minutes)  
**Office Hour:** 2 hours (According to professors' teaching plan)  
**Field trip:** According to professors' teaching plan  
**Credit:** 4  
**Total contact hours:** 60 (50 minutes each)  
**Instructor:** TBA

**Course Description**

During the last twenty years our understanding of how economies operate has been transformed. This course will introduce you to the models and techniques developed and used in modern macroeconomic theory and so aim at helping you understand these developments. The instructor will connect the models learned in class to a discussion of the performance of the U.S. economy. We will study economic growth, business cycles, inflation, unemployment, interest rate, and exchange rate, discuss what light modern macroeconomics can shed on these variables. This course will provide you with a rigorous understanding of the mechanisms that drive these variables. Finally, we will evaluate the scope for policy to improve macroeconomic performance. You should know that there is still debate among economists how the economy actually works and what the possible effect of policy measures will be.

**Learning Objectives**

- (i) Students will learn a rigorous treatment of modern models of economic growth originated from Solow model;
- (ii) students will be exposed to a full treatment of modern theories of consumption;
- (iii) students will study the theory of a firm in depth;
- (iv) students will learn that saving/investment is fundamentally a dynamic tradeoff, and that the real interest rate summarizes the costs of that dynamic tradeoff.

**Prerequisites**

You should have taken both principles of micro- and macroeconomics . Also, you should have taken Calculus. Taking the prerequisites currently with this course is a bad idea. If you do not meet the requirements, you should not take this course.

**Required Software**

Aplia access: SSO APLIA MACROECONOMICS INTERMEDIATE (e-book included) SBN-10: 1- 4292-4002-4  
ISBN-13: 978-1-4292-4002-4

**Optional Physical Textbook**

Macroeconomics, N. Gregory Mankiw, Macroeconomics 2016 Ninth Edition, Text ISBN-13: 9781464182891

**What is Aplia?**

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### Registration

Connect to <https://login.cengagebrain.com/course/E8CZ-B32G-95RN> Follow the prompts to register for your Aplia course.

### Payment

After registering for your course, you will need to pay for access using one of the options below:

**Online** You can pay online using a credit or debit card, or PayPal.

If you already entered an access code or bought it online, simply login through the provided link to register for the course.

### System Check

To check whether your computer meets the requirements for using Aplia, go to <https://www.aplia.com/support/sysreq.jsp>

### Additional Readings

These readings are not required, but are of interest to those wishing to delve further into the subject of economics.

The Wall Street Journal and the Economist are often called the diary of economics, the Journal and the Economist are still the leading business publication in the world and familiarity with its various columns, sections, and op-ed pieces is a must for any serious economics majors and non- economics majors to familiarize with the world of economics.

### Calculator

Please bring a “*simple*” calculator to class. Any simple calculator in which you can compute powers like  $x^y$  will be sufficient.

### Teaching Methodology

This course uses a combination of lecture, reading, discussion, and solving questions. The instructor expects you to be an active participant in this learning process by reading the material in advance, discussing theoretical topics, solving practical problems in and out of the class, and working with classmates in a group. Moreover, do not hesitate to contact me for assistance whenever necessary. You must be *proactive* to succeed in this course. You are responsible for all activities and deadlines listed in this syllabus.

The lecture notes are self-contained and are mostly based on the textbook. The relevant chapters are indicated in the course schedule. The textbook can be used as background reading for those who wish to read ahead of the lecture or dig deeper into the material.

### Course Policies

- The instructor does not enforce attendance, but it is your responsibility to attend class, take a in- class quiz, and obtain assignments, lecture, notes, etc., for the days missed. Failure to attend class regularly will seriously affect your ability to understand the material and your performance in the tests.
- If you miss more than 7 classes during the semester, your grade for the course is an automatic F.
- As you can see from the course schedule, we will cover a new topic at nearly every class, so it is critical that you come to class.
- You are expected to be on time, to be prepared for class, and to take notes during class lecture. The instructor will only clarify the class lectures, not “re-lecture.”
- You are asked to show up for class on time. Repeated class disturbances will result in restricted admission.
- You are asked to show courtesy to other students in class. **All smart phones, laptops, and other electronic devices must be turned off before class, and they should not be put on the table.** You will be asked to leave class if phones or other devices interrupt.



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- Students who disturb classmates by taking during class will also be asked to leave.
- You will not be allowed to use a cell phone's calculator feature during the test.
- Quizzes will not be announced in advance, and no makeup will be offered.
- There will be assigned homework which helps you prepare for quizzes and exams.
- **Your attendance and class participation are very crucial to pass this course and get a better grade.**

### Course Grading Scheme

Course requirements include regular attendance and participation in class, readings from the textbook, quizzes, homework and the midterm and final examinations. The following weighting scheme will be used to determine each student's course grade:

Activities	Percentages
Assignments	10%
Aplia problems + in-class activities, participation	40%
Midterm exam	20%
Final exam	30%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Academic Honor Code of Minzu University of China

Minzu University of China defines academic misconduct as any act by a student that misrepresents the student's own academic work or that compromises the academic work of another. Scholastic misconduct includes (but is not limited to) cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing, i.e. misrepresenting as one's own work any work done by another; submitting the same paper, or substantially similar papers, to meet the requirements of more than one course without the approval and consent of the instructors concerned; sabotaging another's work. Within these general definitions, however, instructors determine what constitutes academic misconduct in the courses they teach. Students found guilty of academic misconduct in any portion of the academic work face penalties ranging from lowering of their course grade to awarding a grade of F for the entire course.

### Tentative Course Schedule

\*Please note that the instructor reserves the authority to change the order of topics, or to drop topics from the list. However, he/she will not add new topics.

Weeks	Content	
<b>Part I: Introduction</b>	Aplia HW	1. The Science of Macroeconomics 2. The Data of Macroeconomics
	Aplia	3. National Income: Where It Comes From and Where It Goes
<b>Part 2: Classical Theory: The Economy in the Long Run</b>	Aplia	4. The Monetary System: What It Is and How It Works 5. Inflation: Its Causes, Effects, and Social Costs
	Aplia	7. Unemployment and the Labor Market
	Th 1w-2 w	<b>Review the week and go over the Aplia Problems</b>
	Th 2w	<b>Assignment #1</b>



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		F 1w-2w	Discussions
	2w.	Test 1 ( 1,2,3,4,5,7)	
<b>Part3 Business Cycle Theory The Economy in the Short Run</b>	Aplia	10. Introduction to Economic Fluctuations 11. Building and Applying IS-LMModel	
	Aplia	14. Aggregate Supply and the Short-run Tradeoff Between Inflation and Unemployment	
	Aplia	18. Alternative Perspectives on Stabilization Policy 19. Government Debt and Budget Deficits 20. The Financial System: Opportunities and Dangers	
<b>Part 4 Topics in Macroecono Policy</b>			
		Th 3w-4 w-5w	Review the week and go over the Aplia problems
		Th 4w	Assignment #2
		F 1w-2w	Discussions
		Final Test (Ch.10,11,14,18,19,20)	