Econ 131(211) – Principles of Macroeconomics* (Online)

Instructor: Jie Bai, Ph.D in Applied Economics

- The instructor will guide you through the course material, coordinate homework assignments and quizzes, lead online discussions, hold online office hours, respond to your questions and concerns, etc.
- The recorded lectures are posted on Panopto through MyEconLab. These lectures were presented by Professor Liang Wang at the Economics Department of UHM.

Online Office Hours: Thursdays 9:00-10:00pm or by appointment
Email Address: jiebai@hawaii.edu

Course Description
Macroeconomics is the science of how the overall economy performs. This course will introduce students to the principles of macroeconomics. These principles include but are not limited to the cause and effects of inflation and unemployment, the determinants of economic growth and business cycles, and the effect of fiscal and monetary policy. This course will also acquaint students with the basic concepts of macroeconomics, such as GDP, price level, labor force, exchange rate, balance of payments, etc. There is no prerequisite for this course.

Student Learning Outcomes
By the end of the semester, students are expected to be familiar with the terminology used in Macroeconomics, understand and be able to explain the working of real economy, and apply the basic principles to discuss real-life economic issues. This course will also provide students with the necessary knowledge that should prove useful in understanding and even criticizing various public views about the current economy and economic policies by forming their own informed opinions.

Class Resources
The following course materials are available as a bundle from the bookstore.


*This syllabus is tentative and subject to revision.*
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Students may also choose to go to http://pearsonmylabandmastering.com/ and purchase an e-text. Just click on “STUDENT” under “Register Now”, and then follow the instructions. Make sure use your UH email address for registration. Students will be asked for course ID and then they will have the option to buy the access with or without an e-text. The MyEconLab course ID is “******” with course name “******”.

**Grading Schedule**

There are two methods used to calculate the course grade; I will choose for you at the end of the semester whichever method gives you the higher letter grade. Method I is designed to reward students that show consistent progress throughout the course, whereas Method II rewards those students that show improvement over the semester. The plus/minus system will be used for assigning letter grades. I reserve the right to make any changes to class policy and schedule. You will be informed of any changes that occur.

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<th>Method I</th>
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**Exams**

Mid-term and final exams are completely online. In order to make sure students are indeed taking the final exam by themselves alone, I will request each student to record themselves taking the exams, and then upload the video so that I can see and verify. So students will need internet access, a computer with a camcorder, and a valid ID for the exams. A detailed instruction will be provided before the exams. An alternative option to take exams is to use UH test centers, where online proctoring service is provided. In this case, students don’t need to record themselves, but go to the physical locations taking the exams. Exact exams dates are given in the timetable at the end. Make-up exams would only be given under extraordinary circumstances. If you want

\textsuperscript{1} This ISBN needs to be updated.
to take this course, make sure that you can attend the scheduled mid-term and final exams.

**Homework**
There will be weekly homework assignments online through *MyEconLab*. Homework submitted after the due day will not be accepted. While students are encouraged to discuss with one another, everyone is required to complete his/her online homework individually. Students can get the entire 20% or 15% for homework as long as they correctly answer more than 80% of all the homework questions.

**Quizzes**
There will be weekly online quizzes assigned through *MyEconLab*. Quiz will be available throughout that week, but it has to be finished within a time window, e.g. thirty minutes. These are open-book and open-notes quizzes, but are to be completed individually, without assistance from others. The “study-while-taking” approach will not be feasible given the time limitation. No make-up quizzes are offered. Each student can drop *three* lowest quizzes from grading consideration.

**Class Participation**
At the beginning of each week, I will post some discussion questions on *Laulima*. Students are expected to participate in the discussion by providing own opinions as well as commenting on others’ opinions. During Thursday office hours, I will provide feedbacks on the discussion questions. On the other hand, students are expected to post questions about course materials on discussion board and answer each other’s questions. Student’s participation grade will be given based on my observation of student’s actual class participation.

**Academic Integrity**
Any form of cheating and plagiarism will be strictly prohibited. Failure to comply with University of Hawaii guidelines of academic integrity may result in a failing grade in the course and further action taken by the university. Please review carefully the following page on student conduct code. Do not attempt to test this guideline. [http://studentaffairs.manoa.hawaii.edu/policies/conduct_code/table_of_contents.php](http://studentaffairs.manoa.hawaii.edu/policies/conduct_code/table_of_contents.php)

**Tutoring Service**
Free tutoring service is provided by the Learning Assistance Center. For students who want to sign up for “one-to-one, personalized” tutoring sessions, please visit

**Students with Disabilities**

If you feel you need reasonable accommodations because of the impact of a disability, please (1) contact the KOKUA Program (V/T) at 956-7511 or 956-7612 in room 013 of the QLCSS, and (2) speak with me privately to discuss your specific needs. I will be happy to work with you and the KOKUA Program to meet your access needs related to your documented disability.