

Economics 300A – Spring 2006

Intermediate Macroeconomics (Honors)

Course website: <http://www2.hawaii.edu/~noy/300.html>

MWF 11:30-12:20 (Watanabe Hall 420)

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Office hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10:30-11:15pm, or by appointment.

Email is by far the best way to contact me.

Course Description

Econ 300A is taught in conjunction with Econ 300. The class is an in-depth exploration of how macroeconomic models help us explain and predict the behavior of the aggregate economy in the short- and long- run. We study five modules. We study the Keynesian IS-LM model and show how output and interest rates are jointly determined. We follow that with study of the labor market, and its connections with the markets for goods and money. All these will help us analyze and explain current macro-economic policies and debates. We then extend these models to look at open economies. Following the neoclassical approach, we finish with an examination and critique of the long-run Solow-Growth-Model. This model provides some insights into why some countries develop faster than others. We finish with a closer examination of the practice of monetary and fiscal policy. Honors students will meet with the instructor outside of class-time to determine specific assignments and requirements. These will include short opinion essays on class discussion and short presentation(s) on relevant topics of interest.

Textbook: *Macroeconomics*, by Olivier Blanchard. Prentice Hall, 4th edition (2005)

Grading

Exam I (modules I-II)	25%
Exam II (modules III-IV)	25%
4 problem sets (modules I-IV)	15%
Attendance and participation	15%
Writing Assignments and Presentations	20%

Grades awarded will include +/- notation

Exams

Exams will cover material from lectures, problem sets, writing assignments and the textbook. Exams are not cumulative.

Exam I: TBA

Exam II: TBA

Problem Sets

There will be four problem sets. Problem sets have to be handed in not later than the beginning of lecture the day they are due. No late problem sets will be accepted. An answer key will be posted on the web for each problem set after its due date. Only the three highest grades (out of four) will count for your final grade. Problem sets due dates will be announced in class.

Schedule of Readings in Blanchard:

Precise reading assignments will be announced ahead of time in class and online:

	<u>Chapters</u>	
Module I:	1-2	Introduction to (closed) macroeconomics
	3-5	The Short Run: IS-LM model (1 st problem set)
Module II:	6-7	The Medium Run: AS-AD model (2 nd problem set)
Exam I		
Module III:	18	Introduction to (open) macroeconomics
	19-21	The Short Run: IS-LM-IP model (3 rd problem set)
Module IV:	10-12	The Long Run: The Solow model (4 th problem set)
Exam II		
Module V:	25-26	Fiscal and monetary policy
	24	Policy in a political world

Extra Readings

The class website contains other readings that are divided by subject (according to the course's modules).

Disability Needs

If you feel you need reasonable accommodations because of the impact of a disability, please, (1) contact the KOKUA program at 956-7511 or 956-7612 (rm. 013 at QLCSS) and (2) discuss with me any specific needs related to your documented disability.

Suggestions

Make use of my office hours. I will always respond to emails containing specific questions about the material discussed or the problem sets. You will receive practice exams before both exams and should use those as primary study-guides.