ECON 131 (601) Principles of Macroeconomics
Summer 2009 - Session I
MTWRF 9:00-10:15am, BusAd A102

Instructor: Jaclyn Lindo
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Email: lindoj@hawaii.edu
Phone: 956-5696 (Please DO NOT leave a msg.)
Office Hours: W 10:30am-12:30pm or by appt.

Course Description
This is an introductory course that covers how the economy functions as a whole. Topics include the causes and effects of important macroeconomic indicators, such as output, growth, prices and inflation, and unemployment; the financial markets and the Fed’s monetary policies; the government budget and fiscal policies; business cycles; the determinants of growth rates; exchange rate fluctuation and trade imbalances; and the government’s role in promoting economic growth and stabilizing the economy. Although there is no prerequisite for this course, some topics involve basic algebra (e.g. solving linear systems of equations) and two-dimensional graphical analysis.

Course Objectives
Upon completion of this course, students should: 1) be able to understand and apply basic macroeconomic models; and 2) be equipped to develop informed opinions about the Fed’s monetary and the government’s fiscal policies.

Resources
Required on-line component: CourseCompass in MyEconLab – see below for registration and payment information.

All course communication will be done via CourseCompass. Weekly homework assignments will be completed on-line. Lecture slides, announcements and grades will all be posted on the course website. Students are expected to check the site daily for announcements.

Resource purchasing options
a) Purchase a new textbook bundled with CourseCompass in MyEconLab.
   • If you choose this option, you do not need to purchase anything else.
   • Cost: price of your new bundled textbook ($144.15 + tax at UH bookstore)
b) Purchase a used textbook (not available at the UH bookstore).
   • If you choose this option, you must also purchase a MyEconLab student access code for $30 (see registration instructions below).
   • Cost: price of your used textbook + $30
c) Purchase access to an electronic copy of the textbook (eText) via MyEconLab for $70.
   You will have eText access until February 2010.
   • If you choose this option, you do not need to purchase anything else.
   • Cost of option (c): $70

** Best way to contact the instructor.
Registering for CourseCompass
Before registering, you will need:

1) a valid email address (please use the email that you check on a daily basis);
2) our course ID below; and
3) a student access code. For Option (a) above, there is a code included with your text. For Option (b), you must purchase a code during registration. For Option (c), the code is included with the eText purchased during registration.

How to register:
1) Go to www.coursecompass.com.
2) Click on the “Register” tab under the “Student” option and follow the instructions.

- When it prompts you, our course code is lindo76396.
- Please provide an email address for an account that you check DAILY, as this is the account to which important course correspondence will be sent.

Course Communication
All course communication will be done via CourseCompass. Lecture slides, grades, assignment answer keys and announcements will all be posted on the course website. Please be sure to check the website daily for announcements. In the event of a pressing announcement, an email will be sent to the email address you provided for CourseCompass (however your email address will not be displayed).

If you have any questions regarding any part of the course, please email the instructor.

Grading
On-line homework 15%
Unannounced in-class quizzes 15%
Midterm Exam 30%
Final exam 40%
100%

The plus / minus (+ / -) grading system will be used for this course.

On-line Homework
There will be weekly on-line homework assignments to be completed on CourseCompass. All on-line homework will be made available on Mondays and are due on Sundays at 8:00pm Hawaii Standard Time. You may begin an assignment at anytime after it becomes available, and you have two chances to complete each assignment. While the question concepts are similar in the second attempt, some of the scenarios may change. Both of your attempts will be scored, but only the higher score will count toward your homework grade. There will be NO MAKE-UP HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS offered and no extensions of due dates, so please plan your schedule accordingly.

Unannounced In-Class Quizzes
To ensure that students keep up with the reading and follow the lectures, and to reward those who do, there will be periodic unannounced quizzes worth five points each. Quizzes may be given at any time during a lecture and will take no more than ten minutes. Quiz questions will
come from both recent text readings and lecture. Questions will be multiple choice and will
resemble those found in the homework. Quiz questions are also good preparation for the
exams. There will be NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES.

Exams
There will be one midterm exam and one final exam. The final exam WILL NOT be
cumulative. Exams will be multiple choice and questions will be based on both the text and
lectures. The best way to prepare for the exams is to review the on-line homework and in-
class quiz questions. There will be an in-class review session before each exam.

The midterm and final exams are scheduled for the dates in the schedule below. Please do not
make any travel arrangements that would prevent you from taking either of the exams.
THERE ARE NO MAKE-UP EXAMS UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, AND NO
EXAM MAY BE TAKEN PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED DATE AND TIME. Please
plan accordingly.

Students with Disabilities
If you have a documented disability that requires reasonable accommodations (e.g. for
exams), please contact the KOKUA Program at 956-7511 (located in QLCSS Room 013) to
make arrangements.

Academic Honesty
The University of Hawaii has strict standards regarding academic honesty and does not refrain
from imposing severe penalties for dishonesty. Please consult this section of the University
Catalogue for specific language and possible consequences.

Suggestions for Success
Learning economics involves repeated review of often intricate models. This requires not only
an understanding of economic concepts, but developing the skill to apply such concepts to
real-world examples. Students are thus encouraged to do the assigned readings before
attending the corresponding lecture to maximize absorption of the material. Lecture
attendance and completion of weekly on-line assignments are necessary to keep up with the
material, however they alone will not guarantee success in the course. It is particularly easy to
fall behind quickly in a condensed summer course, thus it is imperative that students seek help
AS NEED. Spending just ten minutes with the instructor after class to clarify questions that
came up during lecture will immensely help your continued accumulation of economics
knowledge. Waiting until the week before the exam to ask a long list of questions is unlikely
to prove a successful learning strategy. If you are unable to meet during any posted office
hours, please email the instructor to set up an appointment.
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