

# INTRODUCTORY ECONOMICS: MACRO

University of Pennsylvania  
Department of Economics, College of Arts & Sciences  
ECON0200 – FALL 2024

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**Instructor:** Luca Bossi      **Office Location:** PCPE 507  
**Email:** [boluca@upenn.edu](mailto:boluca@upenn.edu)      **Zoom OH:** [Mon. & Tue. 4-5pm](#)

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**Class Meeting Day/Time:** M&W 10:15-11:15am or 12-1pm (depending if you are enrolled in section 1 or 2)

**Online delivery policies:** Lectures will be recorded and the material will be made available via Zoom in Canvas. However, **as per college policies, students cannot attend live classes remotely using Zoom.** Recitations will not be recorded.

**Mask Policy:** unless the university changes policies, mask is optional during our lectures and exams. I will wear it. As for recitations: Each individual TA is entitled to decide the mask policy which will apply in their recitations, and you can ask them about this at the beginning of the semester.

**Class Location:** PCPE AUD.

**Recitation Times and Locations:** See [Courses@Penn](#).

## TEACHING TEAM

The TAs are an important component of ECON 200 as they will help you with exercises, material, topics, and quizzes during their recitations and office hours. You should use them and go to their Office Hours as much as your schedule allows and ask questions about the content of the course. The learning assistants (LAs) are also a novel important component of this course. They should act as peers role models and you should ask them question about how to navigate university life and this course in terms of successful tips and strategies. This semester we have the following Teaching assistants:

<b>TA:</b>	Ruben Piazzesi	<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:pruben@sas.upenn.edu">pruben@sas.upenn.edu</a>	<b>OH:</b>	<a href="#">Details here</a>
<b>TA:</b>	Haosi Shen	<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:haosi@sas.upenn.edu">haosi@sas.upenn.edu</a>	<b>OH:</b>	<a href="#">Details here</a>
<b>HTA:</b>	Javier Tasso	<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:jtasso@sas.upenn.edu">jtasso@sas.upenn.edu</a>	<b>OH:</b>	<a href="#">Details here</a>
<b>TA:</b>	Abhijith Vemulapati	<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:abhiv@sas.upenn.edu">abhiv@sas.upenn.edu</a>	<b>OH:</b>	<a href="#">Details here</a>

The details for the town-hall meetings with learning assistants will be posted on Canvas announcements soon. More details on who the LAs are this semester, are posted in Canvas.

## COURSE OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVE

ECON 200 is the first course in macroeconomics and the second course in Economics for Penn undergraduate students. Macroeconomics studies the aggregate behavior of the economy. In the first part of the course, students will learn how to measure economic performance and the meaning of terms such as GDP, inflation, and unemployment. The focus of this course will subsequently be the models that attempt to explain the determination of national output. We will examine the long-run growth of national income as well as its short-run fluctuations (i.e., recessions and booms). Throughout the course we will explore how government fiscal and monetary policy can influence the performance of the economy. *This course fulfills one Curriculum requirement for the*

*Society Sector in the College of A&S*. Hence, this course should “enable students to develop concepts and principles, test theories, and perfect tools that can be used to interpret, explain and evaluate the behavior of human beings in contemporary societies.” The Macro-economy in contemporary societies is where individuals, governments, and institutions interact on a daily basis.

## PREREQUISITES

The official prerequisite for this course is ECON 0100. [This is a Department hard pre-requisite](#). There are no exceptions to this Departmental requirement (i.e. no permission of the instructor). Students cannot take ECON 200 concurrently with ECON 100.

**TEXTBOOK** *Principles of Macroeconomics – 9th edition*, Cengage (ISBN: 9780357133491), Contributing Author: N. Gregory Mankiw.

## COURSE WEBSITES:

- Login in [Canvas](#) system (by default when you enroll in the class).
- Signup to [Mindtap/Cengage/Aplia](#) (from within Canvas), a companion website to complete the online assignments and access the online copy of the textbook. More details and “how to signup” are available in a separate document posted on Canvas.
- *Optional:* [You can network with me on LinkedIn](#) so I could endorse your Macro skills at the end of the semester if you list macro in your LinkedIn skills and send me a reminder then.

You are required to check the Canvas course website regularly. Most of the class material including lecture notes, problem sets, exercises, readings, exam material etc. will be posted online in Canvas. All the weekly announcements will also be found on Canvas. I will assume that each student is aware of all the material posted on Canvas.

## GRADING

Your grade in this course is based on attainment. This means that if you demonstrate a high degree of competence with the material, you will receive a high grade regardless of your relative rank in the class. Your grade does not depend on other students’ performance. You can use the following grading scale to convert your scores into letter grades:

<b>A: &gt; 93</b>	<b>B: 83.5 - 86.99</b>	<b>C: 73.5-76.99</b>	<b>D: 60-66.99</b>
<b>A-: 90-92.99</b>	<b>B-: 80 - 83.49</b>	<b>C-: 70-73.49</b>	<b>F: &lt; 60</b>
<b>B+: 87-89.99</b>	<b>C+: 77-79.99</b>	<b>D+: 67-69.99</b>	

Your overall grade will be based on recitations, in person attendance and participation, 3 exams, and the online Cengage assignments. Failure to attend class might impact your letter grade as well. Exams are open book. Recitation quizzes are closed book.

There are two methods used to calculate the course grade; I will choose the method that gives you the highest letter grade in the end.

These two methods favor the students. The second method will help mitigate the effects of a one-time poor performance during the semester.

**Consistency:**

25% for each of the 3 exams,  
 12% for Cengage assignments,  
 13% for recitation attendance/participation.

**One-off:**

15-30-30% for the 3 exams,  
 12% for Cengage assignments,  
 13% for recitation attendance/participation,

**COURSE STRUCTURE**

You must attend both lectures on Monday/Wednesday and recitations on Thursday or Friday, as the material covered is designed to be different in each. Exams will cover all material covered in the lectures as well as the recitations and the assigned textbook readings. Recitations will usually cover the material of the previous two lectures.

**EXAMS**

Exams are open book but no electronic devices except for a calculator. You cannot use your phone as a calculator. All exams are in multiple choice format and are designed to evaluate mastery of course material. There will be three exams administered during the semester. I will announce the logistical details for the exams on Canvas. Makeup exams will be offered only in extraordinary circumstances and the decision will be entirely at the discretion of the instructor following Penn policies. Only students who contact me before an exam and have a University-approved excuse are eligible to take a make-up exam. Jobs, internships, and job interviews are not a valid excuse. Students who miss an exam and are not eligible for a make-up exam will receive a zero for the exam. In this course **there are no re-take exams**. When you take an exam the grade in that exam will count toward your letter grade for this course according to the grading methods outlined above.

	<b>Dates</b>
<b>Exam 01</b>	<b>Wednesday October 02</b>
	<b>Ch: 1, 2, 10, 11, 15, and my Inequality notes</b>
<b>Exam 02</b>	<b>Wednesday October 30</b>
	<b>Ch: 12, 13, 14, and my Fiscal Policy notes</b>
<b>Exam 03</b>	<b>Monday December 09</b>
	<b>Ch: 16, 17, 18, 19, and my Monetary Policy notes</b>

**There is no final exam for this course.**

**RECITATIONS ATTENDANCE AND QUIZZES**

Recitation in person attendance will be formally taken by the TAs via your signature. Participation through MC quizzes will be accounted for separately. If you are not present at the recitation or if we do not have your signature on records, your quiz will automatically not count as well.

Quizzes are open book but no electronic devices except for a calculator. You cannot use your phone as a calculator. All quizzes are in multiple choice format (5 MC) and are designed to evaluate mastery of course material. You will have 15 minutes to complete your quiz during recitations. Unless there are unforeseen cancellations, there should be a grand total of 12 recitations this semester and 12 quizzes. You can miss up to 3 recitations for whatever personal/religious/health reasons (including COVID and mental health issues) you might have. So that leaves 9 recitations upon which the 13% of the letter grade of attendance and participation is based upon. Half of it comes from attendance/signature and half of it comes from quizzes completion (you need to score at least 3 MC right in the quizzes to get full participation points). If you miss a recitation altogether, or

you scored less than 3 MC right in a quiz, the quiz for that recitation will count as 0 toward your letter grade. If you attend a recitation, but you did not submit the quiz or you scored less than 3 MC right, and you did not miss more than 3 recitations than that is one of the recitations we will be dropping. Alternatively half of the credit (for attendance) will be given for that recitation and half of the credit (participation/missing the MC quiz) will not.

## ONLINE CENGAGE ASSIGNMENTS

Homework (through Cengage/Mindtap/Aplia) assignments are designed as learning processes. In particular, those assignments in this course are mostly related to textbook reading and comprehension. So they are relatively easy. This is by design. There will be 11 assignments, and it is required that you complete them. I will only count the best 10 of them toward your grade. Those overall count for 12% of your letter grade. Assignments will be posted on the Cengage website. You will be notified about their availability and about their due dates within Canvas. Usually (but not always) they become available on Monday morning at 8am and are due the following Monday by 11:59pm. **You can be up to 24 hours late on one assignment only.** You must email me in this case within that 24 hours window and I will re-open the assignment for you. No other late assignments will be accepted. **Being late does not mean receiving a second attempt for the same assignment:** everyone receives just one attempt to work on Cengage assignments. Please do not work on a Cengage assignment if you want to ask and receive the late assignment token. You will receive a zero if you do not submit an assignment at the deadline and you have used the late assignment bonus already. Mindtap system will have strict deadlines embedded, and if you miss it there isn't anything that can be done. Please do plan ahead. Technical problems with your computer or your internet connection are not acceptable excuses either. You have several days to submit the homework: do not leave submission to the last hour of the last day that it is due. Since I will drop the lowest Cengage/Mindtap/Aplia assignment score, if you miss one assignment for whatever reason, that counts as your lowest score and your letter grade will not be impacted. If you miss more than one assignment, that will likely impact your letter grade. Feel free to study with other students and to discuss the material and assignments with your classmates and in fact you are encouraged to do so. However, the work you turn in should be your own. This is because working out problems/quizzes is an essential component to learning economics. Directly copying someone else's problem set or quizzes will be considered cheating.

## REGRADING POLICIES

If you have an issue with your exam, quiz or recitation attendance, or Cengage assignment grade, you must notify me via email within 3 days of receiving your posted grade in Canvas. Late regrade requests will NOT be considered.

## HONOR CODE AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

[Please familiarize yourself with the code of academic integrity at the University of Pennsylvania.](#)

In particular, students are expected and required to:

1. Do not misrepresent work that you did not complete as your own.
2. Do not cheat in examinations, as doing so will result in severe sanctions.
3. Do not take the examinations together with other students or other people or using external help.

If the teaching team catches you cheating during any of the course activities, I will report you to The Center for Community Standards and Accountability (CCSA) and follow standard university

procedures. Any student who is found responsible for violating the Code of Academic Integrity by the CCSA will receive an automatic F in the course. NO EXCEPTIONS.

## **NON-DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF DISABILITY**

The University of Pennsylvania is an equal opportunity educational institution. The University of Pennsylvania is committed to providing equal access to education for all students. If you have a documented disability or you believe you have a disability and would like information regarding academic accommodations/adjustments in this course please contact the [Student Disability Services Office \(SDS\) at the Weingarten Center](#) as soon as possible for more information and/or to initiate the process for accessing academic accommodations. Students are encouraged to contact Disability Services prior to the deadline each time they require an accommodation on a specific assignment. Disability Services staff will consult with the faculty member to determine a reasonable accommodation.

## **BELONGING AND DIVERSITY**

A goal of this course is to prepare students for a major/minor in Econ and a career as economists/public policy experts by giving them a sense of belonging within the field. This can only happen if all members of the course community – the instructor, TAs, and students – work together to create a supportive, inclusive environment that welcomes all students, regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexuality, religious beliefs, physical or mental health status, or socioeconomic status. Diversity, inclusion, and belonging are all core values of this course. All participants in this course deserve to and should expect to be treated with respect by other members of the community. Lectures, office hours, and group working time should be spaces where everyone feels welcome and safe. In order to facilitate a welcoming environment, students of this course are expected to :

- Exercise consideration and respect in their speech and actions.
- Attempt collaboration and consideration, including listening to opposing perspectives and authentically and respectfully raising concerns, before conflict.
- Refrain from demeaning, discriminatory, or harassing behavior and speech.

If you feel like your performance in the class is being impacted by issues related to diversity in this course, please don't hesitate to talk with me. I want to be a resource for you. Remember that you can also submit anonymous feedback (which will lead to me making a general announcement to the class, if necessary to address your concerns). [If you prefer to speak with someone outside of the course, then here is a link with some extra resources for you.](#)

## **STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES**

**For Students experiencing difficulties:** we all have been there where we truly needed a helping hand. Beside coming to talk to me about it or going to your TA and LAs, here are two great resources at Penn.

- [If you are experiencing academic difficulties: CASENET](#)
- [If you are experiencing mental health difficulties: PENNCHART](#)

**Tutoring:** [The Weingarten Center offers a variety of resources to support all Penn students in reaching their academic goals.](#) All services are free and confidential. [There are also some Econ graduate students that can be hired and provide services as Econ tutors.](#) This is a private contract

between you and them.

**OTHER IMPORTANT DATES:** September 10, course selection period ends; October 07, drop period ends; October 25, Grade Type Change Deadline; November 04, last day to withdraw from a course. Last day of classes is December 09.

**VARIOUS CONTACTS:**

- Logistical issues regarding joining a recitation section or changing sections: [Please contact the undergraduate coordinator in the economics department, Emily Romanello](#). She is also very knowledgeable about requirements for majors etcetera.
- [Technical issues regarding Canvas, please go to Penn Canvas help](#).
- [Technical issues regarding the Cengage/Mindtap site, please go to Cengage support](#).
- Concerns about homework, economics in general, or the material covered in class etc: please contact either me or your TA. Concerns about academic life and miscellaneous, please contact an LA.

**VARSIITY STUDENTS:** Students who officially belong to a varsity Penn team might have an additional excuse for missing recitations if they have more than 3 sport competitions officially scheduled during the recitation time. Please contact me about this for details.

**DRAWBACK OF LATE ENROLLMENT:** If you sign up for the class late, and you miss any recitations or graded assignment(s) as a result, those will count as zero.