Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi  
College of Business  
Course Syllabus for Macroeconomics Principles (ECON 2301), LC  
Fall 2020

Course number: ECON 2301  
Instructor: Veysel Avsar
Semester: Fall 2020  
Office Location: OCNR 3
Classroom: CI-113  
Office Telephone: 361-825-2385
Class Time: Tue-Thu 9:30am - 10:45am
Email: veysel.avsar@tamucc.edu

| Office Hours: | MWF 12:00pm - 1:30pm or via WebEx by appointment |
| Optional Materials: | Textbook Study Guide |
| Prerequisites: | None. However, students taking remedial courses in Basic English (ENGL 0399) and/or Mathematics (MATH 0300) are *not* recommended to take this course concurrently. |
| Instructional Methodology: | Lecture, class discussions and activities, readings, quizzes, exams.  
This class is up 50-84% online and it may require synchronous meetings on some days. |

**Course Description**
An overview of how the economy of the United States is organized and functions in a market system. Market processes are used to show how resources and incomes are allocated by households and businesses. Determination of national income, employment, prices, interest rates, and growth are the focus of simple analytical techniques. Monetary and fiscal policies are examined, including their international dimensions. Satisfies the social and behavioral sciences component of the University core curriculum.

**Course Prerequisites**
None. However, students taking remedial courses in Basic English (ENGL 0399) and/or Mathematics (MATH 0300) are *not* recommended to take this course concurrently.

**Learning Objectives**
By the end of this course, students would be able to:

- Understand the subject matter of economics and its relevance to the contemporary world
- Apply core economic principles and reasoning to real-world economic issues (BBA Goal 2, Objectives 1 and 3)
- Discuss and analyze government policy measures and their impacts on economic welfare (BBA Goal 3, Objective 1; BBA Goal 2, Objectives 1 and 2)
- Assess the performance of the U.S. and other economies (BBA Goal 2, Objective 3)
- Effectively review and prepare for the Major Field Test for business majors. (BBA Goal 2, Objective 1)
ECON2301 IN THE CORE CURRICULUM

Relationship to the University Core Curriculum Program:
As an integral part of the Texas Core Curriculum (TCC) and TAMU-CC’s Core Curriculum Program within the framework of the various curriculum perspectives outlined in the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Undergraduate Catalog, through its extensive coverage of related topics and other course requirements, ECON 2301 seeks to enhance students’ intellectual skills in the areas of written and oral communication, mathematical competency, critical thinking and social responsibility.

How Economics 2301 enhances the Texas Core Curriculum skills:
Throughout the course, students in Economics 2301 will have ample opportunities to enhance their proficiency in the four intellectual skills specified in the TCC in relation to social and behavioral sciences:

Communications Skills (COM)
Students do have opportunities to participate in class discussions, ask and answer questions. Homework assignments offer another opportunity for students to exchange ideas in class and/or online and to enhance their listening skills. Students also submit written answers and/or written projects to improve written communication skills with regard to discussing economic issues.

Critical Thinking Skills (CT)
The study of economics is not possible without enhancing the critical thinking skills (CT) found within the TCC core curriculum objectives. The fundamental economic concept of “opportunity cost” and its applications in decision-making process provide Economics 2301 students with a valuable critical thinking tool. The opportunity to employ economic theories and policies to analyze current issues also encourages students to sharpen their critical thinking skills.

Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS)
The study of economics also requires a certain level of empirical and quantitative skills (EQS) found within the TCC core objectives. ECON 2301 requires data analysis and computation in a variety of economics topics.

Social Responsibility (SR)
In ECON 2301, Students are given the chance to study topics that may include economic growth, development, government policy, income distribution, incentives, and property rights. These topics introduce a variety of ethical and intercultural issues that address social responsibility.

Performance Evaluation and Grading
Student performance will be evaluated based on quizzes, homework and three exams. The material covered on exams may include scheduled material from the text, lectures, and other activities such as homework assignments.

A. Exams: 300 points
There will be three (3) exams. Each exam will be worth 100 points.

PLEASE NOTE, this course requires the use of exam-proctoring through Respondus Lockdown Browser (or Examity). In the case of Examity, students may incur an additional cost for the proctoring
service payable to the service provider. Students are responsible for providing webcams to be used in the proctoring. Please use the following link to download and install the TAMU-CC specific lockdown browser.

https://www.respondus.com/lockdown/download.php?id=797913747

B. Assignments: 200 points
Assignments are an important part of the course and is worth 150 points. Homework will be posted in the CONNECT platform. Assignments do not have specific deadlines, they need to be turned in before December 7th.

C. Macroeconomics in the News Project: 100 points
Details will be discussed in class and posted in Blackboard.

*The Official Course Grade is determined by the following scale:*

- A = 540 or above
- B = 450 - 540
- C = 360- 450
- D = 270- 360
- F = below 270

The student’s performance, not the instructor, determines the course grade. No additional work will be given after the final exam to supplement a course grade. Grades are given based solely on student performance, not needs or any personal reasons. It is the students’ own responsibility to ensure that all scores are correct.

**NOTE:** Do NOT rely on the percentage reported to you by Blackboard. That score is based on what you have submitted, NOT on what has been assigned.

**Exam Calendar (Tentative)**
Exam 1: Thursday., Sep. 17th
Exam 2: Thursday., Oct. 22nd
Exam 3: Tue., Nov. 24th

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**Important University Dates and Policies**
For important university days please visit [http://www.tamucc.edu/academics/calendar/2018_fall.html](http://www.tamucc.edu/academics/calendar/2018_fall.html)
For academic policies please go to [http://catalog.tamucc.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=177](http://catalog.tamucc.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=177)

**Other Aspects of the Course**

**Relationship to Other Coursework:** An understanding of why and how the U.S. and other economies work is necessary for one to appreciate or participate in the current policy debates. Economic considerations are pervasive in public policy debates, analysis and decisions. Consequently, a basic knowledge of the macroeconomy and the use of economic reasoning are beneficial to every field of study, more especially business-related studies.
**Ethical Perspectives:** This course considers both the positive approach to macroeconomic issues (i.e., what is) and the normative approach (i.e., what ought to be). As a result, students can develop insight into ethical issues.

**Global Perspectives:** Global economic trends, the economic performance and trade policy impact macroeconomic analysis and policy decisions. As a result, the global and intergenerational perspectives are critical to macroeconomic study.

**Demographic Diversity Perspectives:** Macroeconomic policy impacts various demographic groups differently, while these groups are also able to influence macroeconomic policy differently. Hence, the distributional effects of macroeconomic policy will be examined and discussed.

**Political, Social, Legal, Regulatory, and Environmental Perspectives:** In discussing the role of the government in an economy, various political, social, legal, regulatory, and environment issues and questions arise. These questions and issues are examined in the macroeconomic context, and sometimes, from the macroeconomic viewpoint.

**Attendance Policy:** Students are held responsible for class attendance. Class attendance is a necessary but not sufficient condition for active class participation and satisfactory course performance. Students absent from classes are responsible for making arrangements to submit assignments due, material discussed, and announcements made in class. Assignments/quizzes and exams missed due to absences cannot be made up except for illness, official university travel or other emergencies, in which case a doctor’s note or other official documentation is required to accompany the assignment. **Class attendance will be taken**, and good attendance will be considered when assigning final letter grades if a student’s average is just below the borderline cutoff between letter grades.

**Extra Credit** will be made available from time to time, with each extra credit opportunity worth a maximum of 10%.

**Cell Phone/Electronic Device Usage:** Cell phones are **not** to be used during class. If your individual circumstances REQUIRE that you be available for an urgent phone call, you should turn your ringer on silent. You may not use a laptop for taking notes, unless preapproved by Dr. Kamara, and in such a case, you will be required to sit in the first or second row.

**Academic Integrity/Plagiarism**
University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity, or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a score of zero for the assignment or test, and possibly (1) the grade of “F” for the course, and/or a record of this offense in your permanent university file.

Turning in another student’s work (assignments, quizzes, exams, etc.) without the knowledge of the instructor constitutes forgery of both the student turning in another one’s work and the student who completes the work.

**Student Code of Ethics:** This course, and all other courses offered by the College of Business (COB), requires all of its students to abide by the COB Student Code of Ethics (available online at
Provisions and stipulations in the code are applicable to all students taking College of Business courses regardless of whether or not they are pursuing a degree awarded by the COB.

**Dropping a Class**
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. **Please consult with your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me, before you decide to drop this course.** Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. **Nov. 5** is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

**Statement of Civility**
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high-quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

**Grade Appeals**
As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C0.03, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that her or his grade reflects academic evaluation which is arbitrary, prejudiced, or inappropriate in view of the standards and practices outlined in the class syllabus, may appeal the final grade given for the course. The appeal must focus on specific departures from grading guidelines listed on the syllabus. Dissatisfaction with a grade is not grounds for a successful appeal.

The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C0.03, Student Grade Appeals, and COB-Student Policy 04-STU-03. These documents are accessible through the COB and University Rules Web site at [http://cob.tamucc.edu//Students/Student%20Policies%20and%20Forms.html](http://cob.tamucc.edu//Students/Student%20Policies%20and%20Forms.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

Please note that in this course grading, bonus/extra points are given at the discretion of the instructor and based on a pre-set formula. Bonus/extra points should not be used as a basis to file grade appeal. **ALSO,** the course grade appeal focus is subject to time limitation. A Student is encouraged to question and resolve assignments’ and exams’ grades as soon as grades are posted throughout the semester.
Disabilities Accommodations***
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

Statement of Academic Continuity*
In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.

Last Day of Withdrawal: Only students who complete the course withdrawal form to withdraw from all classes by the Nov. 23 deadline will receive an automatic grade of “W.”

ECON 2301 TENTATIVE* COURSE OUTLINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Economics and Life</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Markets and Basics of Trade</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Measuring GDP</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>• The Cost of Living</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Exam 1, September 18th</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Unemployment and Labor Markets</td>
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<td>• Economic Growth</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Fiscal Policy</td>
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</tbody>
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**Exam 2, October 23rd**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• The Basics of Finance</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Money and the Monetary System</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Financial Crisis</td>
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**Exam 3, November 23rd (Last day of class)**

* Schedule may change due to unexpected circumstances. Any such changes will be announced in class and in Bb.