

INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF JAPAN
Graduate School of International Relations

Academic Year: 2016/2017

Term: Fall

Course	Course code DCC5249	Course title Macroeconomics I	
Name of Instructor	Chun-Hung Kuo		Credit Number: 2
Instructor's contact Information	Office# 327	Office Hours TBA	E-mail: chkuo@iuj.ac.jp
Class Schedule	Monday 10:30~12:00		
Day / Time	Monday 13:00~14:30		

Course Description:

For government officials of modern societies, knowledge of Macroeconomics is indispensable for providing any constructive policy recommendations, which in a large extent affect people's welfare. Even for an ordinary citizen, knowledge of Macroeconomics also plays an important role in understanding complicated (and sometimes confusing) economic phenomena in his/her daily life. Due to this importance, this course is designed to provide students a solid foundation in Macroeconomics. Broadly speaking, the topics to be covered consist of (i) a brief introduction of national income, (ii) the meaning of inflation and its relation to the monetary system, (iii) the models of exchange rates, (iv) the determination of unemployment, and (v) basic economic growth theories. Since this course is introductory, the requirement for mathematics is NOT that high. The college-level calculus knowledge will be sufficient to understand the course materials. Actually, students will only use differential calculus but not integral calculus.

Learning Objectives:

Students are expected to have a deeper understanding of the following concepts:

- (1) What is a macroeconomic analysis?
- (2) The difference between long-run and short-run analysis in Macroeconomics.
- (3) The relationship between inflation and the monetary system
- (4) The relationship between the trade balance and the exchange rate
- (5) The sources of economic growth

Career Relevance:

This course provides foundations and intuitions of relevant macroeconomic issues. After taking this course, students will come up with a better understanding about how the modern society functions and how government policies might affect it. Students aiming for working in either public or private sectors

will find the knowledge of this course indispensable. This course is also the first step for students who plan to pursue even higher education.

Course Context or Rationalization:

The course is designed to provide the foundations of analyzing macroeconomic phenomena. Therefore, we start from introducing the most important macroeconomic concepts such as output, inflation, unemployment, and international trade. Then we discuss the sources of the long-term economic growth. In building these foundations, we adopt the long-term view in the sense that the price level of the economy is treated as fully flexible. It is worth to note that in this course we will not discuss the business cycle issues stemming from price (or wage) rigidity. Students who are interested in the role of the government in the business are encouraged to take Macroeconomics 2 in the winter term.

Delivery Methods:

The course will follow the traditional lecturing form. Students are asked to take their own class notes.

Assessment:

Problem set: 5%
Midterm exam: 45%
Final exam: 50%

Prerequisite:

There is no prerequisite for this course

Textbook(s)

Required:

N. Gregory Mankiw, *Macroeconomics*, 9th Edition, Worth Publishers, May 2015, (ISBN-10: 1464182892; ISBN-13: 978-1464182891)

Reference books/Journal Articles:

Stephen Williamson, *Macroeconomics*, 5th Edition (International Edition, paperback), Pearson, July 2013. (ISBN-10: 1292000457; ISBN-13: 978-1292000459)

Robert J. Barro, *Macroeconomics*, 5th Edition (hardcover), The MIT Press, October 1997. (ISBN-10: 0262024365; ISBN-13: 978-0262024365)

Class Outline	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Data of Macroeconomics 2. The Data of Macroeconomics 3. National Income 4. National Income 5. The monetary system 6. The monetary system 7. Inflation 8. Inflation 9. The Open Economy (I) 10. The Open Economy (II) 11. The Open Economy (III) 12. Midterm Exam 13. Unemployment (I) 14. Unemployment (II) 15. Economic Growth (I) 16. Economic Growth (II) 17. Economic Growth (III) 18. Economic Growth (IV) 19. Consumption Theories (I) 20. Consumption Theories (II)
Others (if any)	The syllabus is subject to modification along the progress of the course.