

Revised March 13-14, 2022

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Upon successful completion of this course, students should have an understanding of the principal ideas in macroeconomics, including:

Comparative advantage(specialization and the gains from trade; globalization)

Macroeconomic measures(real versus nominal calculations; components and concept of GDP; components and concept of unemployment figures; calculation of inflation)

Macroeconomic models(circular flow; monetary and fiscal policy; the market for loanable funds & interest rate determination; the demand and supply of money & price level determination)

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Our textbook is Tyler Cowen and Alex Tabarrok, *Modern Principles: Macroeconomics*. The fifth edition (2021) is the most recent and costs more, but the buy-back price is higher. If you're short of money, buy either the fourth edition (2018), third edition (2015), or the second edition (2013), but avoid the first edition (2010), which is significantly different. Or you may choose to rent the e-text of the book. (Please note that I customarily refer to the chapter numbers, and I'll be sure to mention where they differ between editions.)

Make sure that you are buying the Macro and not the Micro text. I've had students buy the wrong book. Of course, you would never do that!

And be aware that anyone can access the authors' website *Marginal Revolution University* at <https://mru.org/> and watch hundreds of short videos for free.

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I also assign handouts, supplementary readings, and (short) videos on the web.

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“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities.” More details about student workload can be found in University Policy S16-9, Course Syllabi at <https://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>.

There are three components to your grade: three examinations (70%), your twenty best quizzes (20%), and a writing assignment (10%).

The **three exams** consist very largely, if not entirely, of multiple-choice questions created by your instructor. The **two shorter exams** on **Wednesday, March 2**, (worth 15%) and **Wednesday, April 13**, (worth 20%) emphasize what we have covered in the previous 4-5 weeks. The **final exam** on **Fri day, May 20, 7:15 – 9:30 AM** (worth 25%) is comprehensive but with a major emphasis on what we have covered since the second exam.

There are at least thirty objective quizzes worth 20%. Each quiz is worth one point, allowing students to drop or miss at least ten quizzes. Quiz scores are calculated pro rata so that 10/10 on a quiz is worth one point, and 5/10 is worth half a point.

Quizzes are based on my lectures and chapters from Cowen and Tabarrok, *Modern Principles: Macroeconomics*, and test your knowledge of key concepts. And two quizzes are based on videos that we watch together.

The writing assignment is worth 20%. I'll distribute detailed instructions on Wednesday, March 16. Your completed assignment is due by 6 PM on Monday, April 18.

The SJSU Writing Center is there to assist you. <https://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/>



95-100	A+	90-94	A	85-89	A-
80-84	B+	75-79	B	70-74	B-
65-69	C+	60-64	C	55-59	C-
50-54	D+	45-49	D	40-44	D-
0-39	F				

If every student does first-rate work, I'd be delighted to award everyone an A.

I am happy to help you. If you experience any difficulty in this course, please do not hesitate to come to me for help. I am available during office hours and by appointment, and I am always happy to clarify difficult concepts, resolve any lingering confusion, or otherwise assist you in making this course enjoyable and rewarding.

"A minimum aggregate GPA of 2.0 SJSU Studies (R, S, & V) shall be required of all students as a graduation requirement." To see full text, review [University Policy S11-3](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S11-3.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S11-3.pdf>



Class attendance is not mandatory and will not directly affect a student's grade.

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The schedule is subject to change with fair notice (announcement in class)

You may read the Registrar's spring 2021 calendar here: <https://www.sjsu.edu/registrar/calendar/spring-2022.php>

