

LAKES REGION COMMUNITY COLLEGE

379 Belmont Road
Laconia, NH 03246
(603) 524-3207

COURSE OUTLINE/SYLLABUS SHEET

COURSE NO: SOSC2320L

COURSE TITLE Macroeconomics

CREDIT HOURS: 3

CLASSROOM: <https://ccsnh.instructure.com/>

SEMESTER: Spring 2020 January 21 – May 8, 2020

INSTRUCTOR NAME: Rick Underbakke, Ph.D.

E-MAIL ADDRESS: runderbakke@ccsnh.edu

Phone: 309.235.6252

OFFICE LOCATION: Virtual

CONFERENCE HOURS: Tuesday and Thursday 10-11AM or by appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course provides an introduction and framework to the economic concepts that are studied in macroeconomics. Emphasis is placed on the following topics: physical and financial markets, national income accounting, savings and investment, business cycles, economic growth, inflation, unemployment, money and the central bank, and the role that government plays in the economy.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Define and explain economic terms.
- Analyze economic concepts using graphical representations.
- Explain the economic way of thinking by applying the following: scarcity, specialization, opportunity cost, marginal analysis, and production possibility.
- Apply the supply and demand model for economic analysis.
- Define the key macroeconomic indicators used to measure the performance of the aggregate economy including output, price level, and employment.
- Utilize the aggregate demand and aggregate supply model to explain the amount of goods/services produced, the level of unemployment, and price level.

- Define fiscal policy, budget deficits, and the national debt and explain their impact on the macroeconomy.
- Define money, banking, and monetary policy and explain their impact on the macroeconomy

TEXT/INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT NEEDED:

OpenStax College,

Principles of Macroeconomics

<https://cnx.org/contents/QGHIMgmO@11.13:JgDXaOLP@11/Introduction>

The online text is free, you can download the text, read it online, or purchase a copy from the book store. The information is the same in any of the text.

Software Requirements:

To ensure my ability to open your submissions must be made with Microsoft Office 2013 or higher. The programs are the same for Mac or PC users. The file extension for your submissions should be .docx. I do not have the software to open many other formats.

BASIC ONLINE COURSE EXPECTATIONS:

Participation and learning: Popular online education shows that you will learn best in your online class if you “touch” the material 4-5 times per week. This class is set up in a way that will allow you to work on your Economics homework over several days, I require you to be in class a minimum of two days per week but expect to see you much more often.

Email: You are required to use your official CCSNH issued email account. I will communicate exclusive via CCSNH email. Make sure you check your email not less than 3 days per week.

Computer and Internet: You are responsible for ensuring that you have a reliable up-to-date computer, updated virus protection, and Internet connection to access the course materials and complete course activities. I recommend you make alternate arrangements in case of unexpected problems.

Credit: Online Program students should expect to spend approximately 10 hours per week on course-related matters (per three-credit course). You should consider this when deciding how many credits to register for each term.

NETiquette:

Communication and postings in discussions should be professional in an online course. Instant Message Acronyms are not acceptable. Your submissions will be reduced by up to 30% if you use IM language. Remember that your body language and tone will not be

communicated in an online environment Emoticons can help with this but they should be used sparingly.

QUESTIONS:

General Course Questions:

To ensure efficient student-instructor communication and to assist others who may share your thoughts, please post all general course-related questions to the “General Course Questions” discussion area found under “Getting Started” in the online classroom. Only those inquiries of a confidential nature should be submitted to the instructor using email

GRADES AND FEEDBACK:

Generally speaking I am in the class daily, except Sundays and some Fridays, and will give feedback to your posts and assignments or emails within 2 days. Grades will always be posted by the fourth day following submission and no later than 4 days after the last day of the online week. If your question goes unanswered for more than 48 hours please resubmit the question.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING CRITERIA

Student Introductions

Student Introductions is the first discussion item. Since we may never have the opportunity to meet face to face, please introduce yourselves to your peers.

Current Events Discussions and Participation

During the term you will be expected to complete Current Event Article Reviews.

- A current event has to be within the last 30 days.
- Current events have to be at least 3 paragraphs to receive full credit.

The assignment will consist of

- A summary of the article
- How the article relates to the chapters we are studying.
- Your personal view and opinion on the article or event.
- How the topic or event impacts you.
- Work Cite your information.

Here is a good example of a previous student’s work.

[Current Event .docx](#)  

Current Event Discussions provide an active learning environment for you and your peers to master the content in this course. There are two parts for a Current Event - Initial Response to the prompt and Participation.

Initial Response to prompt: you will be asked to research concepts or topics from the class. All original postings must address each topic entirely and be AT LEAST 300 words to receive full credit. Your responses must be based on research from the textbook

or Internet, with citations. If you can also apply the topic to your life experiences, it can create more clarity for you and your classmates.

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 - Your personal view and opinion on the article or event.
 - How the topic or event impacts you.
 - Work Cite your information.
- Post a response to a minimum of 2 of your peers posts.

Here is a good example of a previous student's work.

[Current Event .docx](#)  

Participation in Discussions: The minimum requirement for participation is 2 days of each 7-day online academic week. Participation does not include your Initial Response. It means to actively engage by substantively contributing or responding to your peers' discussion posts in all weekly discussion threads. Substantive means comments that demonstrate comprehension and involve dialogue which extends the depth and/or breadth of discussions. 'I agree' or 'disagree' alone or similar statements will not be considered as a substantive response.

Reflections

During some weeks, you will complete a Reflection using the discussion area. A prompt will be provided each week for you to respond in your words. It should not be more than 75 words. You are welcome but not required to respond to others posts.

Assignments

Vocab quizzes

Each week There is a Vocabulary Quiz covering each of the chapters for the week. The Vocabulary quizzes are matching questions with between 5 and 10 vocab words per question. You will have 3 times to complete the vocab quizzes, they are not timed, and your highest score will be used. The Vocab words are taken directly from the back of the chapter. Please try at least the first attempt without using this. The Vocab quizzes are part of your homework, not the exam portion of the grade.

Problem Sets

There will be a Problem set due each week which you will be expected to work through to help you understand the tools economists use to explain concepts and models. To demonstrate understanding you will be expected to show work, as needed and provide a clear explanation of the problems at hand. Prepare your assignment either in Excel or Word as needed and submit to Canvas.

Concept Paper

There will be one opportunity to do a Concept Paper. Your analysis should include theory you learned in class, as well as real life application found through research and personal

or professional experience. A concept paper is typically 3-5 pages and must be prepared in a word processing program (i.e. Microsoft Word). The concept paper will also be an opportunity to hone your APA style writing.

Quizzes (Open Book)

There are 4 open book quizzes. Each quiz consists of 5 short answer questions (5 points each) randomly selected from the Review Questions at the end of each chapter and are timed at 30 minutes each with one attempt.

Research Paper

Three weeks prior to the end of the term you will be expected to identify your final topic, create a cover page, table of contents, and an introduction/thesis statement and at least 3 of your works cited. This will help you with APA formatting and allow yourself time to research and process the information.

During the final week, you will submit a research paper. This paper should be 8-12 pages in length in APA format and include at least 5 works cited.

Your paper should be on an issue covered in this class. Some suggestions may be:

- Monetary policy Friedman's theories
 - Money creation
 - Interest rates
 - Taxation
- Fiscal policy- Keynesian theories
- Hyperinflation (Select a specific country-Argentina, Greece, Chili, etc.
- Market Failure and Public Goods.
- Impact of tariffs- i.e. proposed 20% tax on Mexican goods, or breaking the GATT or other trade agreements
- Select your own topic of interest and propose it to me.

Include causes and possible solutions, as well as implications on economic systems and unintended consequences. Use theories learned in this class in your evaluation. Also, if possible include examples from your life experiences to support your research.

Grading Criteria:

The course letter grade will be based on the following weighting.

Grades will be weighted as follows

Current Event Discussion Questions	25%
Homework (Problem Sets and Vocab Quizzes)	25%
Quizzes	20%
Concept Paper and Final Research Paper	25%
Reflections	5%
Total	100%
Extra Credit	3%

Grading Scale

This course will use +/- grades.

Letter Grade	Percent	Points
A	93-100%	930 – 1000
A-	90-94%	900 – 929
B+	87-89%	870 – 899
B	83-86%	830 – 869
B-	80-84%	800 – 829
C+	77-79%	770 – 799
C	73-76%	730 – 769
C-	70-74%	700 – 729
D+	67-69%	670 – 699
D	60-66%	600 – 669
F	0-59%	0 – 599

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Academic Affairs Notice

Attendance

Regular attendance is expected for all scheduled classes, and enrollment privileges may be withdrawn for excessive absences. In addition to academic expectations involved with attendance, veterans and students receiving financial aid from certain sources may be required to maintain required attendance as a condition for such aid. Individual instructors may have attendance policies which fit the particular requirements of their courses (as well as grading policies based on class participation).

Classroom Etiquette

Academic integrity is of primary importance in the classroom. Both students and faculty are responsible for creating and maintaining an environment that supports effective instruction. It is therefore imperative that students and faculty demonstrate mutual respect. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom may compromise the learning and performance of all students present. Such inappropriate behaviors include, but are not limited to: late arrivals/early departures; loud or prolonged side conversations; use of cell phones, computers (other than for legitimate academic use), iPods (or similar devices), etc.; use of derogatory or vulgar language. All students are expected to abide by the Student Code of Conduct, published in the LRCC Student Handbook, and are subject to sanctions as described therein for any violations.

Texting and Cell Phones

Students are not allowed to text or use cell phones in any classroom or lab at LRCC. Please turn cell phones and other personal electronic devices off before you enter the classroom and keep them stored out of sight.

Laptop Computers

At the discretion of the classroom Instructor, laptop computers may be used for educational purposes only, and any violation of appropriate use will lead to the loss of privilege of use. NOTE: Your instructor should be consulted BEFORE you record or tape the lecture. S/he will alert the students in the class that they may be recorded in the course of the classroom interaction or participation.

Information Technology Acceptable Use Policy

Access to CCSNH technology resources is a privilege, not a right. Accepting access to these technology resources carries an associated expectation of responsible and acceptable use. Failure to abide by the

responsibilities articulated in the policy may result in loss of privileges. This policy is available to read or download at: <http://www.ccsnh.edu/about-ccsnh/information-technology>.

The Teaching, Learning & Career Center

The TLCC provides free academic assistance for all LRCC students who would like to improve their grades. The TLCC offers professional and peer tutoring in subjects such as writing, math, accounting, computer and science classes. Also offered are disabilities services, study skills. The TLCC also has a computer lab available for student use. The Teaching, Learning and Career Center is located on the second floor of the **Turner Building in room 216**, or call **524-3207** for more information.

Disabilities Services

It is the mission of Lakes Region Community College's Disabilities Services to provide equal educational access, opportunities, and experiences to all qualified students with documented disabilities who register with the college's Disabilities Services office. Reasonable accommodations are provided to students to allow them to achieve at a level limited only by their abilities and not their disabilities. Assistance is provided in a collaborative way to help students develop strong and effective independent learning and self-advocacy skills, as they assume responsibility for reaching their academic goals. Contact Maureen Baldwin at mbaldwin@ccsnh.edu or call **524-3207**.

Bennett Library

The Bennett Library delivers information resources and services to support on-campus and distant student learning. Print, electronic databases and multimedia materials, along with a computer lab, provide students with academic support. Library services including reference, inter-library loan, and library instruction assist students with their studies. For more information, see the Bennett Library Web page at www.lrcc.edu/library/index.html, stop in, or call **524-3207, ext. 6727**.

Plagiarism/Cheating Policy

Honesty is expected of all LRCC students. In academic matters this includes the submission of work that clearly indicates its source. Dishonest acts include cheating and plagiarism. Cheating is defined as copying or otherwise using material from others, or using sources not approved by faculty. Plagiarism is defined as using the work (ideas, words, artwork, etc.) of another person as one's own. The failure to cite sources or the extensive use of others' work in written material are the most common types of plagiarism. Cheating and plagiarism are considered serious disciplinary matters and are subject to the same penalties and procedures as other LRCC disciplinary matters.

Students should be aware that penalties levied in substantiated cases of cheating or plagiarism may include the issuance of a grade of F, which may in turn lead to delay of graduation. Repeated offenses may lead to dismissal from a program or from the college. Refer to the Academic Honesty Policy in the Student Handbook.

Cancellation/Delayed Start of Classes

When the President deems it prudent to cancel all classes at the college, students will be notified via LRCC Alerts through their college e-mail. In order to receive ALERTS via phone and/or text messaging, students need to register (opt in) and provide emergency contact information by going to www.lrcc.edu and clicking on the LRCC Alerts logo. Be sure to have your Student ID and CCSNH email address to register. Please be aware that text messaging fees for your phone plan will apply. The announcement will also be made on WMUR-TV, Channel 9 and listed on the college website at www.lrcc.edu. Occasionally, the President will opt for a delayed start to classes. This means that students should be prepared to begin their school day with whatever activity they would normally be doing at the announced opening time. For example, if morning classes are cancelled, students should plan on attending any class that begins at or after noon.

Grade Reporting

Final grades are not mailed to students. It is the student's responsibility to review his/her final grades online via the Student Information System at www.lrcc.edu. Any appeal of a grade must be initiated by the student with instructor before an ensuing semester has elapsed. (See the college catalog for the complete policy on appeal of grade.)