

Lakes Region Community College
379 Belmont Road
Laconia, NH 03246
(603) 524-3207

SOSC 232
Macroeconomics
Rick Underbakke Ph.D. Instructor
runderbakke@ccsnh.edu
Phone: 309.235.6252

Virtual Office-hours Tues 10-11 AM and Thurs 11:30 AM-noon or appointment

Class site: <http://ccsnh.instructure.com/>

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Macroeconomics analyzes the determinants of aggregate economic activity and the effects of government policy intended to achieve full employment, price stability and economic growth. Course examines the standard formulas to measure the nation's production and income and spending; analyzes unemployment and inflation, aggregate demand and supply, fiscal policies, investment and financial markets, money and banking and the Federal Reserve and monetary policies. (Fulfills Social Science requirement)

COURSE GOALS:

To develop within the student the ability to record, classify, summarize, and interpret Microeconomic information. Stress will be placed on graph interpretation and table data interpretation.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- The student will:
- 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

COURSE MATERIALS

As an online student, it is solely your responsibility to make sure that you have access to all required course materials by the start of the term.

Required Textbook

As an online student, it is solely your responsibility to make sure that you have access to all required course materials by the start of the term.

Required Textbook

OpenStax College,

Principles of Macroeconomics

[https://cnx.org/contents/QGHIMgmO@11.13:JgDXaOLP@11/Introduction \(Links to an external site.\) \(Links to an external site.\)](https://cnx.org/contents/QGHIMgmO@11.13:JgDXaOLP@11/Introduction)

Software requirements

All assignments and current events must be submitted using Microsoft Office 2013 or newer. You can get a free copy of MS Office 365 from MCC. (For Mac or PC) Contact the IT department.

MY SUPERVISOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION

It is my hope that this course meets your every expectation as a challenging, engaging, and respectful learning experience. If you find this not to be the case, I would welcome the opportunity to address your concerns. This is not only a courtesy; it is a matter of process and procedure. Should we fail to arrive at a mutually satisfactory understanding,

you should take the matter to my immediate supervisor, Stephen Freeborn: sfreeborn@ccsnh.edu.

VALIDATION OF ENROLLMENT/NON-ATTENDANCE

Note: Make sure to activate the course on or after the first official start day of the course. Enrollment for each online course must be validated by attending class (posting one or more times to any area of the online classroom) during the first 14 days of the term. Failure to validate enrollment when courses begin will result in a grade of NA (never attended) and removal from the course. An NA will be recorded on your transcript and financial aid funding may be affected.

BASIC ONLINE COURSE EXPECTATIONS

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 14 - 15 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

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE:

The Academic Success Center provides free academic assistance (tutoring) to all NHCTC students who would like to receive help in a class. The sooner you contact ASC, the sooner you will start to receive help! You can call ASC at 206-8140 for more information.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students with disabilities who need accommodations should contact the Coordinator for Disability Services, Jamie Laurent, in the ASC office at 206-8142 or email jlaurent@ccsnh.edu. Please refer to the Policies and Procedures Manual for Services Available for Students with Disabilities. As a courtesy, it is recommended that requests for accommodations be made at least one week prior to when they are needed.

GRADES AND FEEDBACK

Generally speaking I am in the class daily, except Friday and Sunday. I 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.

Discussions and Participation

Discussions provide an active learning environment for you and your peers to master the content in this course. Discussions are a MUST in an online course for student-student, student-content & student-instructor interaction for active learning. There are two parts for a discussion - Initial Response to Discussion Question and Participation.

Initial Response to Current Event Discussions: you will be asked to discuss concepts or topics from the chapter. All original postings must address each topic entirely and be 3-4 paragraphs, a minimum of approx 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.

Participation in Current Event 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.

Current Event Discussions

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.
- a substantial comment on a minimum of 2 of your peers' current event discussion.
- You will need to use turnitin to submit these.

The Current event 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.

You must actively participate in the Current Event Discussions by responding to peers' posts in the current event discussions.

Participation in Current Event 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.

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

[Current Event .docx](#)

Reflections (Discussion) During many 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 will be a vocab quiz covering the new vocabulary we will see in the chapter. Understanding the vocabulary of Economics will help you understand what you are reading in the chapter.

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.

Concept Paper

There will be one opportunity to do a Concept Paper. Your paper should cover a sustainability issue. This can be an environmental, financial, military, or other issue that is of interest to you. 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.

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 monetarism or Neoclassical theories
- Deficit and Debt
- 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.

Exams

Each Unit will have a short quiz. Each quiz consists of 10 Multiple Choice questions randomly selected from a question pool and are timed at 15 minutes each the quiz consists of the material covered in each unit. You will have 2 attempts to complete the quiz.

Makeup quizzes will be handled on an individual basis. You may make up ONE (1) quiz during the semester, no questions asked. It is your responsibility to contact the instructor prior to the quiz due date if you are unable to take the quiz by the due date. The arrangement can then be made for a makeup quiz. Makeup quizzes must be completed within one (1) week of the original due date.

Grading Criteria:

The course letter grade will be based on the following grading criteria.

Grades will be weighted as follows:

Current Events	20%
----------------	-----

Homework	20%
----------	-----

Vocab Exercises	20
Quizzes	20%
Research papers	15%
Reflections	5%
Total	100%
Extra Credit	3%

Grading Scale

This course will use +/- grades.

Letter Grade Percent

A 93-100%

A- 90-92%

B+ 87-89%

B 83-86%

B- 80-82%

C+ 77-79%

C 73-76%

C- 70-72%

D+ 67-69%

D 60-66%

F 0-59%