

Principles of Macroeconomics

Course	Economics 1110.015 – Principles of Macroeconomics
Time and Place	WH 222, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30pm – 1:50pm
Instructor	Mr. Bryan Dickson
Email	bryan.dickson@unt.edu
Office	Wooten Hall 334
Drop-in Hours	Mondays and Wednesdays 2:00pm-3:00pm, & by appointment

Course Textbook

Required Text: Introduction to Macroeconomic Methods and Models (2025 edition)

Publisher: Top Hat; Authors: Kari L. Battaglia/Susan L. Dadres

This course requires the interactive digital textbook *Introduction to Macroeconomic Methods and Models*. The digital text and related assessments are accessed using the Top Hat platform (www.tophat.com). Top Hat is a Learning Management System (LMS) that interacts directly with Canvas once a Top Hat account is properly created.

To purchase the book for this course, go to **Econ 1110.015** in Canvas and click on Top Hat LTI 1.3 link or deep link for Top Hat. If you already have a Top Hat account, the textbook for this course will be added to your course lobby after the text is purchased. If you are new to Top Hat, you will be prompted to create an account once you click on any launch or deep link for Top Hat.

Make sure you purchase the digital text for **Econ 1110.015, Spring 2026**. Do NOT use a copy of the text that was purchased by another student because this would prevent you from getting homework credit. You may purchase an access code for the textbook by going to the Top Hat website (<https://tophat.com>) and purchase access online. You can also purchase an access code for the textbook from the UNT bookstore.

For instructions on how to download the Top Hat app, please refer to the Top Hat's Getting Started Guide (<https://bit.ly/31TGMlw>). Please note **you cannot create an account through mobile applications**.

Should you require technical assistance with Top Hat at any time, please contact their Support Team directly by way of email (support@tophat.com), the in-app support button, or by calling 1-888-663-5491. Specific user information may be required by their technical support team when troubleshooting issues.

You can visit the Top Hat Overview (<https://success.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Top-Hat-Overview-and-Getting-Started-Guide>) within the Top Hat Success Center which provides a brief overview on working with this platform.

Other Course Materials

This is an in-person lecture class; you will need **notetaking supplies** for each lecture. Taking notes on paper is recommended. If you use an electronic device for note-taking, replacement notes are not available in the event that you lose your device or notes. A dedicated **calculator** should be brought to every class period and to all exams. Calculators will not be provided and cannot be shared. You may not use any other device, such as a phone, tablet, or laptop, as a calculator.

Number 2 pencils must be used for exams and some in-class graded work. Pencils are not provided.

Course Summary and Objectives

The purpose of this course is to develop and use economic theory to understand the relationships between macroeconomic variables, how they change over time, and what policy instruments can be used to influence them. National output, income, employment, the general level of prices, and interest rates are some of the primary variables of interest. The topics covered in macroeconomics are those which appear in the newspaper and affect our daily lives. A basic understanding of how the economy works is essential not only to further scholarship but also to personal decision-making and so is relevant to all students.

Course Objectives (CO):

CO 1. Describe how market forces result in an efficient allocation of scarce resources.

CO 2. Explain how product markets achieve equilibrium and identify factors that cause equilibrium price and quantity to change.

CO 3. Describe macroeconomic goals and the measurements used to evaluate the economy's performance.

CO 4. Illustrate how recessionary and inflationary gaps develop and compare the options of allowing the economy to self-correct versus using policy tools to achieve economic goals.

CO 5. Contrast the Classical approach of laissez-faire with the Keynesian approach of active policy management and identify the strengths and weaknesses of both approaches.

CO 6. Describe how the tools of fiscal policy are managed by the federal government and the impact of these tools on the economy as well as the government's national debt.

CO 7. Describe how the tools of monetary policy are managed by the Federal Reserve and the impact of these tools on the economy as well as financial markets.

CO 8. Predict the impact of different policy options on the economy's behavior in both the short run and the long run.

Grading Policy

Your final grade in this course will be determined from your scores on homework, in-class graded work, in-class essay, and exams.

Homework (Top Hat)	10%
In-Class Graded Work and Quizzes	20%
In-Class Essay	5%
Exam 1 (20%) Lowest mid-term	40%
Exam 2 (20%) exam grade is dropped	
Exam 3 (20%) for the course grade	
Comprehensive Final Exam (Required)	25%
Total	100%

Course grades are assigned according to the following scale:

A = $\geq 90\%$ B = 80 – 89.99% C = 65 – 79.99% D = 50 – 64.99% F = Below 50%

You can monitor your performance (grade) in the course by logging into Canvas on a regular basis. You can also see me during my office hours or email me for an appointment if you have concerns about your progress during the semester.

See <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/spring-academic-calendar.html> for the Spring 2026 academic calendar and important University dates. Links to information about dropping this course or withdrawing from all classes can be found at <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration-guide>. If you decide to drop this course, you do so in your MyUNT portal. Instructors are not able to drop students from their class.

A grade of incomplete will be assigned according to UNT policy on incompletes. Before requesting a grade of incomplete, read this policy at <http://registrar.unt.edu/grades/incompletes>.

Exams

Exam dates and the chapters to be covered are listed below as well as on the Course Calendar. Students are allowed 50 minutes to complete exams 1, 2, and 3 and 120 minutes to complete the final exam. Exams will be returned in class, but I reserve the right to re-collect them and keep them on file. **You must bring a UNT student identification card, a non-graphing calculator, and number 2 pencils to each exam.**

Midterm Exam Policy: We realize that students may miss an exam due to unforeseen circumstances. If you miss one midterm exam (Exam 1, Exam 2, Exam 3) for any reason, that zero exam grade will be the one dropped. If you take all three midterm exams, the lowest of the three grades will be dropped.

Final Exam Policy: The final exam is **mandatory** and cannot be dropped. If you miss the final exam for an excused reason (documentation will be required), you must immediately contact your instructor. Your instructor will determine the best course of action.

Homework

Homework assignments come from the Top Hat e-textbook. Graded work in Top Hat counts 10% of the semester course grade. Homework is due every week except exam weeks. See Course Calendar.

In-Class Graded Work

In-class graded work may take several forms, including written quizzes, essays, and class participation activities. In-class graded may **only be taken in person the day of class** and accounts for 20% of the semester course grade.

In-Class Essay

Students are allowed 20 minutes to complete an essay in class on March 23. An in-class essay requires the use of information and tools acquired in this class to analyze and interpret real world events. Detailed instructions will be distributed in class. An in-class essay accounts for 5% of the semester course grade.

Examination Dates

Exam 1 (Ch. 1, 2, 4, 5 & 6) Thursday, Feb 12

Exam 2 (Ch. 7 - 10) Thursday, Mar 26

Exam 3 (Ch. 11 - 13) Thursday, Apr 23

Final Exam (Comprehensive through Ch. 13) Thursday, May 7; 10:00pm-12:00pm

COURSE CALENDAR

Class Week	Text Material Covered:
Week 1 Jan 12-16	Chap 1 Economic Methods and Models + Chap 2 Addressing Scarcity
Week 2 Jan 19-23	Chap 2 Addressing Scarcity + Chap 4 The Supply and Demand Model Chapters 1 & 2 Homework (TopHat 1.1, 2.1) due Friday 1/23
Week 3 Jan 26-30	Chap 4 The Supply and Demand Model + Chap 5 Unemployment and Inflation Chapter 4 Homework (TopHat 4.1) due Friday 1/30
Week 4 Feb 2-6	Chap 5 Unemployment and Inflation + Chap 6 Income and Output Chapters 5 & 6 Homework (TopHat 5.1 & 6.1) due Friday 2/6
Week 5 Feb 9-13	Exam 1: Thursday, February 12 (Chapters 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6)
Week 6 Feb 16-20	Chap 7 Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply Chapter 7 Homework (TopHat 7.1) due Friday 2/20
Week 7 Feb 23-27	Chap 8 Introduction to the Classical Model Chapter 8 Homework (TopHat 8.1) due Friday 2/27
Week 8 Mar 2-6	Chap 9 Introduction to the Keynesian Model Chapter 9 Homework (TopHat 9.1) due Friday 3/6
Week 9 Mar 9-13	No class: Spring Break
Week 10 Mar 16-20	Chap 10 Government in the Macroeconomy: Fiscal Policy Chapter 10 Homework (TopHat 10.1) due Friday 3/20
Week 11 Mar 23-27	In-Class Essay: Tuesday, March 24 Exam 2: Thursday, Mar 26 (Chapters 7-10)
Week 12 Mar 30-Apr 3	Chap 11 Money, Banks, and Interest Rates Chapter 11 Homework (TopHat 11.1) due Friday 4/3
Week 13 Apr 6-10	Chap 12 Government in the Macroeconomy: Monetary Policy Chapter 12 Homework (TopHat 12.1) due Friday 4/10
Week 14 Apr 13-17	Chap 13 Monetary Theory: the Impact of Money on the Macroeconomy Chapter 13 Homework (TopHat 13.1) due Friday 4/17
Week 15 Apr 20-24	Exam 3: Thursday, Apr 23 (Chapters 11-13)
Week 16 Apr 27-May 1	Dead week – Class will meet Tuesday, Apr 28 No class Thursday April 30
Week 17 May 4-8	Final Exam: Thursday, May 7; 10:00pm-12:00pm, WH222

Go to <https://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/spring.html> for the UNT schedule of final exams.

Classroom and Exam Accommodations

If you are eligible for course accommodations under the ADA, be sure you have registered with the Office of Disability Access (ODA). Please schedule to meet with me if you would like to discuss your accommodations in person. For exam accommodations, you must schedule to take your exams at ODA according to the deadline set by ODA. Extended test time and other test accommodations are not provided otherwise.

Principles of Economics Help Center

To assist you with this course, our department is happy to make a Help Center available for your use during the regular semester. The Principles of Economics **Help Center** is located in **Wooten Hall, room 310** and will be open for student use starting **Monday of the second week of the semester**. Hours of operation are on the Help Center Information Sheet posted on Canvas. **Read through the Help Center Information Sheet prior to going to the Help Center for assistance.**

Attendance Policy

Class attendance is expected and will significantly increase your chances for a better understanding of economics and a better grade in this course. Additionally, quizzes and graded work which you might miss by failing to attend may lower your grade. There may also be bonus points awarded during the semester which you may miss if you do not attend class.

Personal Electronics Policy

Please do not take/make phone calls in class. Step out into the hall if needed. Do not be distracting in class. Do not film/record the instructor in any way and **do not** place Mr. Dickson's image on-line in any form! Cell phones, headphones, ear buds, and other devices not previously approved may not be used during exams. The only device allowed during exams is a calculator. Please refrain from "doomscrolling" in class – its rude!

Contacting Me

In person: office hours listed on the first page of this syllabus. You do not need an appointment to see me during my office hours. If you are unable to meet during my office hours, please email me to set up a mutually convenient time.

Via Email: All email must be sent through your UNT student email address (my.unt.edu) specifically to me at **bryan.dickson@unt.edu**. Email from any other source or to any other email address is unlikely to make it through UNT filters and will not be answered. Please include your name and course in the subject line... I have 500+ students. 😊

Technical Help

Contact the Help Desk if you have any problems using Canvas.

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu Phone: 940-565-2324

Visit the website for additional information and hours of operation: <https://it.unt.edu/helpdesk>

For Top Hat technical assistance, see the second page of this syllabus.

Please read the following UNT policies that apply to all courses at UNT.

Copyrights

Class lectures are protected by state common law and federal copyrights. They are the original expression of the Instructor and may be recorded at the same time as delivered in order to secure protection. Whereas, you are authorized to take notes in class thereby creating a derivative of the lecture, the authorization extends only to making one set of notes for your PERSONAL USE. You are not authorized to record lectures or to make commercial use of them without the Instructor's prior express written permission.

Disability Accommodation

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You

may request reasonable accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, refer to the ODA website at <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access/index.html>. You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

The Economics Department cooperates with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have not registered with ODA, we encourage you to do so. Please present your written accommodation request during the first two weeks of the semester if possible.

AI Use

The "unauthorized" use of any person or technology that assists in a student's assignment, project, or paper is considered cheating under the UNT Student Academic Integrity Policy (UNT Policy 6.003). Unless a professor or instructor gives explicit "authorization," AI cannot be used to complete assignments, projects, or papers. Doing so will result in a "cheating" violation.

Academic Integrity Policy

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. The UNT Department of Economics adheres to the University's Policy on Cheating and Plagiarism. To view the complete Student Academic Integrity policy, go to <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>.

Individuals engaging in activities that may be construed as cheating or plagiarizing should be prepared for the consequences; one consequence is to receive an "F" for the course. Please see below for further information on and explanation of cheating and plagiarism.

Cheating: The use of unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise, including but not limited to:

1. use of any unauthorized assistance to take exams, tests, quizzes or other assessments;
2. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems or carrying out other assignments;
3. acquisition, without permission, of tests, notes or other academic materials belonging to a faculty or staff member of the University;
4. dual submission of a paper or project, or re-submission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor;
5. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage on an academic assignment.

Plagiarism: Use of another's thoughts or words without proper attribution in any academic exercise, regardless of the student's intent, including but not limited to:

1. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement or citation.
2. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials.

Important note: if you are retaking this class, all assigned work must be completed as instructed. Submitting work or answers from a previous semester constitutes cheating and will be treated as such.

Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

Classroom Conduct: Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with the Instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the Instructor may refer the student to the appropriate University office. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-012>. See section IX for a list of the Categories of Misconduct and section X for a list of the Sanctions for Misconduct.

Sexual Assault Prevention

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT's Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim's compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565- 2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or 940-565- 2759.

Student Affairs and Dean of Students Office

For a comprehensive list of all of the services available to UNT students, please visit the Division of Students Affairs website at <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/departments/>. Access to student-related policies, information, and services can be found at <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/index.html>. The Dean of Students is part of the Division of Student Affairs. The Dean of Students office provides a wide range of services and information for students such as Academic Rights, Gowns for Grads, and Student Legal Services.