

**Syllabus**  
**University of Wisconsin Stevens Point**  
**Econ 110 Principles of Macroeconomics – Section 10 Fall 2012**  
**Stefan Ruediger**  
**Office: CPS 430**  
**Office Phone: 715-346-4071**  
**Office Hours: TWR 11am-12pm and by appointment**  
**Email: [stefan.ruediger@uwsp.edu](mailto:stefan.ruediger@uwsp.edu)**

**Introduction:**

Macroeconomics is the study of the general structure of the economy and the relationships between the major economic aggregates: households, businesses, and the government. The focus will be on basic concepts that economists use to analyze economic problems and on applying these concepts to a wide variety of issues. Macroeconomists study the level of output of the economy, the prices, interest rates, and the government's role in affecting these levels.

**Textbook:**

The textbook (Macroeconomics: Principles and Applications, 6th edition, by Hall and Lieberman, Cengage) is very important for this course. We will not cover each Chapter and not every topic from every Chapter. Use the reading list to find out which Chapters will be covered during the semester. Please read the assigned chapters (see outline) on a regular basis; there will be a discussion forum on D2L ("raise your hand"), where you can post questions, comments, or suggestions about the Chapters or ask me or your classmates for help with specific topics. You are welcome to read the entire book and contact me if you have questions about topics not covered during class.

**Course Outcomes:**

- Define unemployment, GDP, inflation, fiscal policy, and monetary policy.
- Calculate and use unemployment, GDP, and inflation to analyze macroeconomic performance.
- Apply the Aggregate Supply, Aggregate Demand model to analyze equilibrium outcomes in the macroeconomy.
- Analyze the effects of fiscal and monetary policy to the macroeconomy.

**Exams (D2L)**

All exams will be done online through D2L. In order to access the exams on D2L click on the link "Quizzes". You have 45 minutes to complete the exam once you started. Within the exam you cannot move backwards through the pages. You have to do one question after another. You will only be able to view one question at a time. The first two exams will consist out of 30 Multiple Choice question and 1 True/False question which will be counted as a bonus question. The final exam will cover Chapters 5-14, but with an emphasis on Chapters 10-14. The final exam will consist out of 45 multiple choice questions and one True/False extra credit question.

**FINAL EXAM:** Dec. 17th 12:01 AM – Dec 21st, 2012 11:59 PM

## **Homework Assignments (Aplia) - fee required!**

You will have **weekly** homework assignments and quizzes; all homework assignments have to be done online and can be found on the webpage [www.aplia.com](http://www.aplia.com). Pay attention to the due dates! It is required for this class that you check the webpage twice a week! The lowest two scores will be dropped. We will have 15 homework assignments. Here is an example of how to calculate your grade; let's assume that you got the following scores on the homework assignments: 0.76, 0.62, 0.94, 0.33, 0.43, 0.3, 0.56, 0.16, 0.49, 0.91, 0.72, 0.93, 0.91, 0.22, 0.39; your average score would be a 0.58, but since the lowest two scores will be dropped your score would increase to a 0.64 (or 64%).

## **Class Participation (D2L):**

### **Online Discussion Forums**

You will be required to participate in online discussion forums. You will be able to access the online discussion forum on D2L. You are supposed to post one discussion items/postings every two weeks (you can find exact due dates on D2L). Mention your discussion topic in the subject line of your post.

You have two options for a discussion post (150-300 words):

1) **Reflective Post:** You can write a short post explaining how one of the topics of the just-completed textbook chapters relates to your life. There are no wrong answers, but a summary of the chapter is not acceptable. You are expected to reflect on the material from the chapter and determine the way(s) in which it is meaningful to you either for the past, present, or future. Provide a specific example and explain how it relates to your life.

2) **News Post:** You can write a post using a news item that is related to one of the topics of the chapter. You need to explain how the news item is related to the topic of the chapter, provide the link, and provide your opinion about the news item.

In addition to your own postings for you are required to respond to one posting of your classmates for each discussion forum. Responses such as: "I agree, don't agree, like, don't like" or similar phrases do not count. Each posting & response needs to include a minimum of 100 words. The grades for the online discussions will be based on participation.

### **General Class Participation:**

As part of your participation in the class, you are also required to complete the following three assignments:

- Introduce yourself to the rest of the class – use the appropriate D2L discussion forum
- Do the scavenger hunt – you can find the scavenger hunt in D2L under the link "content"
- Read the "Netiquette and Distance Tips" document and respond to it using the appropriate discussion forum on D2L

### **Policies:**

Check your email daily for important updates and information about the course; no excuses for missing or late homework assignments due to hardware and/or software failure will be accepted, the university is providing you with several computer labs on campus; Makeup exams will only be provided with proper medical or legal documentation and notification prior to the exam date.

## Grading Scheme:

100-96%	<b>A</b>	89-86%	<b>B+</b>	77-72%	<b>C+</b>	59-55%	<b>D+</b>
95-90%	<b>A-</b>	85-82%	<b>B</b>	71-66%	<b>C</b>	54-50%	<b>D</b>
		81-78%-	<b>B-</b>	65-60%	<b>C-</b>		

## Grading

<b>Exam1</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Exam 2</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>Homework (Aplia)</b>	<b>35%</b> (2 lowest scores will be dropped)
<b>Online Participation Grade</b>	<b>10%</b>

Grades will be rounded at my discretion. Neatness and professionalism counts!

## Final Grade Calculation:

### Example:

To show how final grades are calculated I am going to use the numbers from all of the previous examples: Let's say you got a 76% in the first exam a 64% in the second exam, and a 78% in the final exam; your final grade would be calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & 15\% * 76\% \text{ (Exam 1)} \\ + & 15\% * 64\% \text{ (Exam 2)} \\ + & 25\% * 78\% \text{ (Final Exam)} \\ + & 35\% * 80\% \text{ (APLIA-Homework)} \\ + & 10\% * 75\% \text{ (Online Participation)} \\ = & \mathbf{76\% = C+} \end{aligned}$$

## Academic Integrity:

Academic Integrity refers to the "integral" quality of the search for knowledge that a student undertakes. The work a student produces, therefore, ought to be wholly his or hers; it should result completely from the student's own efforts. A student will be guilty of violations academic misconduct if he/she a) knowingly represents work of others as his/her own, b) uses or obtains unauthorized assistance in the execution of any academic work, or c) gives fraudulent assistance to another student. For a complete definition of Academic Misconduct and a list of Students Rights and Responsibilities please refer to: <http://www.uwsp.edu/admin/stuaffairs/rights/rightsChap14.pdf> and <http://www.uwsp.edu/admin/stuaffairs/rightsandresponsibilities.aspx>

## Disability Services:

The University offers several different services for students with Disabilities; for further information please do not hesitate to contact me. You can also have a look at the following website to get more information about the services that the university offers:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/special/disability/student/Student%20Information.aspx>

## Course Outline - Reading Schedule

Please plan to read each chapter until the date listed below. I am providing you with PPT slides, which summarize the most important aspects of each chapter. Not all topics from each chapter are relevant to this class. Once you are done reading the Chapter you can start working on the homework assignments and quizzes.

Week 1	Tuesday, September 04, 2012	Syllabus, D2L assignments, Chapter 1
Week 2	Monday, September 10, 2012	Chapter 2
Week 3	Monday, September 17, 2012	Chapter 3
Week 4	Monday, September 24, 2012	Chapter 3, Exam Preview and Review
Week 5	Monday, October 01, 2012	<b>EXAM 1</b>
Week 6	Monday, October 08, 2012	Chapter 5, Chapter 6
Week 7	Monday, October 15, 2012	Chapter 7
Week 8	Monday, October 22, 2012	Chapter 8, 10
Week 9	Monday, October 29, 2012	<b>EXAM 2</b>
Week 10	Monday, November 05, 2012	Chapter 11
Week 11	Monday, November 12, 2012	Chapter 12
Week 12	Monday, November 19, 2012	Chapter 13, Thanksgiving
Week 13	Monday, November 26, 2012	Chapter 14
Week 14	Monday, December 03, 2012	Chapter 15
Week 15	Monday, December 10, 2012	Chapter 16, Exam Preview and Review
Week 16		<b>FINALS</b>

**All homework assignments and quizzes are due each Monday night at 11:00pm. Please follow the reading list above. Read all of the material available for Chapter 1 (book and PPT slides on D2L) during the week of September 6<sup>th</sup>. The assignments for Chapter 1 are due on September 10<sup>th</sup>, Monday, at 11:59pm. There are a several assignments due for Chapter 1, check Aplia and D2L. Each following Chapter have two assignments, online discussion and homework. Exams are also online. You have to take the exams on D2L. Exam times starts on the dates specified in the reading list. You can start each exam within 72 hours after the specified date. Once you start the exam you have 45 minutes to finish it. Exams can be found on D2L, clicking on the link “quizzes”.**

## Prescription for Success

- 1) **Review** the lecture notes **daily**. Reconstruct (not just recopy) all graphs and explanations; that is, be able to illustrate and explain the various concepts and models.
- 2) **Ask** questions if you are confused or simply do not fully understand something. By asking questions, you (and other students in the class who probably have the same question) will benefit by understanding the material more quickly and efficiently.
- 3) **Study and work through** the review/practice questions.
- 4) **Complete** all homework assignments.
- 5) **Read** the Financial Times, The Economist, and/or Wall Street Journal other economics and business publications to observe and learn how the economic principles developed in class are used to analyze, explain and understand “real-world” economic and business phenomena. You can also read on the many econ-blogs that are available online (just do an online search for “economics blogs”).
- 6) **Consult** tutors, who are available through the Tutoring and Learning Center ([www.uwsp.edu/tlc/](http://www.uwsp.edu/tlc/)) if additional one-on-one help is desired or needed. Appointments for this free, individual tutoring must be scheduled several days in advance.
- 7) **Study** in groups. Study groups are extremely helpful for several reasons: If you struggle to understand a certain topic, you can quickly ask one of your classmates during a study group meeting; you can discuss homework problems together; explaining topics from class to your classmates is the best practice you can get.

# How to access your Aplia course

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## ECON - Macro 6e - Online Course - Fall 2012

**Instructor:** Stefan Ruediger

**Start Date:** 09/03/2012

**Course Key:** 7QBW-LDJ4-5GSJ

### Registration

Aplia is part of CengageBrain, which allows you to sign in to a single site to access your Cengage materials and courses.

- 4) Connect to <http://login.cengagebrain.com/> or [www.aplia.com](http://www.aplia.com)
- 5) Click the **Create a New Account** button, and enter your course key when prompted: **7QBW-LDJ4-5GSJ**. Continue to follow the on-screen instructions.

### Payment

**Online:** Purchase access to your course (including the digital textbook) from the CengageBrain website.