



Dr. Marcel Bluhm
The Wang Yanan Institute for Studies in Economics
Xiamen University

Introduction to Macroeconomics

Course Description:

This is an introductory course to macroeconomics designed for the double degree program at WISE. The main objective of the course is to provide participants with a basic understanding of macroeconomic theory. The course covers classical economic theory, economic growth theory, and business cycle theory. This framework will provide the basis to analyze several macroeconomic policy questions during the course.

Course Language:

English

Class Time and Location:

Sunday 9:00 am to noon, Room 401, Nanqiang II

Note: the first class takes place on 20 September

Course Requirements:

Grades for this course will be based on weekly quizzes (20%), participation and discussion (5%), a midterm exam (25%) as well as a final exam (50%). Note that class attendance is required and will be observed. Attending less than 2/3 of the lectures without medical justification and official documentation of it automatically leads to not passing the course requirement. Being absent without bringing notice to the TA within 24 hours as well as medical justification or official documentation within 1 week is counted as absence.

Discussions during class will be based on short economic texts (mostly from the Economist and the Financial Times) which are outlined further below.

There will be several weekly quizzes throughout the term, each for about 20 minutes. A test is always about the previous weeks lecture's subjects, including the discussion text for the current day. Questions will be similar to suggested questions at the end of the treated chapter of the course textbook, but also include questions discussed with respect to the assigned readings. A test will always take place when class starts, so people coming late to class lose valuable time. There is no exception to this policy without medical justification and official documentation of it. The final exam will be aligned to the questions of the tests.

Course Website:

www.marcelbluhm.com

Course Logistics:

Classes emphasizing problem solving skills will be taught by:

吕丹 (Dan Lv)

lvxindan@126.com

Contact and Office Hours:

Marcel Bluhm

Office: Room E402 in Economics Building

(Version 14.9.13, Winterterm 2013/2014)

E-Mail: bluhm@xmu.edu.cn

Office Hours: Wednesdays 15:00- 17:00 or by appointment

Course Material:

All course material will be made available on the course website.

The textbook for the courses is G. Mankiw (2009): *Macroeconomics*, 7. Edition, New York: Worth Publishers.

WISE DOUBLE DEGREE PROGRAM -- PROCEDURES AND POLICIES 2013-2014

COURSE PREREQUISITES:

Students are expected to have successfully completed all prerequisites prior to taking a course.

COURSE ATTENDANCE:

Regular class attendance is expected of all students. Three (3) or more unexcused absences will result in automatic failure for the course. For excused absences, the student must submit a leave request to the instructor for approval and supply supporting evidence as required by the instructor. Five (5) or more absences (unexcused plus excused) will also lead to automatic failure for the course.

MAKE-UP EXAMS:

Make up exams are possible for the final exam only if the student has another exam scheduled at the same time. This should be pre-arranged with the instructor and the program secretary at least three weeks before the final exam. Make up final exams may also be possible for documented medical emergencies.

GRADING POLICY AND GRADING SCALE:

The double degree program uses the Gauss or Gaussian Curve for grading. The Gauss Curve, or normal distribution curve, is used by many top schools around the world and caps the number of A's and C's that can be received by a student. The curve promotes a healthy degree of competitiveness among students, but also provides several benefits to students.

The final grade assigned will be determined by the criteria shown in the following table:

Excellent	90 – 100	Top 10% in class
Good	85 – 89	Following 15% in class
Sufficient	75 – 84	Middle 50% in class
Average	70 – 74	Next 15% from the bottom of class
Below average	60 – 69	Bottom 10% of class
Fail	0 – 59	Penalization for significant academic failure or flagrant violation of the Ethics Code

Grades are curved only among students in a section, not across the entire program.

SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY:

The double degree program defines scholastic dishonesty broadly as any act by a student that misrepresents the student's own academic work or that compromises the academic work of another. Examples include cheating on assignments or exams, plagiarizing (misrepresenting as one's own anything done by another), unauthorized collaboration on assignments or exams, or sabotaging another student's work".

Students, who copy assignments, allow assignments to be copied, or cheat on quizzes will fail the assignment or quiz on the first offense, and fail the entire course on the second. Cheating on mid-term or final exams will result in automatic failure for the course. Students with two (2) cheating records will be dismissed from the program.

STUDENT CONDUCT AND CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR:

Students are expected to contribute to a calm, productive, and learning environment. Please check the

following webpage for information on student classroom behavior issues:

<http://www.wise.xmu.edu.cn/viewNews.asp?id=3912> .

COMPLAINTS OR CONCERNS ABOUT COURSES:

Please contact your instructor or TA if you have any complaints/concerns about the course. If your concerns are not resolved after talking with your instructor, you can contact:

Jingjing Deng (*jingjingdeng.wise@gmail.com*)

Office: A308 Economics Building

Dingming Liu (*cxwmptq220@gmail.com*)

Office: B506 Economics Building