

ECON 2212Q/ECON 5202

Quantitative Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory/Macroeconomics

Spring 2024

(Tentative)

Instructor Information

Professor: Kai Zhao

Office: Oak Hall 349

Lecture format: in person lectures

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Office Hours: Mondays 3:00 pm – 4:30 am, via online appointments.

Description

This course provides a rigorous treatment on the materials covered in Intermediate Macroeconomics. We begin by examining some basic macro facts about the U.S. economy. We then move on to talk about macroeconomic models that emphasize on the micro-foundation of the aggregate economy. During the semester, we will cover the following topics: (i) Basic Facts motivating macroeconomics (ii) Basic Macro Models: one-period model, two-period model (iii) Theories of economic growth, and (iv) selected topics in macro (if time permits).

Evaluation

- (i) Homeworks (30%): 2, 15% each.
- (ii) Midterm Exams (30%, 15% each): on Feb 21 and March 23 (tentative).
- (iii) Final Exam (40%): cumulative, (date to be announced).
- (iv) **Additional work for ECON5202 students** (15%, replacing part of homework credit):
 - a. Each student will be assigned a research paper after the second Midterm;
 - b. Submit a review essay of that paper by late April (date to be announced).

Textbook

Macroeconomics (6th edition) Stephen D. Williamson, Pearson, 2017.

Course Outline (tentative)

Basic Facts motivating macroeconomics

- (1) Economic Growth and Business cycles
- (2) National Income Accounting
- (3) Nominal and Real Price Indices
- (4) Business Cycle Measurement
- (5) Other measurement issues

Basic Macro Models I: One-period model

- (1) Basic concepts
- (2) Work-leisure decision
- (3) Competitive equilibrium concept

Basic Macro Models II: Two-period model

- (1) Saving decision
- (2) Government
- (3) Ricardian Equivalence

Theory of Economic Growth

- (1) Basic Facts about Economic Growth
- (2) Solow Growth Model
- (3) Endogenous Growth Model (if time permits)

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The University of Connecticut is committed to supporting students in their mental health, their psychological and social well-being, and their connection to their academic experience and overall wellness. The university believes that academic, personal, and professional development can flourish only when each member of our community is assured equitable access to mental health services. The university aims to make access to mental health attainable while fostering a community reflecting equity and diversity and understands that good mental health may lead to personal and professional growth, greater self-awareness, increased social engagement, enhanced academic success, and campus and community involvement.

Students who feel they may benefit from speaking with a mental health professional can find support and resources through the [Student Health and Wellness-Mental Health](#) (SHaW-MH) office. Through SHaW-MH, students can make an appointment with a mental health professional and engage in confidential conversations or seek recommendations or referrals for any mental health or psychological concern.

Mental health services are included as part of the university's student health insurance plan and also partially funded through university fees. If you do not have UConn's student health insurance plan, most major insurance plans are also accepted. Students can visit the **Student Health and Wellness-Mental Health located in Storrs on the main campus in the Arjona Building, 4th Floor**, or contact the office at **(860) 486-4705**, or <https://studenthealth.uconn.edu/> for services or questions.

Accommodations for Illness or Extended Absences

Please stay home if you are feeling ill and please go home if you are in class and start to feel ill. If illness prevents you from attending class, it is your responsibility to notify your instructor as soon as possible. You do not need to disclose the nature of your illness, however, you will need to work with your instructor to determine how you will complete coursework during your absence.

If life circumstances are affecting your ability to focus on courses and your UConn experience, students can email the Dean of Students at dos@uconn.edu to request support. Regional campus students should email the Student Services staff at their home campus to request support and faculty notification.