

ECON/INTL. ST. 13: Global Economy

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Summer Session I, 2022

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Office Hours: T/Th 2-3pm

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Office Hours Link: uci.zoom.us/j/92273552334

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Class Hours: T/Th 9-11:50am

Class Room: SSPA 1165

Course Objective

This course is intended to serve as an introduction to economics, primarily to International Relations majors. The main objectives of the course are to (i) provide you with an overview of some basic structural concepts in economics and (ii) familiarize you with the nature of the global economy. Ideally, you will be able to apply the concepts and skills you acquire in this class to better understand the nuances of global economics and to think and articulate clearly about various events around the world that shape economic climate and policy.

Required Materials

The assigned textbook for this course is **The Economy**. This e-book is free and available online via the CORE program. I recommend that you register as a student so that you may gain access to the variety of learning materials pertaining to this textbook. My means of instruction will be via presenting slides, writing lecture notes, and reviewing additional material such as articles, graphs, or data. I will post these materials as needed to our Canvas page after each class. Feel free to supplement the lectures with any additional sources you deem necessary to improve your understanding of the coursework. While I will attempt to keep the use of math and algebra to a minimum, you will inevitably need to do some arithmetic or draw graphs. As such, I recommend bringing a calculator with you to lectures.

Note that it is important to associate class concepts with real-world phenomenon to cement your understanding. For this tactic to be effective, you should be familiar with current, large-scale, economic developments from across the globe. You may utilize whatever sources you find suitable to stay up-to-date with global events. Personally, I am partial towards the **Wall Street**

Journal. If you prefer a simple and no-frills approach to news, you can try [The New Paper](#) but it requires a small monthly subscription fee.

Attendance

Attendance is not mandatory at lectures but is strongly encouraged. Owing to the fast pace of the summer session, success in this course will significantly depend on you being present and attentive during lectures. A qualitative understanding of the material is required to do well on your assignments and exam; this will not be possible unless you come to class and participate in conversation. Note that you are responsible for any announcements made in class. Claiming absence will not be considered a sufficient excuse to miss deadlines.

Assignments

Weekly assignments will constitute an important part of your learning process as well as your final grade. Homework will be assigned weekly on Thursdays and should be submitted under the “Assignments” tab on Canvas prior to lecture on the following Thursday. You may collaborate with other students but you must turn-in your own assignment, written in your own words. Please do not email homework or turn-in physical copies to me. Late homework will not be accepted under any circumstances unless previously agreed to by myself. Such concessions will only be granted for legitimate reasons that will be determined at my discretion.

In addition to homework, I will post a discussion prompt on our Canvas page under the “Discussions” tab every week. These will be uploaded and will be due at the same time as your homework (see above). You are expected to provide a brief and informed response to this prompt in the form of a 100-200 word essay. In each such response, you must provide a link to at least one news article, journal publication, or report that supports the argument you are making.

Final Exam

There will be a take-home final exam for this course that will be posted on Canvas and will be available starting on Monday, July 25 at 8am. You will have until Tuesday, July 26, 11:59pm to work on the exam and submit it on Canvas. Aside from legitimate medical concerns or emergencies that are supplemented with verifiable proof, no alternate/make-up exam will be provided nor will any late submissions be accepted. Please make any travel plans so as to not conflict with our final exam. The best way to prepare for the final exam is to review notes from lectures, revise your homework assignments, clarify doubts early, and stay engaged and attentive the whole quarter.

Grading Policy

The grading scale below will be used. I reserve the right to curve the scale dependent on overall class scores at the end of the quarter. Any curve will only ever make it easier to obtain a certain letter grade.

Grade	\geq Score
A+	96%
A	93%
A-	90%
B+	87%
B	83%
B-	80%
C+	77%
C	73%
C-	70%
D+	67%
D	63%
D-	60%
F	below 60%

The grade will count the assessments using the following proportions:

- 45%: Final exam
- 30%: Homework assignments
- 20%: Discussion responses
- 5%: Class participation

Course Policies

During Class

I understand that the electronic recording of notes may be important for class and so computers/tablets will be allowed in class. You may also use calculators for any numerical exercises. Please refrain from using electronics for anything but activities related to the class. Keep your phones on silent mode and do not use them unless absolutely necessary during lectures as they are rarely useful for anything in the course. Eating and drinking are allowed in class but please refrain from it affecting the course.

Copyright Policies

All course content created by the course instructor including but not limited to this document, lecture slides, homework assignments, exams, and answer keys are copyrighted by the course instructor and/or UC Irvine. Please do not share or distribute course materials to any person or corporation. Violators will be reported to the university administration.

Academic Integrity and Honesty

This class has a strict zero-tolerance policy regarding infringement of academic integrity. The minimum academic penalty for cheating on a homework assignment or exam is a zero grade for the assignment or exam in question and the maximum academic penalty will be a failing grade for the course. Additional administrative penalties may be imposed by the university. I will not hesitate to report suspected cheaters to the Office of Academic Integrity & Student Conduct. By deciding to take this class you are inherently accepting the university's policies that you may find [here](#).

Accommodations for Disabilities

In case a student require special accommodation, they must submit to me documentation from the Disability Services Center within the first two weeks of the quarter, which will allow us to make arrangements for their specific needs. Information regarding the UCI Disability Services Center is available [here](#).

Course Schedule

The schedule is tentative and subject to change. The learning goals below should be viewed as key concepts you should grasp after each week and also as a study guide before the final exam.

Week 1

Chapters: 1, 2, and 3

- Intro and syllabus
- Free markets and the capitalist revolution
- Economic models
- Scarcity, choice, and tradeoffs

Week 2

Chapters: 6, 7, and 8

- Firms and consumers
- Markets
- Demand and supply

Week 3

Chapters: 13 and 14

- Aggregating the economy
- Unemployment
- Fiscal policy

Week 4

Chapters: 15 and 16

- Inflation
- Monetary policy
- The long-run economy

Week 5

Materials covered in the final week will depend on class interests.

Chapters: 17, 18, and 19

- Historical booms and busts
- Globalization
- Inequality