

Syllabus
Econ 2203 Introduction to Macroeconomics (Distance)
Spring 2016

Dr. Jim Fain
 429 Business
 (405) 744-8651
 jim.fain@okstate.edu

Office Hours
 TR 9:00am-11:00am
 and by appointment

Course Objectives	Program Learning Goals
Students will understand how the economy's health is measured.	Business Knowledge & Competency
Students will understand the factors that contribute to economic growth.	Business Knowledge & Competency Critical Thinking
Students will understand the role of money in the economy.	Business Knowledge & Competency
Students will understand the role the federal government plays in managing the nation's economy.	Business Knowledge & Competency
By the end of the semester students should be able to understand most articles about the U.S. economy that might appear in <u>Business Week</u> , <u>The Wall Street Journal</u> , the Business Section of <u>The Daily Oklahoman</u> or <u>Tulsa World</u> or any other mainstream news source.	Business Knowledge & Competency

Required Course Material: We are going to use a book by Mankiw (Brief Principles of Macroeconomics, 7th ed.) and employ online instructional material from Sapling. In D2L under Contents→Course Administration is a file called “How to get started with Sapling.” Follow the directions in this file to access Sapling. You can have full and complete access to Sapling (including the ability to do homeworks) **without paying** until the end of the day on January 24, 2016, so you should **NOT** pay until you are certain that you will remain in this class. Sapling includes access to the online homeworks ONLY. You will need to acquire a physical book or an ebook from some other source.

While you can access this material for free initially, you eventually have to pay. You have two payment options. You can pay with a credit card or PayPal directly from the Sapling website. Alternatively, you can purchase an access card from the OSU bookstore. The advantage of using the bookstore is that you can charge it to your Bursar account. Many scholarships that include a course materials component will only cover items appearing on your Bursar bill, so consider this before you choose a method of payment. There are no refunds after you open an access card, so you should **NOT** open an access card until you are certain that you will remain in this class.

Assignments

Weighting: There will be 3 tests and a comprehensive final exam. There also will be a number of homework assignments throughout the semester. The weighting of these is as follows: your **lowest** test score is worth 10% of your grade, with the two other tests worth 22.5% each. The final exam is worth 25% of your grade. Note that the weight of the final exam is 25% regardless of how well or how poorly you do. Your homework score will count for the remaining 20%.

Homeworks and Sapling: Homework will be administered electronically using Sapling. Each homework assignment will have a date and time by which it must be completed--late assignments will not be accepted. You must have internet access to complete the homeworks.

The homework assignments will not all contain the same number of questions or be worth the same number of points. At the end of the semester I will add to your total homework points a number equal to the average number of points per homework assignment. This has roughly (but not exactly) the same impact on your grade as dropping your lowest homework score. Nobody can get over 100 percent of the homework points, but I find that usually 20 to 30 percent of the class ends the semester earning a 100 percent on their homeworks (after I add the above-mentioned points).

Tests: There will be three tests and a comprehensive final exam. Each of the three tests contains 40 multiple-choice and/or short answer questions over the designated materials. The questions evaluate basic knowledge, concept application, analytical skills, and material application. The test content will be based on video lectures, readings from the textbook and problem set questions. Each exam has a three day window: you may take the exam at any time during this window. The testing windows are given below in the course outline.

The Final Exam will be given during OSU's Finals Week. This exam will have 50 multiple-choice questions drawn evenly from the material for the entire semester. The window for taking the final exam is also given in the course outline below.

For exams you have two choices. You can take exams at a monitored testing center or use ProctorU and take the exams at home. For a partial list of testing centers, go to <http://spears.okstate.edu/distance/guide/centers/>. If you use a testing center, it is your responsibility to make a reservation at a testing center during the test window.

ProctorU is an alternative to using a testing center. ProctorU is a live online proctoring service that allows exam takers to complete their exams at home while still ensuring the integrity of the exam. Using almost any webcam and computer, you can take exams at home, at work, or anywhere you have internet access. ProctorU testing fee ranges from \$8.75 to \$30, depending on the length of completing the exam, and can be paid online through debit or credit card.

A special note, if you will be outside of the United States during the class exam periods, ProctorU is the only testing option for you. To watch a How It Works video, visit this link: <http://www.proctoru.com/howitworks.php>. To check your computer and internet connection meets all technical requirements visit this link: <http://www.proctoru.com/tech.php>.

Required Forms: The Spears distance learning office needs to know where you plan to take the exams. Toward this end there are a form that every student **MUST** complete **PRIOR** to the

FIRST exam. This forms can be found here:
<http://spears.okstate.edu/distance/forms/studentform>.

At the end of this form you select where you will take the exams. This form keeps the Spears School of Business Distance Learning Office informed about who your proctor will be. If you have any questions please contact the Distance Learning Office at 405-744-4048 or spearsdistance@okstate.edu.

Grading Scale: You will receive a numerical grade on every assignment. At the end of the semester I will compute your final average using the weights given above. On a scale of 100, final grades will be assigned as follows:

At Least 90 → A

At Least 80 but Below 90 → B

At Least 70 but Below 80 → C

At Least 60 but Below 70 → D

Below 60 → F

Office Hours: If you cannot attend the office hours given above please do not hesitate to schedule another time to meet with me. I will do my best to reply to emails quickly, but I do not monitor my email 24 hours a day.

Course Schedule: The course schedule is given at this end of this document. The schedule is pretty solid, but it is not carved in stone and I reserve the right to make changes. You will be notified about any changes by email. The schedule provides the date and times of the three test and the due dates of all graded homework assignments.

Students with Disabilities: We strive to create a positive learning environment for all students. Any students requiring special accommodations should contact the Student Disabilities Office as soon as possible.

Academic Integrity: There are **NO** group assignments in this course; everything that you turn in to be graded should be your own work. Go to academicintegrity.okstate.edu for a learn more about OSU's academic integrity policy. I encourage you to pay particular attention to the sections titled "Violations of Academic Integrity" and "Recommended Sanctions". Should any violations occur, I will impose the corresponding recommended sanction.

Technical Stuff and Helpful Sites:

Required Forms: <http://spears.okstate.edu/distance/forms/studentform>

Guide to the location of Testing Centers in Oklahoma and the US:
<http://spears.okstate.edu/distance/guide/centers/>

Desire2Learn (Online Classroom): <http://oc.okstate.edu>

Technical Assistance for Video Lectures: <http://cepdsupport.wikispaces.com/>

Online Classroom (D2L) Support:

http://it.okstate.edu/howto/documents/Student_D2L_Quick_Start_Guide.pdf

Technical and administrative support: Spears Distance Learning Office, 108 Gundersen, spearsdistance@okstate.edu or call (866)-678-3933 or (405) 744-4048.

Sapling help: If you have any problems, send an email to support@saplinglearning.com explaining your issue.

Wall Street Journal Access: as long as you are enrolled in a Spears School of Business course, you can have free online access to the Wall Street Journal. When you stop taking SSB courses (hopefully because you graduate), this free access will end.

To get this free access, log on to D2L. In the box where you can search for a course, simply search for “Wall”. This will bring up a course called “SSB Wall St. Journal”. Follow the directions under “Wall Street Journal Access” to gain access to this publication.

Course Outline

	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Week 1	Jan. 10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		Intro to Macro & Overview videos	Read & Begin Viewing Chap. 5				
Week 2	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Read & Begin Viewing Chap. 6			GRADED HW Chap. 5			
Week 3	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Read & Begin Viewing Chap. 8			GRADED HW Chap. 6			
Week 4	31	Feb. 1	2	3	4	5	6
	Read & Begin Viewing Chap. 10			GRADED HW Chap. 8			
Week 5	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			GRADED HW Chap. 10	Test 1 Window	Test 1 Window	Test 1 Window	
Week 6	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Read & Begin Viewing Chap. 7						
Week 7	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Read & Begin Viewing Chap. 11		GRADED HW Chap. 7				

	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Week 8	28	29	March 1	2	3	4	5
	Read and View Chap. 12		GRADED HW Chap. 11				
Week 9	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Read & Begin Viewing Chap. 13		GRADED HW Chap. 12				
Week 10	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break	
Week 11	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
			GRADED HW Chap. 13	Test 2 Window	Test 2 Window	Test 2 Window	
Week 12	27	28	29	30	31	April 1	2
	Read & Begin Viewing Chap. 14						
Week 13	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Read & Begin Viewing Chap. 15		GRADED HW Chapter 14				
Week 14	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Read & Begin Viewing Chap. 16		GRADED HW Chap. 15				

	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Week 15	17	18	19 GRADED HW Chap. 16	20 Test 3 Window	21 Test 3 Window	22 Test 3 Window	23
Week 16	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Dead Week							
Week 17	May 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Finals Week		Final Exam Window	Final Exam Window	Final Exam Window	Final Exam Window	Final Exam Window	