

# Howard University

## Economics 171-01

### Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory

Professor Gerald E. Daniels Jr.

Fall 2017

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*Office Hours:* 10:10 am - 12:10 pm TR,  
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm TR,  
and by appointment

*Class Room:* Chemistry Building G-08  
*Class Time:* 12:40 pm - 2:00 pm TR  
*Credit Hours:* 3.00  
*Final:* December 7,  
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm,  
In class

**Course Description:** Macroeconomics is the study of the economy as a whole. This course will examine modern economic growth theory, consumption and saving behavior, investment, and unemployment. These topics will provide tools that will be used to understand recent experiences in the United States and other countries.

The prerequisite for this course is the completion of undergraduate level *ECON 001* with a minimum grade of *C* or undergraduate level *ECON 001* with a minimum grade of *T*. The class will follow a lecture format; complementing this will be problem sets which will be extensions of the material presented in the lectures. Problem solving is crucial for checking one's understanding of material and is essential for developing skill at modeling economic situations.

**Course Objectives:** The primary goal of this course is to help you develop a skill in objectively analyzing important macroeconomic phenomena. We will attempt to address the following type of questions:

- What are the determinants of consumption and saving? How do they matter for both the long run and the short run?
- Why are people unemployed? Do the levels of unemployment differ by demographic characteristics? What should the government do about unemployment?
- What are business-cycles? Why do they occur?
- Should the government try to stabilize the economy against business-cycle fluctuations, and how?
- What causes financial crises?
- What is the role of the federal reserve?

We will analyze all of the questions mentioned above using data, graphical, and quantitative tools. We will discuss in depth key insights developed from well regarded research in macroeconomics, which are often debated both in academia and politics.

#### Required Text and Other Required Material:

Mankiw, N. Gregory (2013). *Macroeconomics* (Ninth Ed.). New York, NY: Worth Publishers.

Launchpad

To access Launchpad:

1. Connect to <http://www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpad/mankiw9e/5848376>
2. Follow the prompts to register for our course.

Payment:

1. Online: You may purchase access to the e-book and LaunchPad at <http://www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpad/mankiw9e/5848376>
2. Bookstore: You may purchase access to Loose-leaf Version of Mankiw's Macroeconomics & LaunchPad (Six Month Access).
3. Free Trial: 21 days of free access!

**Blackboard:** additional material will be posted on the Blackboard site. All students should be sure they are included on the Blackboard roster for this class.

**Grading:**

Participation	10%
Homework	20%
First Midterm	20%
Second Midterm	20%
Final Examination	30%

There will be weekly homework assignments, which will be due every **Sunday by 11:45 pm**. I will drop the lowest 3 homework assignments. Dates for the midterms will be announced during the course of the semester, but midterm one and two are tentatively schedule for Thursday of the fifth and tenth week, respectively. If you miss a midterm exam for a *legitimate reason* (e.g. medical emergency with doctor's note), the final exam will count for 50% of your grade. In the event that you miss **both** exams for *legitimate reasons*, the final exam will count for 70% of your grade. There will be no alternate or make-up final exam.

**Attendance:** Your attendance in class is absolutely essential. The material is cumulative, so if you miss one class, it is often impossible to understand the next one. Office hours are not to be used to teach material that was covered in a class to students who missed that class. If you must miss a class session, it is your responsibility to get a copy of the class notes from another student. I expect you to attend all classes and actively participate in the discussions.

**Writing Matters:** Writing is an essential tool for thinking and communicating in virtually every profession. Therefore, in this course I expect you to provide writing that is not only thoughtful and accurate, but also organized, clear, and consistent with the rules of Standard English. If your writing does not meet these standards, I may deduct points or ask you to revise. For assistance with your writing, go to the student section of the Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) website <http://www.cetla.howard.edu/wac/students.aspx>.

**Etiquette:**

1. Turn off your cell phones during class.
2. Arrive to class on time.
3. If you must leave class early, talk to the instructor before class starts. Leave discreetly.
4. E-mails should begin with addressing the name of the person concerned and conclude with yours.

In addition, you are required to read and follow the "Academic Code of Conduct" which is published in the H-Book and the Student Reference Manual and Directory of Classes.

**Definitions of Academic Infractions:** Howard University is a community of scholars composed of faculty and students both of whom must hold the pursuit of learning and search for truth in the highest regard. To better assure the realization of this goal any student enrolled for study at the University may be disciplined for the academic infractions defined below.

1. **Academic Cheating:** any intentional act(s) of dishonesty in the fulfillment of academic course or program requirements. This offense shall include (but is not limited to) utilization of the assistance of any additional individual(s), organization, document, or other aid not specifically and expressly authorized by the instructor or department involved.

2. **Plagiarism:** to take and pass off intentionally as one's own the ideas, writings, etc. of another without attribution (without acknowledging the author).
3. **Copy Infringement:** Copy infringement occurs when a copyrighted work is reproduced, distributed, performed, publicly displayed, or made into a derivative work without the permission of the copyright owner.

Penalties: The minimum disciplinary penalty imposed upon a student found to have committed an infraction(s) of this Code shall be no credit for the course assignment or examination in which the infraction(s) occurred; however, a more severe penalty, such as failure in the course involved or suspension from the University, may be imposed depending upon the nature and extent of the infraction(s).

**Disabled Student Services:** In compliance with the law (Section 504, Rehabilitation Act and the American with Disabilities Act, "ADA"), Howard University is committed to providing its disabled students with reasonable accommodations. There are specific guidelines for the acquisition of accommodations and services under ADA. For more information, please visit the [Disabled Student Services's](#) website.

**Statement of Interpersonal Violence:** Howard University takes sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, and harassment seriously. If a student reveals that he or she needs assistance with any of these issues, all Responsible Employees, which include faculty, are required to share this information with the [University Title IX](#) office, (202) 806-2550, or a student can be referred for confidential services to the [Interpersonal Violence Prevention Program \(IVPPP\)](#), (202) 238-2382, or [University Counseling Services](#), (202) 806-6870.

**Course Outline:** We will cover the following selected chapters from the textbook.

- Ch. 1: The Science of Macroeconomics
- Ch. 2: The Data of Macroeconomics
- Ch. 3: National Income: Where It Comes and Where It Goes
- Ch. 4: The Monetary System: What It is and How It Works
- Ch. 5: Inflation: Its Causes, Effects, and Social Costs
- Ch. 7: Unemployment
- Ch. 10: Introduction to Economic Fluctuations
- Ch. 11: Aggregate Demand: Building the IS-LM Model
- Ch. 12: Aggregate Demand: Applying the IS-LM Model
- Ch. 6: The Open Economy
- Ch. 13: The Mundell-Fleming Model and the Exchange-Rate Regime
- Ch. 14: Aggregate Supply and the Short-Run Tradeoff Between Inflation and Unemployment
- Ch. 8: Economic Growth: Capital Accumulation and Population Growth
- Ch. 9: Economic Growth: Technology, Empirics, and Policy