

# PRINCIPLES OF MACROECONOMICS DESCRIPTOR

## General Course Description:

An introductory course focusing on aggregate economic analysis. Topics include: market systems, aggregate measures of economic activity, macroeconomic equilibrium, money and financial institutions, monetary and fiscal policy, international economics, and economic growth.

## Course Content:

1. Fundamentals of economic thinking
2. How markets operate
3. Measuring the economy
  - a. National output and productivity
  - b. Price level
  - c. Business cycle
  - d. Unemployment
4. Modeling the business cycle
5. Monetary system
  - a. Money creation and banking
  - b. Role and function of central banks
  - c. Money demand and velocity
  - d. Inflation
6. The financial system
  - a. Saving
  - b. Investment
  - c. Role of interest rates
7. The role of the government in the macro economy
  - a. Stabilization policy
  - b. Deficit and debt
  - c. Fiscal and monetary policy
8. Economic growth and development
9. Balance of payments and trade

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Course Objectives: *At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:*

1. Identify and interpret macroeconomic data.
2. Apply macroeconomic models to understand the economy.
3. Analyze the economic impacts of monetary and fiscal policy.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the function of the central bank and the banking system.

Methods of Evaluation:

Assessed written work is recommended for this course and may include any of the following (colleges are encouraged to work with local CSU and UC departments to determine writing requirements):

Current event analysis

Term papers

Essay questions on exams

Exams and Quizzes containing one or more:

Multiple Choice questions

Short answers

Problem Solving

True/False

Essays

Homework Problem Sets

Presentations

Debates and class discussion

Group projects

Experiments

Sample Textbooks, Manuals, or Other Support Materials

These are two-semester textbooks covering both Macroeconomics and Microeconomics. The one-semester edition covering only Macroeconomics is acceptable.

Arnold, R. A. *Economics*. Mason, OH: Cengage Learning.

Boyes, W., Melvin, M., *Economics*. Mason, OH: Cengage.

Case, K. E., Fair, R. C., & Oster, S. M. *Principles of economics*. Boston: Prentice-Hall.

Colander, D. *Economics*. New York: McGraw-Hill Irwin.

## PRINCIPLES OF MACROECONOMICS DESCRIPTOR

Cowen, T., & Tabarrok, A. *Modern principles of economics*.  
New York: Worth.

Frank, R. H., & Bernanke, B. S. *Principles of economics*.  
New York: McGraw-Hill Irwin.

Hubbard, R. G., & O'Brien, A. P. *Economics*. Boston: Pearson.

Krugman, P. & Wells, R. *Economics*. New York: Worth.

Mankiw, N. G. *Principles of economics*. Mason, OH: Cengage Learning.

McConnell, C. R., Brue, S. L., & Flynn, S. M. *Economics: Principles, problems  
and policies*. New York: McGraw-Hill Irwin.

Miller, R. L. *Economics today*. Boston: Pearson.

Rittenberg, L., & Tregarthen, T. *Principles of economics*. Flat World Knowledge.

Schiller, B. R. *The economy today*. New York: McGraw-Hill Irwin.

Sexton, R. L. *Exploring economics*. Mason, OH: Cengage Learning.

Slavin, S. *Economics*. New York: McGraw-Hill Irwin.

Tucker, I. B. *Economics for today*. Mason, OH: Cengage Learning.

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