

Principles of Macroeconomics (ECON 2301)

CREDIT

3 Semester Credit Hours (3 hours lecture, 0 hours lab)

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Online

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:

C or better in Composition I (ENGL 1301)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An analysis of the economy as a whole including measurement and determination of Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply, national income, inflation, and unemployment. Other topics include international trade, economic growth, business cycles, and fiscal policy and monetary policy.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to

1. Explain the role of scarcity, specialization, opportunity cost and cost/benefit analysis in economic decision-making.
2. Identify the determinants of supply and demand; demonstrate the impact in shifts in both market supply and demand curves on equilibrium price and output.
3. Define and measure national income and rates of unemployment and inflation.
4. Identify the phases of the business cycle and the problems caused by cyclical fluctuations in the market economy.
5. Define money and the money supply; describe the process of money creation by the banking system and the role of the central bank.
6. Construct the aggregate demand and aggregate supply model of the macro economy and use it to illustrate macroeconomic problems and potential monetary and fiscal policy solutions.
7. Explain the mechanics and institutions of international trade and their impact on the macro economy.
8. Define economic growth and identify sources of economic growth.

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor:	Kara Booth
Email:	knbooth@lit.edu
Office Phone:	409-247-5009
Office Location:	TA4-103C
Office Hours:	Virtual upon request

RESPONSE TIME

Quizzes and exams are automatically graded by Blackboard and will be available to you immediately. Unit assignments and discussions will be graded in 7-10 days after the due date.

Approved: **Initials/date**



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Rough drafts and Final Research projects will usually be graded within two weeks of the due date. Emails will generally be answered within 48 hours.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS

[Principles of Macroeconomics](#) by OpenStax

[Book Versions](#)

Free Weblink: <https://openstax.org/details/books/principles-macroeconomics-3e>

Hardcover: ISBN-13: 978-1-711471-47-1

Paperback: ISBN-13: 978-1-711471-48-8

Digital: ISBN-13: 978-1-951693-64-0

PARTICIPATION POLICY

To be successful in this online course, the student **MUST** purchase the assigned textbook and log into BlackBoard 4-5 times weekly. Regular, reliable access to BlackBoard via Internet is required for this online course.

DROP POLICY

If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an “F” in the course.

According to the Academic Calendar, the last day to drop is: **10/30/26**

COURSE CALENDAR

Chapter #	TOPICS	Assessment	Due Date
		Syllabus Quiz	8/27/2026
Chapter 1	Welcome to Economics	Introduction Discussion Board, Quiz	8/31/2026
Chapter 2	Choice in a World of Scarcity	Quiz	9/7/2026
Chapter 3	Demand and Supply	Discussion Board, Quiz	9/14/2026
		Unit 1 Exam	9/15/2026
Chapter 6	The Macroeconomic Perspective	Quiz	9/21/2026
		Research Project Topic Selection	9/24/2026
Chapter 7	Economic Growth	Discussion Board, Quiz	9/28/2026
Chapter 8	Unemployment	Discussion Board, Quiz	10/5/2026
Chapter 9	Inflation	Quiz	10/12/2026

		Research Project Rough Draft	10/15/2026
Chapter 10	International Trade and Capital Flows	Quiz	10/19/2026
		Unit 2 Exam	10/20/2026
Chapter 14	Money and Banking	Quiz	10/26/2026
Chapter 15	Monetary Policy and Bank Regulations	Quiz	11/2/2026
		Research Project Final	11/5/2026
Chapter 16	Exchange Rates and International Capital Flows	Quiz	11/9/2026
Chapter 17	Government Budgets and Fiscal Policy	Quiz	11/16/2026
		Unit 3 Exam	11/17/2026
Chapter 19	Macroeconomic Policy Around the World	Discussion Board, Quiz	11/23/2026
Chapter 20	International Trade	Discussion Board, Quiz	11/30/2026
		Unit 4 Exam	12/1/2026
		Cumulative Final Exam	12/8/2026

COURSE EVALUATION

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

Chapter Quizzes	10%
Discussion Boards	15%
Unit Exams (4)	48% (12% each)
Final Exam	12%
Research Project	15%

GRADE SCALE

- 90-100 A
- 80-89 B
- 70-79 C
- 60-69 D
- 0-59 F

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

For the latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc., review the Minimum Computer and Equipment Requirements on the [LIT Online Experience](#) page. A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles' Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email specialpopulations@lit.edu. You may also visit the online resource at [Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology \(lit.edu\)](https://www.lit.edu/special-populations).

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook*. The *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* may be accessed at www.lit.edu. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document.

STARFISH

LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.

Course Policies

Announcements	I will post announcements weekly, usually early in the week. These announcements indicate upcoming due dates and notes important to your success in this course. You should READ these Announcements every week
Exams	Exams will be provided within a Blackboard examination window. The exams will be timed. There is no pause button. The timer will continue to run if you leave the exam. Exams must be completed in one attempt. Access codes are required to begin the exam. Exams will not be reopened for accidental starts. Redos on exams will not be given. Make-up exams will not be given. Missed exams will receive a score of zero.

	Your exam will be graded immediately by Blackboard. Feedback on specific exam questions will be given 24 hours after the exam is due. You must work alone while taking the exam. Cheating on exams is not acceptable and will be subject to violations of the Academic Dishonesty policy. Dates for exams are listed on the Course Calendar. Each exam counts for 12 percent of your final grade. The Final exam is a course requirement worth 12 percent of your final grade.
Quizzes	Weekly quizzes will be given covering the chapter studied that week. Missed quizzes will receive a score of zero. The 2 lowest quiz grades will be dropped. Combined, these quizzes will count as 10 percent of your final grade.
Discussions	Discussion boards are in place to add to your classroom community and emphasize important skills that prepare you to enter the workforce. Additionally, by requiring you to comment on other's threads, you are learning to communicate with other learners from different generations, ethnicities, locales, and backgrounds. Furthermore, in this course, students are required to master the following Core Course Requirements: 1. Critical Thinking Skills 2. Communication Skills 3. Empirical and Quantitative Skills 4. Social Responsibility These skills are of the most valued soft skills by employers, and discussion boards are meant to provide a low-stakes opportunity to develop and practice these skills. An effort to provide thought-provoking discussion prompts that promote both learning and creative thinking has been made. Therefore, it is expected that all students submit work that is entirely their own. However, due to the fact that almost all discussions are now being influenced by AI to some extent, despite previous clear rules against it, students must declare all use of AI in all discussion posts, including the extent of its influence. Just like citing a source to prevent plagiarism, failure to disclose will result in a zero for the prompt. See discussion prompts for specific guidelines. AI Warnings: • Please be aware that uncritical use of AI can hinder your learning and impact your grade. • AI-generated content can sometimes use copyright material without the authors' permission or approval, risking plagiarism.

	• AI-generated content may also produce false statements and made-up references. • Students are responsible for reviewing all statements and facts presented. AI Notice: Using any AI-generated content in an assessment without proper acknowledgment and presenting it as your own work constitutes academic misconduct. Violations will be reflected in your grade and/or overall academic record, dependent on severity of violation. Likewise, inclusion of hidden AI prompts buried within the discussion prompts will be an indication of blatant AI usage and will result in a zero. AI generates a predictable format for threads and comments. Vague, non-specific threads and comments that contain only restatements will not be given full credit. The use of a last sentence that contains "Overall, ..." is a clear indication of AI usage. Finally, original discussion threads should FULLY answer the prompt with personal experience and/or specific observations, while comments should advance the discussion or stimulate further thought with personal experience or specific observation. Threads and comments should contain appropriate economic terms and be written using proper grammar, including proper capitalization. A rubric for discussion boards is available. There will be no makeups for missed discussions. There will be 6 discussion sessions. Combined, these discussions will account for 15 percent of your final grade. The lowest 1 discussion will be dropped from the overall grade calculation.
Research Project	You will be required to submit a formal research project related to a variety of course topics. The research project is due on the date listed on the Course Calendar. Required content, proper format, adequate research, and correct citations are required. A grading matrix, outline, and guidelines are provided on the Research Project Assignments and Guidelines page located in the Research Project Module. This assignment requires that students find, synthesize, and integrate a range of information in order make decisions for then arranging and designing the infographic to effectively communicate the argument through a highly visual format. This assignment accomplished the following objectives: 1. Critical Thinking Skills: To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information

	2. Communication Skills: To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication. 3. Empirical and Quantitative Skills: To include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions. 4. Social Responsibility: To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities. In order to demonstrate the above, work must be original. It is expected that all work is produced by students individually. You may not seek assistance from generative AI tools and using them constitutes academic dishonesty. Likewise, plagiarism will not be tolerated and will be subject to violations of the academic integrity policy. Warning: If URLs (even on the rough draft) have indication of the use of generative AI, you will receive a zero on the Final Project. The opportunity to submit a rough draft to be graded and returned with feedback is provided. The Research Project is 15 percent of your final grade.
Use of Instructional Materials	Instructional materials, such as PowerPoints and concept videos, are provided in Blackboard for each chapter. These will be useful in understanding concepts as presented in the chapters.
Virtual Sessions	Virtual sessions are offered at the request of the student. These sessions can be utilized to discuss course concepts, to prep for exams, or to clarify assignment directions. Requests for a virtual session must be submitted via email to the instructor 24 hours in advance for scheduling purposes.
Due Dates	All due dates are listed on the Course Calendar – found by clicking on the Calendar Menu button. Due dates are also announced in the weekly announcements. Quizzes, exams, assignments, discussion boards, and research projects will NOT be accepted nor reopened. Instructor reserves the right to change, alter, omit, or add to the tentative course outline and calendar due to school closings or other unavoidable obstacles.
Make-Up/Late work	All due dates are firm. Due dates are listed in the Modules and Syllabus lists and on the course calendar. Due dates are also announced in the weekly announcements. In lieu of late work, 1 discussion board and 2 quizzes will be dropped from the overall calculation when the final grade is calculated. This allows students to miss an occasional assignment without impacting the overall grade. Additionally, ONE missed deadline extension will be granted per student, per semester. Deadline extension requests must be submitted via email to the

	instructor. The missed deadline request must be made within 5 days of the missed assignment. Students will NOT receive more than ONE. The final research project and final exam are not eligible for deadline extensions. Units, exams, quizzes, and discussion boards will not be reopened once closed. Late research projects will not be accepted
Incomplete Grades	Assigning the grade of incomplete (I) requires prior approval of the Department Chair. An I is assigned only when the deadline for dropping the course has passed, the student is passing the course, and course requirements, including the final examination, cannot be completed because of unavoidable circumstances. To receive an incomplete, a student must be in good standing to pass the class and must have completed most of the course work (75%).