

## ECO 212: Principles of Macroeconomics - EL

### Course Description

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This course introduces you to important areas of macroeconomic theory and policy. Topics include national income, unemployment and inflation, fiscal and monetary policy, taxes and economic growth.

### Textbook

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**REQUIRED:** Dean Karlan, Jonathan Morduch, *Economics*, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition. (New York: McGraw-Hill, 2014), ISBN 978-0-07-351149-8

**REQUIRED:** CONNECT from McGraw-Hill

### Your Objectives

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- You will master the principles for understanding economic thinking, specific economic issues and policy alternatives.
- You will develop the ability to “spot issues” in descriptions of facts and to apply appropriate analytical techniques to understand and/or resolve those issues. This will be demonstrated by being able to spot the issues in “applied problems” from the end of each chapter.
- Students will understand these broad topics:
  - ✓ *Introduction to Economics and the Economy*: Nature and methods in economics, marginal analysis, individual markets and the market system, private and public sectors, the U.S. and global economies
  - ✓ *Macroeconomic Measurement and Basic Concepts*: Measuring domestic output and national income, understanding global growth and instability
  - ✓ *Macroeconomic Models and Fiscal Policy*: Aggregate demand and aggregate supply, fiscal policy
  - ✓ *Money, Banking and Monetary Policy*: Defining money, understanding the banking system, monetary policy

### Discussion Board

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Discussion Board participation for each Module is your opportunity to hear ideas, discuss them and respond with your fellow classmates and the instructor. **To earn full points on weekly Discussion Boards, I expect you to be participate early in the week and respond to other comments and questions on Discussion Boards throughout the week.** I encourage you to interact with your classmates regarding CONNECT materials: homework and quizzes. Ask questions and share your learning.

## Course Outline

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Module 1 - Introduction to Economics and Economic Analysis

Chapter 1: *What is this thing called 'economics'?*

Chapter 2: *Why do people exchange things with other people?*

Module 2 - Markets

Chapter 3: *Why do gasoline prices change so often?*

Module 3 – The Economic Role of Government

Chapter 19: *What if there was no government?*

Chapter 20: *Why do we have taxes anyway?*

Module 4 – Economic Measures

Chapter 24: *How do we measure the economy?*

Chapter 25: *How do we measure the cost of living?*

Module 5 – Economic Growth and Employment

Chapter 26: *Why do some countries have wealth and others do not?*

Chapter 27: *Why can't everyone find a job?*

Module 6 – How Does The Economy Work ?

Chapter 28: *Here's a pretty good way to understand a complicated system*

Chapter 29: *If the economy is sick, what can we do about it?*

Module 7 – The Economic Role of the Financial System

Chapter 30: *Why do economists care about the financial system?*

Chapter 31: *Do we need money?*

Module 8 – What if the Financial System Has Problems

Chapter 32: *What if my money can't buy what it used to?*

Chapter 33: *Financial Crisis: What just happened here?*

**NOTE: This reading/exam schedule may be revised or changed during the course of the semester. Changes will be announced and you be given sufficient time to adjust your reading/exam preparation.**

### **Grading**

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150 pts	Blackboard Exams per chapter (10 pts each)
150 pts	CONNECT homework per chapter (10 points each)
<u>75 pts</u>	Discussion Board participation (5 points per chapter)
375 pts	TOTAL POINTS

NOTE: In general, I do not allow extra assignments to recover from poor performance. I expect all students to be prepared for class and know the material when taking quizzes and examinations. There may be occasional extra credit questions on the tests.

### **Academic Honesty**

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For any class, it is essential that your work (exams, homework, quizzes, etc.) is yours alone. McKendree University is very serious about academic honesty (described on page 36 of the 2014/2015 catalog). If I catch you cheating, you will be punished which could include loss of points, reduction in letter grade, a failing grade for the course and being reported to the Provost's Office.