

Introduction to Macroeconomics 2013-14

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Office hours: Monday, 8-11; Tuesday, 8-9 & 11-13

Classroom sessions: A2.1, Mon. 11-13 & Thurs. 9-11

Course web page:

[http://gandalf.fcee.urv.es/professors/
AntonioQuesada/Curs1314/MacroM51314.html](http://gandalf.fcee.urv.es/professors/AntonioQuesada/Curs1314/MacroM51314.html)

Topics

- 1. Macroeconomic aggregates
 - 2. Money and the financial sector
- } Part 1
- 3. Determining interest rates
 - 4. Determining exchange rates
 - 5. Determining wage rates
 - 6. Determining GDP & inflation rates
- } Part 2
- 6. Design and effects on the economy of macroeconomic policies
- } Part 3

Main theoretical lessons

- This course focuses on three insights to explain how an economy operates and generates outcomes.
 - Feedback processes account for the persistence of certain phenomena through multiplier effects: economic growth, unemployment, inflation...
 - Optimizing behaviour by the agents of the economy justify the simultaneous attainment by several markets of stable states (e.g., arbitrage).
 - Limits to what a government can do, control or achieve in an economy (policies must take into account how people react to them).

Bibliography

- No textbook covers adequately the material of the course. Lecture notes and problem sets available on the web page.
- Textbooks present Macroeconomics as apparently a discipline with definite answers. For instance:
 - B Bernanke, R Frank: [Principles of Macroeconomics](#)
 - C Jones: [Macroeconomics](#), International Student Ed.
- This is not the case: Classical & Keynesian visions.
 - SM Kohn: [Reintroducing Macroeconomics](#) (libgen.org)

Marks

- 1st examination period
 - 30% of the final mark obtained from multiple choice exams and, possibly, one mid-term exam. Answers to exercises in problem sets should be delivered before closing dates to be announced.
 - 30% from an end of term exam on all the topics to be taken the last day of the course (22 May 2014)
 - 40% from the official final exam (6 June 2014, 12:00)
- 2nd examination period
 - 100% from the final exam (27 June 2014, 12:00)

Warnings

- Spelling and grammatical mistakes will be taken into account when correcting written exams.
- More than 10 serious mistakes will automatically imply a zero mark in the corresponding exam.
- Calculators and similar computing devices are not allowed when taking an exam.
- Answers in pencil are invalid. Use ballpoint pens.
- It is necessary to obtain at least 5 in the 40% exam.