Course Information

Instructor: Jake Zhao

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Office Hours: Monday, 3:30pm - 5:30pm, or by appointment

Teaching Assistant: TBA

Phone:

Email:

Classes:

Lectures: Tuesday and Friday, 10:30am - 12:20pm

Room: PHBS 319

1. Course Description

1.1 Context

Course overview:

This course is structured to provide a rigorous introduction to the study of macroeconomics. The major topics that we will cover are growth, consumption and investment, unemployment, and monetary policy. Traditionally, macroeconomics taught at the master's level involve deriving analytical results from theory with some attention given to data. In conjunction with the traditional approach, we will learn some computational and numerical techniques which can help with the solution of more complicated/realistic models.

Prerequisites:

Familiarity with intermediate level macroeconomics and econometrics (for example, textbooks such as "Intermediate Macroeconomics" by Mankiw and "Introductory Econometrics" by Wooldridge)

Basic knowledge of computer programming

1.2 Textbooks and Reading Materials

Required text:

Lecture notes and supplemental materials will be provided to students, either by in-class handouts or by email.

Recommended references:

"Advanced Macroeconomics" by David Romer

2. Learning Outcomes

2.1 Intended Learning Outcomes

Learning Goals	Objectives	Assessment
1. Our graduates will be effective communicators.	1.1. Our students will produce quality business and research-oriented documents.	Problem sets
	1.2. Students are able to professionally present their ideas and also logically explain and defend their argument.	Problem sets, exams
2. Our graduates will be skilled in team work and leadership.	2.1. Students will be able to lead and participate in group for projects, discussion, and presentation.	Class participation
4. Our graduates will have a global perspective.	4.1. Students will have an international exposure.	Lectures
5. Our graduates will be skilled in problem-solving and critical thinking.	5.1. Our students will have a good understanding of fundamental theories in their fields.	Lectures, problem sets, exams
	5.2. Our students will be prepared to face problems in various business settings and find solutions.	Lectures, problem sets, exams
	5.3. Our students will demonstrate competency in critical thinking.	Lectures, problem sets, exams

2.2 Course specific objectives

This course is meant to provide a solid foundation for and develop students' interest in the further study of macroeconomics. In addition, the analytical and computational methods learned in this class may aid students in thesis writing and future research in various topics related to economics and finance.

2.3 Assessment/Grading Details

Component	Weight
Problem sets	10%
Midterm	40%
Final	50%

Homework: There will be 4 problem sets. Students are permitted to work in small groups but each person must turn in separate solutions.

Midterm: The midterm date will be announced at a later date with at least a one-week notice.

Final: The final is cumulative but will focus on the second half of the course.

2.4 Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

It is important for a student's effort and credit to be recognized through class assessment. Credits earned for a student work due to efforts done by others are clearly unfair. Deliberate dishonesty is considered academic misconducts, which include plagiarism; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; or altering, forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying of data, research procedures, or data analysis.

All assessments are subject to academic misconduct check. Misconduct check may include reproducing the assessment, providing a copy to another member of faculty, and/or communicate a copy of this assignment to the PHBS Discipline Committee. A suspected plagiarized document/assignment submitted to a plagiarism checking service may be kept in its database for future reference purpose.

Where violation is suspected, penalties will be implemented. The penalties for academic misconduct may include: deduction of honour points, a mark of zero on the assessment, a fail grade for the whole course, and reference of the matter to the Peking University Registrar.

For more information of plagiarism, please refer to *PHBS Student Handbook*.

3. Topics, Teaching and Assessment Schedule

Weeks 1-4 – Macroeconomic growth, RBC theory, and introduction to Matlab

Week 5 – Consumption, midterm (tentative)

Week 6 – Investment

Week 7 – Unemployment

Weeks 8-9 – Monetary policy