

Course Description

ECO2013 | Principles of Economics (Macro) | 3 credits

In this course, students will learn the foundations of macroeconomics as the branch of economics concerned with how decision-making, in an environment of scarcity, maps onto the aggregate economy. Students will examine theories and evidence related the following core set of topics: national income determination, money, monetary and fiscal policy, macroeconomic conditions, international trade and the balance of payments, and economic growth and development. Student learning outcomes: students will recognize that all decisions happen in an environment of scarcity; students will examine theories and evidence regarding how changes in aggregate measurements are related to economic performance; students will recognize the relationships between the components of the national income accounts; students will analyze theory and evidence regarding fiscal and monetary policies and how they affect the economy; and students will identify theories of long-term economic growth and examine evidence for those theories.

Course Competencies

Competency 1:

The student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of basic economic concepts by:

- Defining economics.
- Explaining scarcity and resource allocation.
- Defining production possibilities and economic growth.
- Describing basic economic questions.
- Diagramming Circular Flow Chart.

Learning Outcomes

- Critical thinking

Competency 2:

The student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of supply and demand by:

- Distinguishing between markets, firms and industries.
- Explaining the difference between a change in demand and a change in quantity demanded, a change in supply and change in quantity supplied.
- Identifying the determinants of supply and demand.
- Explaining how prices and quantities bought and sold are determined by demand and supply.
- Explaining how price controls, taxes, and externalities effect market outcomes.

Learning Outcomes

- Critical thinking
- Numbers / Data

Competency 3:

The student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of comparative economic systems by:

- Describing an economic system.

- Differentiating between major economic systems and utilizing the basic economic questions.
- Describing historic events related to the various economic systems.
- Evaluating current events in light of changes in economic systems.
- Determining a compatible role of government with economic development.

Learning Outcomes

- Critical thinking

Competency 4:

The student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of national goals, income formation and fiscal policy by:

- Describing national income goals and how they are prioritized.
- Interpreting business cycle stages.
- Defining full employment and types of unemployment categories.
- Explaining price stability, types of inflation, deflation, stagflation.
- Developing national income and product account models.
- Illustrating consumption, investment, government expenditures, net export component, as well as equilibrium level of output and income.
- Demonstrating inflationary and deflationary gaps.
- Illustrating consumption multiplier principle.
- Comparing Classical and Keynesian models.

Learning Outcomes

- Critical thinking
- Numbers / Data

Competency 5:

The student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of money, banking, and monetary policy concepts by:

- Evaluating differences between barter and a money system.
- Differentiating between money's characteristics and functions.
- Describing historical development of money and banking in the US.
- Illustrating Federal Reserve System's structure and responsibilities.
- Identifying major and minor tools of monetary policy.
- Describing creation of money process.
- Describing monetarist policy.

Learning Outcomes

- Critical thinking
- Numbers / Data

Competency 6:

The student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of international trade and finance by:

- Illustrating comparative advantage.
- Describing rationale for trade.
- Explaining barriers to trade.

Learning Outcomes

- Critical thinking
- Numbers / Data