Course Title:  
Contemporary Economic Methods and Analysis

Course Number:  
ECON 5073-107

Course Description:  
This course is concerned with the review of aggregate yardsticks and theory and their application to the analysis of major policy issues and problems confronting the American economy.

Social Accounting Systems, such as U.S. National Income Accounting, are reviewed and analyzed. The American economy's socio-economic goals of full employment, maximum production, stable prices, and sustained growth are critically examined. Aggregate theory is used in an analysis of the role of private consumption and investment and of the government sector as regards the determination of the socio-economic goals of the American society. To evaluate the past performance of the American economy and to be able to offer some tentative predictions regarding its future, a review of the 1930s, 1940s, 1950s, 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s is presented.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:  
Dates:  December 2-4 & 9-11, 2016  
Location:  OCCE, Norman, Oklahoma. Classes are held at the Thurman White Forum Building of OCCE, 1704 Asp Avenue.  
Hours:  Friday 5:30-9:30 p.m.; Saturday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sunday 1:00-5:00 p.m.  
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: November 3, 2016

Site Director:  
Email:  apnorman@ou.edu  Phone: 405-325-3333.

Professor Contact Information:  
Course Professor:  Zhen Zhu, Ph.D.  
Mailing Address:  4105 Gloucester Lane  
Norman, OK 73072  
Telephone Number:  405-321-8693  
Fax Number:  405-974-3853  
Email Address:  zzhu@uco.edu  
Professor availability:  The professor will be available via email to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:  
Student materials are available at the OU Follett Bookstore located at 1185 Asp Avenue; Norman, OK, and can be ordered online, by phone, by email, or by fax. Ordering online at http://www.bkstr.com/oklahomastore/home is strongly recommended – students can track the status of their order within 48 hours. If an order has not been shipped within three days, students can contact the Follett textbook manager by phone (405) 325-3511, (800) 522-0772 (toll-free) or email 0831mgr@fheg.follett.com. Phone orders (ask for the textbook manager and identify yourself as an Advanced Programs student) can be placed 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday (CST). Summer hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (CST). Fax orders can be placed 24 hours a day at (405) 325-7770. Text prices are available online.
Course Objectives:
After completing this course, you will be able to do the following:

- Explain how the aggregate economy is structured (income measurement, inflation, employment, financial systems and so on);
- Explain the causes of long term economic growth and short term economic fluctuations;
- Understand how monetary and fiscal policies can impact the aggregate economy;
- Apply economic principles to real-world events.

Course Outline:

Part 1 Introduction:
- Chapter 1 Introduction to Macroeconomics
- Chapter 2 The Measurement and Structure of the National Economy

Part 2 Long-Run Economic Performance
- Chapter 3 Productivity, Output, and Employment
- Chapter 4 Consumption, Saving, and Investment
- Chapter 5 Saving and Investment in the Open Economy (optional)
- Chapter 6 Long-Run Economic Growth
- Chapter 7 The Asset Market, Money, and Prices

Part 3 Business Cycles and Macroeconomic Policy
- Chapter 8 Business Cycles
- Chapter 9 The IS-LM/AD-AS Model: A General Framework for Macroeconomic Analysis
- Chapter 10 Classical Business Cycle Analysis: Market-Clearing Macroeconomics (optional)
- Chapter 11 Keynesianism: The Macroeconomics of Wage and Price Rigidity (optional)

Part 4 Macroeconomic Policy: It’s Environment and Institutions
- Chapter 12 Unemployment and Inflation
- Chapter 13 Exchange Rates, Business Cycles, and Macroeconomic Policy in the Open Economy (optional)
- Chapter 14 Monetary Policy and the Federal Reserve System
- Chapter 15 Government Spending and Its Financing

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:
Grading for this course will be based on an in-class, closed-book final examination given the last day of class and a post-seminar paper.
Post Seminar Assignment:
Students will be required to write a term paper on any macroeconomics related topic with the permission of the course professor. The term paper must be at least 15 pages in length with appropriate citation, etc. **Due Date: January 1, 2017**

Grading:
This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F. Students will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post - Seminar Assignment</td>
<td>30%</td>
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Notice: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Integrity and Student Conduct

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Academic assignments exist to help students learn; grades exist to show how fully this goal is attained. Therefore all work and all grades should result from the student's own understanding and effort.

Academic misconduct is any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement. Misconduct occurs when the student either knows or reasonably should know that the act constitutes misconduct. Academic misconduct includes: cheating and using unauthorized materials on examinations and other assignments; improper collaboration, submitting the same assignment for different classes (self-plagiarism); fabrication, forgery, alteration of documents, lying, etc…in order to obtain an academic advantage; assisting others in academic misconduct; attempting to commit academic misconduct; destruction of property, hacking, etc…; intimidation and interference with integrity process; and plagiarism. All students should review the Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity at http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. All students should review policies regarding student conduct at http://studentconduct.ou.edu/

Accommodation Statement

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA
Zhen Zhu, Ph.D.

Education
1994 Ph.D. in International Economics, Macroeconomics, Econometrics, University of Michigan

Current Positions
Dr. Michael Metzger Endowed Chair, Professor of Economics, University of Central Oklahoma

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses
- Economics 5613 International Economics - Trade
- Economics 5633 International Economics – Finance
- Economics 5073 Contemporary Economic Methods and Analyses

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest
- International Financial Market
- Energy Markets (especially natural gas markets)

Representative Recent Publications and Presentations

**Representative Honors and Awards Received**

- Barnabas Fellow, UCO, 2011-2012
- McGraw-Hill/Irwin Distinguished Paper Award, Southwest Society of Economists, 2006
- Exemplary Service Award, UCO Economics Department, 2004
- Faculty Research Merit Award, UCO, 2003, 2007, 2011
- Distinguished Researcher of the Year, College of Business, UCO, 2002
- Research Fellow, Financial Research Institute, University of Missouri, 2001, 2002
- Hauptman Fellow for Research Excellence, UCO, 2001