The University of Oklahoma  
College of Continuing Education  
Advanced Programs – Course Syllabus

Course Title:  
Contemporary Economic Methods and Analysis

Course Number:  
ECON 5073-102

Course Description:  
The objective is to acquire a fundamental understanding of how a nation's economy operates as a whole. This involves learning the macroeconomic theory, the meaning of macroeconomic terminology, and the application of macroeconomic methods to issues involving income, employment, price levels, international trade, economic growth, and government policy. The U.S. and world macroeconomic conditions will be reviewed and analyzed.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:  
Dates: January 4-9, 2014  
Location: Bldg. D, Offutt AFB, Nebraska.  
Hours: Mon-Fri 6:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.; Sat 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: December 6, 2013

Site Director:  
Molly Cowgill. Phone: 402-291-8879 or 402-294-0649; DSN 271-0649; Fax: 402-291-5402; E-mail: apoffutt@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:  
Course Professor: Dr. Zhen Zhu  
Mailing Address: Department of Economics and International Business  
University of Central Oklahoma  
100 N. University  
Edmond, OK 73034  
Telephone Number: 405-974-5287  
Fax Number: 405-974-3853  
E-mail Address: zzhu@uco.edu  
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail 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. Orders can be placed online at www.oklahoma.bksstr.com. Faxed orders may be placed 24 hours a day at (405) 325-7770. Representatives are available by phone at (405) 325-3511 or (800) 522-0772 (toll-free) or E-mail at 0831rmgr@fheg.follett.com from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday; and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday (CST). Summer hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (CST). (Text prices are available online.)

Note: Follett is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through Follett.

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 a 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 30, 2014
**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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<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 Honesty

Honesty is a fundamental precept in all academic activities and … [you] have a special obligation to observe the highest standards of honesty. Academic misconduct in any form is inimical to the purposes and functions of the University and is therefore unacceptable and is rigorously proscribed. Academic misconduct includes:

- cheating (using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise), plagiarism, falsification of records, unauthorized possession of examinations, intimidation, and any and all other actions that may improperly affect the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement; assisting others in any such act; or attempting to engage in such acts.

All acts of academic misconduct will be reported and adjudicated as prescribed by the student code of the University of Oklahoma. All students should review the Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity

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.

Copyright

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

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

Current Positions
Mike Metzger Professor of Economics, University of Central Oklahoma

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses
- Economics 5613 International Economics - Trade
- Economics 5633 International Economics - Finance

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest
- International economics, international financial markets
- Energy finance, risk management, energy markets (especially natural gas markets)
- Quantitative analysis

Representative 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