Course Webpage:

https://moodle2.sscnet.ucla.edu/course/view/181C-ECON102-2

Goal of the class:

This class will introduce you to many of the most important concepts in macroeconomic theory as well as connect these theories to real world applications. By the end of the course you should be able to comment intelligently on topics such as business cycles, economic growth, inflation, unemployment, and monetary policy.

Course Materials:

No textbook is required for this class. All necessary material will be presented in the lecture.

Additional readings/notes will be posted on the class website. Some of these will be mandatory and included on the exams and problem sets and others will be optional but recommended if you are interested in that specific topic.

Tentative Course Outline:

Week 1 ............ Aggregate Accounting and Intro to Keynesian Economics
Week 2 ...................... IS-LM and Mundell-Fleming Models
Week 3 ..................... Additional Material and Midterm
Week 4 .................... Phillips Curve/Expectations/Microfoundations
Week 5 ...................... Economic Growth/Development
Week 6 ........................ Additional Material and Final

Grading Policy:

Option 1: Midterm (30%), Final (45%), Quizzes (5%) Problem Sets (10%), Discussion Board (10%)

Option 2: Midterm (15%) Final (60%), Quizzes (5%) Problem Sets (10%), Discussion Board (10%)

Your final grade will be calculated based on the higher of the two options.

Important Dates:

Problem Set 1 Due ......................... 8/20
Midterm ........................................ 8/22
Labor Day (No Class) ...................... 9/3
Problem Set 2 Due ......................... 9/10
Final Exam .................................... 9/12
Graded Material:

**Midterm:** The midterm will cover everything covered in lecture during the first three weeks as well as any mandatory readings posted on the website. As noted in the grading scheme above, the midterm will be weighted less if you do well on the final. Therefore, it will be a good test to see how you are progressing in the class and allow you to adjust your studying if necessary.

**Final:** The final will be cumulative and cover all material in lecture and any mandatory readings posted on the website. I plan to have approximately 1/3 of the exam cover material from the first half of the class and 2/3 from the second half.

**Quizzes:** Following each lecture there will be a short quiz posted online for you to complete. The goal of these quizzes is for me to see how well you understood the topics in lecture. Although you are welcome to use any resources you want to take the quiz, they will be graded only on participation so I recommend treating them as closed note mini exams to test your own understanding of concepts after reviewing the material in each lecture.

**Problem Sets:** There will be 2 problem sets in this course. One will be due the class before the midterm (8/20) and the other will be due the class before the final (9/10). These will be graded on completeness rather than correctness and the idea is that they will serve as practice to help you study for the exams.

**Discussion Board:** Each of you will be assigned one week where you will be required to find one article from an online news source (New York Times, Wall Street Journal, etc.) related to macroeconomics. You need to post on the discussion board a link to this article as well as a 1 paragraph summary and 1 paragraph describing your own thoughts (2 paragraphs total). This should be at least 250 words but you are welcome to write more. Additionally, throughout the course, you must comment on at least 2 other people’s posts. Comments should be a few sentences (around 100 words - but can be longer!) and should give your own opinion on the article and the original poster’s thoughts. More details can be found on the class webpage.

Exam Policies:

- No make up exams will be offered
- You must bring your Bruin ID with you to the exam
- Calculators are allowed and recommended
- Use of any other electronic devices will not be allowed

Academic Integrity:

Please refer to the University of California’s policies on academic integrity [here](http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/Academic-Integrity). Any cheating, plagiarism, or other violations of academic integrity will be reported to the Office of the Dean of Students.