

EC112 Principles of Macroeconomics (04)

Quinnipiac University
Department of Economics, College of Arts and Sciences

Spring 2026

Instructor Details

- **Name:** Aman Desai
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- **Email Hours:** 8:00 PM to 9:00 PM
- **Office Hours:** MoWeFri 3:00PM to 5:00PM
- **Office Location:** Echlin Center 234

Class Schedule

- **Location:** Echlin Center 205
- **Time:** MoWeFri 10:00AM - 10:50AM

Course Description

Principles of Macroeconomics is one of the two undergraduate introductory courses offered by the Department of Economics at the College of Arts and Sciences, the other being Principles of Microeconomics. This course does not have any prerequisites.

Catalog Description: This course examines national income, unemployment, inflation, money and banking, interest rates, exchange rates, international trade, and fiscal and monetary policy. Analysis emphasizes learning core topics and applying critical thinking. A writing component is required.

Course Objectives

This course aims to equip students with the foundational concepts necessary for economic analysis at both the macroeconomic level and in broader policy contexts. The curriculum examines decision-making processes undertaken by governments, central banks, and aggregate economic actors. Through rigorous analysis of macroeconomic frameworks, students will develop the analytical tools required to evaluate contemporary policy debates and economic phenomena. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to apply economic theory to critically assess historical, current, and prospective economic developments.

Learning Outcomes

The successful student in this class will be able to:

- Analyze macroeconomic indicators including GDP, unemployment, and inflation, and interpret their implications for economic policy.

- Apply aggregate supply and aggregate demand models to explain short-run and long-run economic fluctuations.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of fiscal and monetary policy tools in addressing macroeconomic challenges such as recession, inflation, and unemployment.
- Distinguish between normative and positive economics when analyzing macroeconomic policy debates.
- Explain how money, banking, and the financial system influence macroeconomic outcomes.
- Analyze the determinants of long-run economic growth and standards of living across countries.
- Apply economic reasoning to current macroeconomic issues and policy discussions in national and global contexts.
- Interpret and analyze data presented in graphs, tables, and statistical formats commonly used in macroeconomic analysis.
- Explain the functioning of open economies, including exchange rates, trade balances, and international capital flows.

Required Materials

Textbook: Principles of Macroeconomics by N. Gregory Mankiw, 10th Edition. An ebook is included with *MindTap*.

MindTap for Mankiw's Principles of Macroeconomics, 1 term Instant Access (10th Edition)

- ISBN: 9780357722985
- Direct Price: \$154

or...

Cengage Unlimited Subscription – 4-month access (Instant Access)

- Direct Price: \$149.99

Cengage Unlimited is a 4-month or 12-month subscription that gives you access to the required MindTap materials above, as well as any other Cengage materials you may need for other classes. Also includes free print rentals, just pay S&H. Learn more: <https://www.cengage.com/unlimited/>

Purchase it directly through your Cengage Student Account: <https://www.cengage.com/c/mindtap-for-mankiw-s-principles-of-macroeconomics-1-term-instant-access-10e-mankiw/9780357722985/?searchIsbn=9780357722985>

For new term support: <https://course-pages.prod.eks.cengage.io/coursepages/NewTermSupport>

Lectures

All lectures will be delivered in person (except in emergency) at Echlin Center 205, and no attendance will be taken. You are responsible for everything in the assigned textbook chapters as well as what we cover in the lectures. Therefore, you need to be present, keep up with the reading, and pay attention. If you miss an assignment or analysis of an issue you will need to get the notes from someone who was present. You are also responsible for everything posted on Blackboard and MindTap.

Rules During Lectures

- **Be on time.** If you are late, you may still enter the lecture, but please be quiet and respectful of the other students.
- **Be prepared.** Read relevant chapter before attending the lecture.
- **Do not be disruptive.** Please be quiet and respectful during lectures so that all students can participate. This means no talking (unless given permission) and no sounds coming from phones/laptops. You may use a laptop, tablet or your phone to take notes, but all electronic equipment must be quiet.
- **Communicate with me** if you are struggling or having any problems. Students are encouraged to email me about any problems or concerns. Usually, working together, we can solve your academic problems. I can also direct the student to someone who can help with difficulties other than academic ones.

Note: You will not be penalized for being late, only for being disruptive!

Blackboard and MindTap

You are responsible for everything posted on Blackboard. I strongly recommend to get used to logging in and reviewing all announcements, notifications, etc. as these may contain important information.

On MindTap you will be able to find:

- Assignments to complete after lectures.

On Blackboard, you will be able to find:

- This syllabus, lecture slides, announcements relevant to the course.
- Links to the MindTap assignments.
- Any extra material deemed necessary for the course.

I suggest you take advantage of the office hours and do not wait until the end of term to drop by during office hours. These sessions will be very busy by the end of the semester, and you may not be able to make an appointment. The MindTap platform has a wealth of additional material related to the text. There are videos, quizzes, extra homework, and more. All this material is to help you and does not count towards your grade although MindTap will correct it and give you points.

The only graded assignments are the post-lecture homework. Nevertheless, I strongly encourage you to take advantage of the extra material.

Grading Scheme

Your final grade for this course will be based on online post-lecture assignments, in-person midterm exams, and an in-person final exam. The contribution of each component to your final grade is as follows:

- **20%** - These assignments will be available after the lecture—once the chapter is complete. You will have at least 5 days to finish each assignment.
- **40%** - 2 in-person midterm exams. These exams WILL NOT BE cumulative.
- **40%** - An in-person final exam. The final exam WILL BE cumulative. There will be a writing component on the final exam, too.

All assignments will be done electronically through MindTap. The midterms and the final exam will be in-person. The midterm exams will be conducted during the regular class time. The final exam is scheduled for Friday, May 8, 2026 at 10:30AM.

All exams will primarily consist of multiple-choice questions. Although, there will be questions in the final exam that require you to write. There will be absolutely NO make-up for any of the assignments after the deadline has passed. I will not accept explanations like “the server did not save my work” or “the internet connection broke down”. Make-up for the midterm and final exam will not be possible unless you have a valid and documented excuse.

Grading Policy

I will aim for a median score of 84 overall in your final raw scores, which is based on your performance on assignments, midterms, and the final exam. If the class median is less than 84, I will curve the grade by adding points equally to obtain the median score of 84. If your final raw score is a non-integer, I will ROUND UP to get the whole number. Keep in mind, your final raw score will be curved if required but not scores on each individual component.

Letter Grade	Numerical Range	Grade Pt. Value
A	93-100	4.00
A-	90-92	3.67
B+	87-89	3.33
B	83-86	3.00
B-	80-82	2.67
C+	77-79	2.33
C	73-76	2.00
C-	70-72	1.67
D	60-69	1.00
F	0-59	0.00

Academic Integrity

Cheating will result in the application of the University’s Academic Integrity Policy. You may find more on that here <https://catalog.qu.edu/handbooks/undergraduate/university-policies/academic-integrity-policy/>.

Accessibility

Quinnipiac University is committed to creating a learning environment that meets the needs of its diverse student body. If you anticipate or experience any barriers to learning in this course, please feel welcome to discuss your concerns with me.

If you have a disability, or think you may have a disability, you may also want to meet with the Office of Student Accessibility, to begin this conversation or to request reasonable accommodation. Quinnipiac University complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Please contact the Office of Student Accessibility by emailing access@qu.edu, or by calling (203) 582-7600. If you have already been approved for accommodation through the Office of Student Accessibility, please meet with me so we can develop an implementation plan together.

Tentative Schedule

Please note that this schedule is tentative and subject to change depending on the students' progress in class. Chapters are from the assigned textbook.

Date	Weekday	Lectures	Topics
Jan 21	Wednesday	Syllabus	Syllabus
Jan 23	Friday	Ch 1, 2	Basic Economic Review
Jan 26	Monday	Ch 2	Basic Economic Review
Jan 28	Wednesday	Ch 3	Basics of Trade Review
Jan 30	Friday	Ch 4	Supply and Demand
Feb 2	Monday	Ch 4	Supply and Demand
Feb 4	Wednesday	Ch 10	Measuring a Nation's Income
Feb 6	Friday	Ch 10	Measuring a Nation's Income
Feb 9	Monday	Ch 10	Measuring a Nation's Income
Feb 11	Wednesday	Ch 11	Measuring the Cost of Living
Feb 13	Friday	Ch 11	Measuring the Cost of Living
Feb 16	Monday	Ch 11	Measuring the Cost of Living
Feb 18	Wednesday	Ch 15	Unemployment
Feb 20	Friday	Ch 15	Unemployment
Feb 23	Monday	Ch 12	Production and Growth
Feb 25	Wednesday	Ch 12	Production and Growth
Feb 27	Friday	Ch 14	Basic Finance
Mar 2	Monday	Ch 14	Basic Finance
Mar 4	Wednesday	Ch 14	Basic Finance
Mar 6	Friday	Midterm 1	Midterm 1 (Ch 1-4, 10-12, 14, 15)
Mar 9-13	Mon-Fri	No Classes	Spring Recess
Mar 16	Monday	Ch 13	Saving, Investment, and the Financial System
Mar 18	Wednesday	Ch 13	Saving, Investment, and the Financial System
Mar 20	Friday	Ch 13	Saving, Investment, and the Financial System
Mar 23	Monday	Ch 16	The Monetary System
Mar 25	Wednesday	Ch 16	The Monetary System
Mar 27	Friday	Ch 16	The Monetary System
Mar 30	Monday	Ch 17	Money Growth and Inflation
Apr 1	Wednesday	Ch 17	Money Growth and Inflation
Apr 3	Friday	No Class	Good Friday
Apr 6	Monday	Ch 18	Open-Economy Macroeconomics: Basic Concepts

Date	Weekday	Lectures	Topics
Apr 8	Wednesday	Ch 18	Open-Economy Macroeconomics: Basic Concepts
Apr 10	Friday	Ch 18	Open-Economy Macroeconomics: Basic Concepts
Apr 13	Monday	Ch 20	Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply
Apr 15	Wednesday	Ch 20	Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply
Apr 17	Friday	Ch 20	Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply
Apr 20	Monday	Ch 21	Monetary and Fiscal Policy on Aggregate Demand
Apr 22	Wednesday	Ch 21	Monetary and Fiscal Policy on Aggregate Demand
Apr 24	Friday	Ch 21	Monetary and Fiscal Policy on Aggregate Demand
Apr 27	Monday	Review	Review for Midterm 2
Apr 29	Wednesday	Midterm 2	Midterm 2 (Ch 13, 16-18, 20, 21)
May 1	Friday	Review	Final Exam Review
May 6	Wednesday	Final Exam	Cumulative Final Exam