

ECON 421: Business Fluctuations – Notes 00

Spring 2015
Tu 6:00PM–9:00PM
Section 001

Created by
Richard Schwinn

Based on
Macroeconomics, Blanchard and Johnson [2011]

Professor

Richard Schwinn

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Office hours

Tu: 3:55–6:00PM or by appointment

Course web site:

<https://sakai.luc.edu>

How to contact me

- ▶ **Email:** rschwinn@luc.edu (works best)
Feel free to email me at any time if you have questions or concerns. In general I will try answer your email within 24 hours (except for weekends). SPAM filters can sometimes disrupt harmless email exchanges. If you do not hear from me send a follow-up email or query me in class. Please include Econ 304 in the subject line.

Any email from you should contain your course number!

- ▶ **Phone:** (not advised)

- ▶ *Macroeconomics*, 6th Edition by Olivier Blanchard and David Johnson (ISBN: 978-0133061703)
- ▶ It is available in the university bookstore.

- ▶ Your calculator should do exponents
- ▶ In most instances your cell phone will suffice in class, however dedicated calculators are required for exams.
- ▶ Programmable calculators may be used, but any efforts to program formulas, text, etc. into them for use on an exam will be considered academically dishonest and treated according to university policy. *I reserve the right to clear the memory of selected calculators during exam times.*

Graded: Online Assessments

- ▶ Various online assignments are required across the semester.
- ▶ Instructions specific to each assignment will be discussed in class when these assignments are posted.
- ▶ You will access these assignments via our course website:
<https://sakai.luc.edu> specific instructions are available on the syllabus.

Graded: Paper Based Assignments

- ▶ You are required to complete paper based assignments.
- ▶ These assignments specifically require either graphical or mathematical exposition which make them unsuitable as online problems.

Not graded but Required: In Class Solutions

- ▶ Several in class assignments will require that you follow my solutions in class.
- ▶ These assignments will be submitted during class.

Quizzes

Business
Fluctuations

Notes 00

Contact
InformationRequired
Materials

Assignments

Quizzes

Exams

Grading

General
Policies

References

- ▶ Given in lecture on a random basis.
- ▶ If you miss a lecture in which a quiz is given, you will receive a zero on that quiz (no exceptions). Quizzes will be based on any of the previous week's topics (cumulative from day one of lecture).
- ▶ In-class quizzes will be incorporated into the assignments grade.

Exams

Tentative schedule

Exam 1	Tuesday, March 17	C1 – C4
Exam 2	Tuesday, April 14 th	C5 – C8
Exam 3	TBA	C18 – C21, C23

There is no final exam. Instead you will complete a project to be detailed later in the semester.

Exam policies

- ▶ Exams (closed books, notes, etc.) given during the lecture periods.
- ▶ If you have a legitimate reason to not take an exam at the scheduled time and place with the rest of the class, contact me **at least two weeks before** the scheduled exam time to make arrangements.
- ▶ Formula sheets will be provided for each exam.

Final Numeric Grade

Assignments	+ Attendance	+ Exams	+ Project	-> Grade
30%	+ 10%	+ 45%	+ 15%	= 100%
A [100-90%]	B (90-80%)	C (80-70%)	D (70-60%)	F (60-00]

Final Grade

A 100-93	B+ 89-87	C+ 79-77	D+ 69-67	F <60
A- 92-90	B 86-83	C 76-73	D 66-60	
	B- 82-80	C- 72-70		

General Classroom Etiquette

- ▶ If you need to come in late or leave early, do so **quietly**.
- ▶ **No laptops, no newspapers, no headphones, no cell phones, no text messaging!**
- ▶ Please treat everyone with **respect**.
- ▶ **Participate!**
- ▶ **Ask** questions!

Attendance and general guidelines

Attendance to each class (listening) and your genuine effort on the homework projects, quizzes, and exams (doing) are two of the most important factors affecting your success in this class.

Macroeconomics requires both listening and doing. Feel free to ask me about problems after you have honestly worked on them—*my office hours are for you*.

Expectations

- ▶ Be open-minded and willing to succeed in this class.
- ▶ You are expected to make a sincere effort in approaching and learning the material covered in this course.
- ▶ An average of 5–6 hours outside the classroom expected for every class period in order to keep up.
- ▶ Your own effort is vital to your success in this class.
- ▶ Neglecting to put in sufficient effort will make this course unnecessarily difficult.

Academic Dishonesty

This class will follow the university's policies on academic integrity. A score of zero will be given for the entire assignment or exam in which academic dishonesty occurs. Any in-class behavior that directly disrupts the learning of another student is prohibited.

Disability-Accommodation

If you require special accommodations please contact me.

[Business
Fluctuations](#)[Notes 00](#)[Contact
Information](#)[Required
Materials](#)[Assignments](#)[Quizzes](#)[Exams](#)[Grading](#)[General
Policies](#)[References](#)

Questions or comments?

References

Olivier Jean Blanchard and David Johnson. *Macroeconomics*. Prentice Hall, 6th edition, 2011. ISBN 9780133061635.