



[Fall 2019] – [Introduction to Macroeconomics]
[FA19_ECON-UA_9001_GOF_F01]
[Monday 9.00 – 11.45]
[Villa Ulivi]

Class Description:

Prerequisites: pre-calculus

This introductory course provides students with a basic understanding of fundamental (macro)economic theories. The course is concerned with the definition and the theory of determination of national income, employment, business fluctuations, and price level. It also introduces students to the functions of money in a fractional-reserve banking system. The concepts of economic "circular flow", national income accounting, unemployment, inflation, government taxation and spending and money will be defined, explained and discussed. Finally instruments, functioning and effectiveness of both monetary and fiscal policy aimed to stabilize prices and maintain high levels of output and employment are discussed in the current macroeconomic context of major world economies.

Instructor Details:

Name: Giorgio Ricchiuti

NYUGlobal Home Email Address: gr43@nyu.edu

Office Hours: by appointment, usually either on Monday or Thursday in Villa Ulivi

Villa Ulivi Office Location: a room at the second floor of Villa Ulivi

Villa Ulivi Phone Number: +39 055 5007 300

Desired Outcomes:

On completion of this course, students should:

- Have improved their mastery of economic and business related concepts;
- Have performed graphical and quantitative treatment of the theories;
- Have made relevant connections between theory and real world examples, through references to media material, readings or case studies;
- Find an increased interest to read economic and business related materials in the media.

Assessment Components

Your average score in the course is a weighted-average of the following:

Midterm Exam	30%
Cumulative Final Exam	40%
Problem sets (2)	20%
Participation	10%

Failure to submit or fulfil any required course component results in failure of the class.

Assessment Expectations:

- **Grade A:** The student makes excellent use of empirical and theoretical material and offers structured arguments in his/her work. The student writes comprehensive essays/exam questions and his/her work shows strong evidence of critical thought and extensive reading.
- **Grade B:** The candidate shows a good understanding of the problem and has demonstrated the ability to formulate and execute a coherent research strategy
- **Grade C:** The work is acceptable and shows a basic grasp of the research problem. However, the work fails to organize findings coherently and is in need of improvement
- **Grade D:** The work passes because some relevant points are made. However, there may be a problem of poor definition, lack of critical awareness, poor research
- **Grade F:** The work shows that the research problem is not understood; there is little or no critical awareness and the research is clearly negligible
- *Please note, Stern Business courses will adhere to the Stern Grading

Grading Guidelines

At NYU Stern, we strive to create courses that challenge students intellectually and that meet the Stern standards of academic excellence. To ensure fairness and clarity of grading, the Stern faculty have adopted a grading guideline for core courses with enrollments of more than 25 students in which approximately 35% of students will receive an "A" or "A-" grade. In core classes of less than 25 students, the instructor is at liberty to give whatever grades they think the students deserve, while maintaining rigorous academic standards.

Grading Policy:

Please refer to Assessment Expectations and the policy on late submission of work

Academic Accommodations:

Academic accommodations are available for students with documented disabilities. Please contact the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities at 212-998-4980 or see the [Moses Center](#) for further information.

Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in a class are encouraged to contact the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities at (212) 998-4980 as soon as possible to better ensure

that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. For more information, see [Study Away and Disability](#).

Attendance Policy:

Study abroad at Global Academic Centers is an academically intensive and immersive experience, in which students from a wide range of backgrounds exchange ideas in discussion-based seminars. Learning in such an environment depends on the active participation of all students. And since classes typically meet once or twice a week, even a single absence can cause a student to miss a significant portion of a course. **To ensure the integrity of this academic experience, class attendance at the centers is mandatory, and unexcused absences will be penalized with a two percent deduction from the student's final course grade.** Students are responsible for making up any work missed due to absence. Repeated absences in a course may result in failure.

For courses that meet once a week, one unexcused absence will be penalized by a two percent deduction from the student's final course grade. For courses that meet two or more times a week, the same penalty will apply to the number of class times over a single week

Excused Absences:

In case of absence, regardless of the reason, the student is responsible for completing missed assignments, getting notes and making up missed work in a timely manner based upon a schedule that is mutually agreed upon between the faculty member and the student. **The only excused absences are those approved by the Office of Academic Support; they are as follows:**

Absence Due to Illness

- If you are sick, please see a doctor. Contact the Office of Student Life for assistance.
- For absences that last for **two or more consecutive days**, a **doctor's certificate, "certificato medico" is required**. The doctor will indicate in writing the number of days of bed rest required. Please note **these certificates can only be obtained on the day you see the doctor** and cannot be written for you afterwards.
- Absences can ONLY be excused if they are reported WITHIN 48 HRS of your return to class via the online NYU Florence Absence Form [insert new hyperlink]
- OAS will not accept a student email or telephone call regarding an absence due to illness
- OAS will only notify faculty of absences REPORTED on the ABSENCE FORM
- The Office of Student Life, when assisting you in cases of severe or extended illness, will coordinate with the Office of Academic Support to properly record your absences

Due to Religious Observance

- Students observing a religious holiday during regularly scheduled class time are entitled to miss class without any penalty to their grade. This is for the holiday only and does not include the days of travel that may come before and/or after the holiday
- Information regarding absences due to religious observance must be provided at least SEVEN DAYS PRIOR to the date(s) in question using the online NYU Florence Absence Form [insert new hyperlink]
- Please note that no excused absences for reasons other than illness can be applied retroactively.

Due to a class conflict with a program sponsored lecture, event, or activity

- All students are entitled to miss one class period without any penalty to their grade in order to attend a lecture, event or activity that is sponsored by La Pietra Dialogues, Acton Miscellany or the Graduate Lecture series.
- Information regarding absences due to a class conflict must be provided at least SEVEN DAYS PRIOR to the date(s) in question using the online NYU Florence Absence Form [insert new hyperlink]
- Please note that no excused absences for reasons other than illness can be applied retroactively.

Students with questions or needing clarification about this policy are instructed to contact a member of the Office of Academic Support located in Villa Ulivi or to email florence.academicssupport@nyu.edu

Late Submission of Work

- All course work must be submitted on time, in class on the date specified on the syllabus.
- To request an extension on a deadline for an assignment, students must speak to the professor one week prior to the due date
- To receive an incomplete for a course at the end of the semester, two weeks before final exams, both the student and the faculty member must meet with the Assistant Director of Academic Affairs to review the request and if granted, they must both sign an Incomplete Contract detailing the terms for completing missing coursework.
- Two (2) problem sets will be assigned during the semester. The problem sets will be posted on *NYU Classes* for you to download and print, with due dates announced both in class and on *NYU Classes*. In order to avoid misunderstandings, I suggest you to hand in the problem set in one of the following ways: 1) by hand in class; 2) by e-mail, announcing it and asking me a reply; 3) in my mailbox at the reception office, asking them to put a date on your hard-copy and sending me an e-mail to confirm. *Those of you that will not submit a problem set on time will receive "0"*. **Make a photocopy** of your answers before coming to class; you will not be getting your answers back. You'll need the photocopy to check your own answers against those posted on *NYU Classes*.

Plagiarism Policy

PLAGIARISM WILL NOT BE TOLERATED IN ANY FORM:

The presentation of another person's words, ideas, judgment, images or data as though they were your own, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism.

In the event of suspected or confirmed cases of plagiarism, The faculty member will consult first with the Assistant Director for Academic Affairs as definitions and procedures vary from school to school. Please consult the "Academic Guidelines for Success" distributed on your USB key at Check-in and on the NYU Florence Global Wiki.

For a detailed description of some possible forms of plagiarism and cheating please consult the Community Compact that you signed at Orientation, a copy of which is on the above mentioned Wiki and USB key.

Writing Center:

The Writing Center, located in Aula Belvedere in Villa Ulivi, offers you feedback on any type of writing, at any stage in planning or drafting. Sign up for a consultation at the [Writing Center's website](#) and submit your working draft or ideas a day in advance to [NYU Florence Writing Center](#). Drop in for a consultation M-Th, but remember that appointments are given priority. Be assured that very rough drafts are welcome. Please note that we do not correct or "fix" your writing; instead we prompt you to think and work. Our aim is to create stronger writers in the long term, not necessarily perfect papers in the short term

Required Text(s):

Lieberman M. and Hall R., (2013) Principles and Applications of Macroeconomics, ed. Cengage

Copies of each textbook are available for consultation and short term loans in the [Villa Ulivi Library](#). Extra copies of some textbooks are also available for semester long loans. For more information on Books and Course Materials go [here](#).

Supplemental Texts(s):

In the second part of the course, we will watch a video on Federal Reserve and Monetary Policy. The link will be uploaded on *NYU Classes*.

Additional readings from main newspapers and economic journals may be distributed in class and/or uploaded on *NYU Classes*.

Texts that students are not required to are in NYU-FL Library or available on line

Internet Research Guidelines:

The careful use of internet resources is encouraged and a list of recommended websites will be given. Failure to cite internet and other non-traditional media sources in your written work constitutes plagiarism.

Additional Required Equipment:

A pocket calculator is required. Smartphones are not allowed during the exams.

Class Assignments and Topics:

Session 1 - 2nd September

Intro to the course - What is Economics? - Scarcity and Choice

Readings: Ch. 1 and Ch. 2

Session 2- 9th September

Supply and Demand. Macroeconomics Basic Concepts: Employment

Readings: Ch. 3; Ch. 4; Ch. 5 and Ch. 6

Session 3 - 16th September

Macroeconomics Basic Concepts: GDP

Readings: Ch. 6

Session 4 - 23th September

Macroeconomics Basic Concepts: Price Level and Inflation

Readings: Ch. 6 and Ch. 7

Session 5 - 30th September

Long-Run Macroeconomics

Readings: Ch. 8 and Ch. 9

Session 6 - 7th October

Economic Fluctuations and Short-run Macro Model (NB: First Problem Set on NYU Classes)

Readings: Ch. 10 and Ch. 11

Session 7 - 14th October

Short-run Macro Model and Fiscal Policy (NB: Delivery of 1st Problem Set)

Readings: Ch. 10, Ch. 11 and Ch. 12

Session 8 - 16th October from 6.30 to 8.00 pm in room Fiesole

Review Session

Session 9 - 21st October

Midterm Exam

Session 10 - 4th November

Money, Banks, and FED vs ECB

Readings: Ch. 13 and Ch. 14

Session 11 - 11th November

Money, Banks, and FED vs ECB

Readings: Ch. 13 and Ch. 14

Session 12 - 18th November

AD and AS (NB: Second Problem Set on NYU Classes)

Readings: Ch. 15

Session 13 - 25th November

Inflation and Monetary Policy (Delivery of 2nd Problem Set)

Readings: Ch. 16

Session 14 - 2nd December

Exchange Rate and Macroeconomic Policy

Readings: Ch. 17

Session 15 - 4th December from 6.30 to 8.00 pm in room Fiesole

Review Session

Final Exam

Classroom Etiquette

- Eating is not permitted in the classrooms. Bottled water is permitted.
- Cell phones should be turned off during class time.
- The use of personal laptops and other electronic handheld devices are prohibited in the classroom unless otherwise specified by the professor.
- We recycle! So keep it green! Please dispose of trash in the clearly marked recycle bins located throughout the on campus buildings

Required Co-curricular Activities

Two Review Sessions will take place before the Exams. Below you can find dates, I will remind them in class and on Classes. Please, take into account that the two review sessions are compulsory!

Suggested Co-curricular Activities

Suggested optional co-curricular activities will be announced in class and/or via email by the professor throughout the semester.

Your Instructor

Giorgio Ricchiuti defended his PhD at the Università degli Studi di Firenze (Italy) with a thesis in empirical and theoretical international economics on the (real) exchange rate. He is currently Associate Professor at the Department of Economics and Management of the Università degli Studi di Firenze, Fellow of the Complexity Lab in Economics at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (in Milan) and instructor of Macroeconomics at New York University in Florence. His research has been regarding dynamic models with heterogeneous agents and bounded rationality in financial markets and industrial organization market structure. Moreover, from an empirical point of view, it has been focusing on how different modes of internationalization (mainly FDI) affect productivity, sales and firms' survival probability. My website is www.grarchive.net