

# Course Syllabus

## Econ 4353: Intermediate Macroeconomics

<b>Prerequisites</b>	Econ 1015 or Econ 1051 and Math 1400
<b>Times and Location</b>	<i>Online -- see Canvas for meeting schedule and Zoom information</i>  <i>Final Exam: due by 5pm on Thursday, 12/17</i>
<b>Professor Contact Information</b>	Dr. Rebecca Whitworth whitworthr@missouri.edu (573) 882-9925 Professional Building Room 231  *Office hours are posted on Canvas
<b>Teaching Assistants</b>	See Canvas
<b>Canvas</b>	<a href="https://courses.missouri.edu">courses.missouri.edu</a>

### COVID-19 Statement

*In the interest of public health and in order to meet the requirements of social distancing, this class is being offered fully online this semester. In order to optimize your class time, expect;*

- **Asynchronous content.** *Asynchronous content includes lecture pages, PDFs, PPTs, and videos. Offering these materials asynchronously allows you to explore the ideas and concepts at your own pace. If you are struggling with the material, we expect that you will reach out to an instructor or TA for guidance.*
- **Synchronous lectures.** *Several synchronous lectures are scheduled each week. While many of these lectures are required, some may be optional. To assist with scheduling, required and optional lectures are noted in the Weekly To Do lists posted on Canvas. We expect you will attend all required lectures.*
- **Due dates and recommended pacing.** *The recommended pace for this course is posted on Canvas via the Canvas Calendar and the Weekly To Do list. Refer to these resources often to ensure that you are not falling behind in the course.*

### Course Catalog Description:

The study of the structure and performance of national economics. Topics include: long-term economic growth, aggregate economic fluctuations, unemployment, and inflation; consequences for national economies of being part of the global economic system; government policies and macroeconomic performance.

## Course Objectives

It is my hope that you will learn the theory of macroeconomics and be able to apply this theory to current events and concerns. This course will take you deeper into the methods and lessons of modern macroeconomic theory. We will analyze the basics of household and firm decision-making, dynamic optimization, and general equilibrium. These tools are mathematical, but we will build up this architecture gradually. With our toolkit, we will cover a mix of traditional macroeconomic questions, including:

- What drives economic growth?
- What causes business cycle fluctuations?
- What is the impact of fiscal and monetary policy?

We will also discuss more timely questions, including asset bubbles and crises, sovereign default, drivers and consequences of inequality, trade, and labor market issues.

Building this toolkit takes both effort and time. I will provide the resources and instruction for you, but there is no substitute for hands on trial of these methods. Economics is learned best by doing it. As such, I will also provide an environment for you to work with the theories in order to deepen your technical skills and intuition.

At the end of the course, I hope that

- (1) You are able to engage in informed discussions about macroeconomics and make informed judgements about causes, implications, and policy responses to various macroeconomic phenomena
- (2) You further develop your technical skills and intuition used in macroeconomic analysis
- (3) You discover areas of study that interest you and provide a basis for future paths

## Textbook, Materials, and Resources

**Textbook:** The textbook for this is made available in PDF form by the book authors. These files will appear on Canvas. However, there is no such thing as a free lunch. In return for free access to the text, it is understood that this book is in draft form. This means that the graphs and tables may not be in-line with the text. Additionally, passages may not be clear. You are expected to ask me about these passages.

**Packback:** We are utilizing Packback during this course.

How to Register on Packback: If you were on the original roster for this course, your account has already been created by Packback & added to the correct community!

1. Search your inbox for an email from *help@packback.co* with the subject line "Finish registration for Instructor Whitworth's course" - This may be hiding in spam, so search thoroughly!
2. Click "set account password" to get started! (If you already have a Packback account, just log in)
3. Once you're logged in, click "join a community". When this course's community appears, click "join community"
4. Enter the community & start asking questions!

Note, Packback is included in AutoAccess. If you are asked to provide payment information, contact [help@packback.co](mailto:help@packback.co) instead and copy my on the email. Additional information (including what to do if you did not receive an email) is posted on Canvas.

Packback Support: If you have any questions on registration or technical issues, contact Packback at [holla@packback.co](mailto:holla@packback.co) or <https://questions.packback.co>

**Canvas**: This course uses Canvas. You must be able to log into Canvas. Please be sure that Canvas announcements are automatically sent to your email so you have the latest information. Additionally, Canvas contains course notes, resources, assignments, and our course calendar.

**Email**: Please reach out via email if you have questions, comments, or concerns. *In order for us to respond, email needs to be sent from your university address (@mail.missouri.edu) with your question, problem, or difficulty clearly outlined. We cannot discuss grades via email, but am happy to discuss them in person. Be sure to include your course in the subject of the email. For example "Econ 4353: Question about consumer theory". Do not use Canvas to send messages as those are not always delivered.*

**University Technical Support (email and Canvas)**: If you are having technical difficulty with Canvas, please contact MU Tech Support at (573) 882-5000 or email [techsupport@missouri.edu](mailto:techsupport@missouri.edu). I cannot help with substantive issues with Canvas.

*Tech Support Hours:*

Monday – Thursday: 7:30 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Friday: 7:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Saturday: 12 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Sunday: 12 p.m. – 8 p.m.

**Want Extra Help?** If you find a topic challenging or come across a roadblock, reach out. Below are some of the many resources available to you;

- Office Hours for Prof. Whitworth
- Instructor email
- Ask a question in class
- Classmates
- Review the Panopto recording for the lecture in question
- Canvas Resources
- Economics Department Tutor List

A word about time management. The Learning Center offers assistance in setting up study plans for your classes. If you find that you struggle with time management, I would strongly recommend taking advantage of this early in the semester.

## Course Set-Up, Deliverables, and Grading Scheme

Course material is organized into weekly modules. At the end of a two week cycle, you must complete a homework assignment. The quiz is due the following Sunday. The schedule for this course is below:

<i>Week</i>	<i>Homework Due Dates</i>	<i>Quiz Due Date</i>
Week 1	Week 1 Homework: 8/30	Week 2 Quiz: 9/6
Week 2 and 3	Week 3 Homework: 9/13	Week 4 Quiz: 9/20
Week 4 and 5	Week 5 Homework: 9/27	Week 6 Quiz: 10/4
Week 6 and 7	Week 7 Homework: 10/11	Week 8 Quiz: 10/18
Week 8 and 9	Week 9 Homework: 10/25	Week 10 Quiz: 11/1
Week 10 and 11	Week 11 Homework: 11/8	Week 12 Quiz: 11/15
Week 12 and 13	Week 13 Homework: 11/22 (recommended by 11/20)	Week 14 Quiz: 12/6
Week 14 and 15	Week 15 Homework: 12/10	

Note: Due dates are subject to change. Check Canvas for the latest information.

### Deliverables:

Deliverable	Percent of Grade
<i>Packback</i>	<b>10%</b>
<i>Homework</i>	<b>45%</b>
<i>Quizzes</i>	<b>45%</b>
Total	100%

## Course Policies and Procedures

**Asynchronous Work and Work Session Attendance:** Work for this class is divided into asynchronous lecture pages and in-person work sessions. You are expected to complete all asynchronous content (including watching all required videos). Work sessions repeat throughout the week to give everyone an opportunity to attend. You need only attend one per week. While these are optional, they are strongly encouraged.

**Weekly To Do Lists:** Each module starts with a “To Do” List to help organize your work for the week. Each To Do List notes:

- Required Reading. Reading and lecture pages are linked to the To Do list.
- Optional Work Sessions. Each week may have optional lectures as well. While not required, these are strongly recommended.
- Suggested Pace for the Asynchronous Content. The “To-Do” list provides a suggested pace for the asynchronous content. You may be able to work faster or you may find that the content takes more time than anticipated. Plan on roughly 10-15 hours of course work per week for this 5 credit hour class. Make sure you can allocate this time consistently throughout the semester.

**Packback:** You are expected to post 1 original question by Wednesday at 11:59pm and 2 follow-up posts by 11:59pm on Sunday each week. Each post that meets the minimum curiosity score earns 1 point. Posts not meeting the minimum score are assigned half credit. While points are capped at 3 per week, you are always free to post more than required. Instructions for registering with Packback are on Canvas under the welcome module.

**Note:** Packback assigns a curiosity score immediately after you post. If you do not meet the minimum, you are welcome to edit your post in order to meet the cutoff. Packback may take up to 24 hours to moderate your post. You are encouraged to post well before the deadline to ensure that your post counts towards credit.

**Homework: *No late homeworks will be accepted.*** Homeworks are due at the end of odd numbered weeks and cover the two weeks immediately preceding the homework (except for Week 1). Homeworks are available a week before they are due via Canvas, no exemptions will be granted for weekly homework.

**Homework Due Dates:** Homework is on Sunday to Canvas by 11:59pm. Exact due dates are posted on Canvas. Your upload must be time stamped prior to 11:59pm.

**Homework Submissions:** You must submit your homework via a PDF file upload to Canvas. See Canvas for instructions on converting your work to a PDF. If you are not familiar with converting a file to PDF, allow plenty of time to figure this out during the first week.

**Quizzes:** This course consists of bi-weekly (once every two week) quizzes throughout the semester. Quizzes are due at the end of even numbered weeks (Week 2, 4, 6, 8, 10... and so on). You can complete the quiz anytime during the week. You only have one attempt on each quiz.

**Make-Up Quizzes:** No makeup quizzes will be offered for this course. If you miss a scheduled exam for medical or extraordinary personal reasons, you are welcome to take the final exam for the course. The final exam will substitute for your lowest two quiz scores.

**Final Exam:** The final is cumulative and is due by Thursday, 12/17 at 5pm. The final (given in Canvas quiz format) is twice as long as a quiz and pulls content from every week. The final will open on Monday, 12/14 at 8am. No makeups or other arrangements will be made for the final.

**Quiz Materials:** All quizzes are open note, open book, and timed. There is not enough time to research each question. You are expected to prepare for a quiz as if it were an exam. Quizzes

may require you to work out a question on paper, then submit the answer. Be prepared with paper and pencil handy during the quiz.

**Academic Honesty on Quizzes:** We expect that your work is your own. The following will be treated as an instance of academic dishonesty: sharing quiz questions or answers after completing your own quiz, receiving quiz questions or answers before completing your own quiz, discussing content while you are taking the quiz (including discussing content tutors, parents, etc). When in doubt, it's best to contact an instructor or TA for assistance.

**A word about accommodations:** I am happy to do what I can to help you succeed in this course. If you have academic accommodations through the Office of Disability Services, you must (a) submit your letter of accommodations to me as soon as possible, and (b) confirm your accommodations are entered into Canvas one week prior to the due date for the quiz.

**Extra Credit:** At the discretion of Prof. Whitworth, extra credit may be offered at the end of the semester. This is at the sole discretion of the instructors.

**Course Grading Scheme:** The standard undergraduate grading scheme will be used for this course. This has been entered into Canvas so you know your course grade at all times. For reference:

A+	97%-100%
A	93%-96.99%
A-	90%-92.99%
B+	87%-89.99%
B	83%-86.99%
B-	80%-82.99% and so on...

## University Policies and Procedures

**Accommodation of Disabilities:** If you anticipate barriers related to the format or requirements of this course, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need to make arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please let me know as soon as possible.

If disability related accommodations are necessary (for example, a note taker, extended time on exams, captioning), please register with the Disability Center, S5 Memorial Union, (573) 882-4696, and then notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. For other MU resources for students with disabilities, click on "Disability Resources" on the MU homepage.

**Intellectual Pluralism:** The University community welcomes intellectual diversity and respects student rights. Students who have questions or concerns regarding the atmosphere in this class (including respect for diverse opinions) may contact the Departmental Chair or Divisional Director; the Director of the Office of Students Rights and Responsibilities (<http://osrr.missouri.edu/>); or the MU Equity Office (<http://equity.missouri.edu/>), or by email at [equity@missouri.edu](mailto:equity@missouri.edu). All students will have the opportunity to submit an anonymous evaluation of the instructor(s) at the end of the course.

**Academic Inquiry, Course Discussion, and Privacy:** University of Missouri System Executive Order No. 38 lays out principles regarding the sanctity of classroom discussions at the university. The policy

is described fully in Section 200.015 of the Collected Rules and Regulations. In this class, students may make audio or video recordings of course activity unless specifically prohibited by the faculty member. However, the redistribution of audio or video recordings of statements or comments from the course to individuals who are not students in the course is prohibited without the express permission of the faculty member and of any students who are recorded. Students found to have violated this policy are subject to discipline in accordance with provisions of section 200.020 of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri pertaining to student conduct matters.

**Academic Integrity:** Academic integrity is essential to our institutional values of respect, responsibility, discovery, and excellence. These values are fundamental to the everyday function of our academic community, as well as to the goals and vision we have for the University of Missouri.

Each member of our community - faculty, staff, and students alike - must be committed to the principles of honesty and fairness. Faculty and staff are expected to model appropriate behavior and demonstrate their commitment to our community. Students also bear responsibility for upholding the culture of integrity in our community. Maintaining this culture, and our institutional values, requires that students do not tolerate the actions of those community members who engage in inappropriate behavior.

Academic integrity ensures that all students have a fair and equal opportunity to succeed. Any behavior that provides an unfair advantage to one student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Each piece of work completed by a student must be solely a reflection of that student's own work or his or her contribution to a collaborative effort.

Sanctions for such a breach may include academic sanctions from the instructor, including failing the course for any violation, to disciplinary sanctions ranging from probation to expulsion. All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the university via the Office of Academic Integrity. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting, collaboration, or any other form of cheating, consult the course instructor.

**Mental Health:** The University of Missouri is committed to supporting student well-being through an integrated network of care, with a wide range of services to help students succeed. The MU Counseling Center offers professional mental health care, and can help you find the best approach to treatment based on your needs. Call to make an appointment at 573-882-6601. Any student in crisis may call or go to the MU Counseling Center between 8:00 – 5:00 M-F. After hours phone support is available at 573-882-6601.

Visit our website at <https://wellbeing.missouri.edu> to take an online mental health screening, find out about workshops and resources that can help you thrive, or learn how to support a friend. Download Sanvello, a phone app that teaches skills and strategies to help you maintain good mental health. Log in with your Mizzou e-mail to unlock all the tools available through Sanvello at no cost to you.

**Title IX:** University of Missouri policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, pregnancy, age, genetic information, disability, and protected veteran status. Discrimination includes any form of unequal treatment such as denial of opportunities, harassment, and violence. Sex-based

violence includes rape, sexual assault, unwanted touching, stalking, dating/interpersonal violence, and sexual exploitation.

If you experience discrimination, you are encouraged (but not required) to report the incident to the MU Office for Civil Rights & Title IX. Learn more about your rights and options at [civilrights.missouri.edu](http://civilrights.missouri.edu) or call 573-882-3880. You also may make an anonymous report online.

Students may also contact the Relationship & Sexual Violence Prevention (RSVP) Center, a confidential resource, for advocacy and other support related to rape or power-based personal violence at [rsvp@missouri.edu](mailto:rsvp@missouri.edu) or 573-882-6638, or go to [torsvp.missouri.edu](http://torsvp.missouri.edu). Both the Office for Civil Rights & Title IX and the RSVP Center can provide assistance to students who need help with academics, housing, or other issues.

**Syllabus:** This syllabus can change, at the discretion of the instructor, without notice. Changes will be announced in lecture and posted via the “Announcements” function on Canvas.