Macroeconomics - Module II, Fall 2014

Peking University HSBC Business School

General Information

Instructor: Jiao Shi

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Office: PHBS 650

Office hours: 5PM – 6PM Monday & 9AM – 10AM Thursday, or by appointment

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Teaching Assistants: Liu, Tong liutong1205@sz.pku.edu.cn

TA's help sections: TBA

Class Time and Location: 1:30PM – 3:20PM, Monday & Thursday @229 PHBS

Course Description

Outline: This is a required class for students of the quantitative finance program. The purpose of the class is twofold. On the one hand, we study macroeconomic concepts and theories. On the other hand, we will apply these theories to understand macroeconomic events happening in China, as well as in the world. This course is designed to introduce students to the core concepts of macroeconomics and how to think critically about the economy. We will look at how to measure macroeconomic activity, the cost of living, and employment. We examine issues such as inflation, unemployment, and growth at different horizons. We will also discuss conducts of monetary and fiscal policies.

Class Materials:

Required text: "Macroeconomics" by Olivier Blanchard, fifth edition, 2013, Pearson Education and Tsinghua University Press

Lecture notes and supplemental readings will be provided to students throughout the semester

Course Works and Grading

Final grade will be determined according to the following schedule.

Component	Weight
Midterm exam	25%
Final exam	35%
Class participation	10%
Homework assignments	30%
Total	100%

Midterm and final exam: The midterm exam will be in class on Monday, December 15th. The final exam is arranged to take place in one of the regular exam days after the end of the semester. The final exam will be cumulative, with an emphasis on material covered in the latter half of the semester.

Homework: There will be 4 - 5 homework assignments. Students are expected to complete these homework assignments independently.

Participation: Class attendance is expected. Students who miss class beyond reasonable frequency will automatically lose the class participation grade. In-class discussion and participation are strongly encouraged, and I reserve the right to make minor upward adjustments to your final grade using participation performance.

Class Schedule

Time*	Class Coverage	Textbook Chapter to Read
Week 1	Course introduction	Chapter 1
	Macroeconomics and macroeconomic variables	Chapter 2: 2-1, 2-2, 2-3
Week 2	The economy in the short run:	Chapter 3
	- Composition of GDP and demand for goods	
	- Goods market and the IS curve	
Week 3	The economy in the short run:	Chapter 4
	- Money, interest, and financial market	Chapter 5
	- Determination of interest rate	
	- Financial market and the LM curve	
Week 4	The economy in the medium run	Chapter 6
	- Unemployment and wage determination	Chapter 7
	- AS-AD model	
Week 5	The economy in the medium run	Chapter 8
	- The Phillips Curve	Chapter 9
	- Output, unemployment, and inflation	
Week 6	The economy in the long run	Chapter 11
	- Growth via capital accumulation	Chapter 12
	- Technological progress and growth	Chapter 13
Week 7	Financial markets and expectations	Chapter 15
	- Bond market and stock market	Chapter 18
	- Bubbles and asset prices	
	Open economy macroeconomics	
	- Openness in goods market and assets market	
	- The nominal and real exchange rate	
Week 8	Open economy macroeconomics	Chapter 19
	- Saving, investment, and current account	Chapter 20
	- Output, interest rate, and exchange rate	Chapter 21
	- Exchange rate regime and capital control	
Week 9	Macroeconomic policies	Chapter 17: 17-1, 17-2
	- Monetary policy	Chapter 25: 25-1, 25-2

^{*} Tentative and subject to change depending on the pace of class

Academic Integrity:

Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculties are required to report any suspected instance of academic dishonesty to the PHBS Discipline Committee.