



EXTENDED CAMPUS

COLLEGE *of* PROFESSIONAL
and CONTINUING STUDIES

ECON 5073-105: Contemporary Economic Methods and Analysis

Course Description:

This course is concerned with the review of aggregate yardsticks and theory and their application to the analysis of major policy issues and problems confronting the American economy.

Social Accounting Systems, such as U.S. National Income Accounting, are reviewed and analyzed. The American economy's socio-economic goals of full employment, maximum production, stable prices, and sustained growth are critically examined. Aggregate theory is used in an analysis of the role of private consumption and investment and of the government sector as regards the determination of the socio-economic goals of the American society. To evaluate the past performance of the American economy and to be able to offer some tentative predictions regarding its future, a review of the 1930s, 1940s, 1950s, 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s is presented.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:

Dates: June 14 – 16 & 21 – 23, 2019

Location: 3281 NW Koehler Loop, Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

Hours: Friday 5:30-9:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Sunday 12:00-4:00 p.m.

Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: May 16, 2019

Site Director:

Email: apftsill@ou.edu. Phone: (580) 355-1974.

Professor Contact Information:

Course Professor: Zhen Zhu, Ph.D.

Mailing Address: Department of Economics
University of Central Oklahoma
100 N. University Drive
Edmond, OK 730734

Telephone Number: 405-321-8693

E-mail Address: zzhu@uco.edu

Professor availability: The professor will be available via email to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:

Student materials are available at the OU Bookstore Website at <https://ou.textbookx.com/institutional/index.php>. There is no longer a physical bookstore, the store will remain, but textbooks will not be stocked. The website has book selling, renting, buying, returning, and order tracking capabilities. If you need help with an order, or if you have any questions contact the toll-free phone at 1-(855)-790-6637, agents are available from 9a – 5p (EST) Monday – Friday. For more information or questions about textbooks, feel free to contact apsyllabi@ou.edu. Text prices are available online

Abel, A., Bernanke, B., & Croushore, D. (2013). *Macroeconomics* (8th ed.). Old Tappan, NJ: Pearson Education. ISBN 9780132992282.

Course Objectives:

After completing this course, you will be able to do the following:

- Explain how the aggregate economy is structured (income measurement, inflation, employment, financial systems and so on);
- Explain the causes of long term economic growth and short term economic fluctuations;
- Understand how monetary and fiscal policies can impact the aggregate economy;
- Apply economic principles to real-world events.

Course Outline:

Part 1 Introduction:

- Chapter 1 Introduction to Macroeconomics
- Chapter 2 The Measurement and Structure of the National Economy

Part 2 Long-Run Economic Performance

- Chapter 3 Productivity, Output, and Employment
- Chapter 4 Consumption, Saving, and Investment
- Chapter 5 Saving and Investment in the Open Economy (optional)
- Chapter 6 Long-Run Economic Growth
- Chapter 7 The Asset Market, Money, and Prices

Part 3 Business Cycles and Macroeconomic Policy

- Chapter 8 Business Cycles
- Chapter 9 The IS-LM/AD-AS Model: A General Framework for Macroeconomic Analysis
- Chapter 10 Classical Business Cycle Analysis: Market-Clearing Macroeconomics (optional)
- Chapter 11 Keynesianism: The Macroeconomics of Wage and Price Rigidity (optional)

Part 4 Macroeconomic Policy: It's Environment and Institutions

- Chapter 12 Unemployment and Inflation
- Chapter 13 Exchange Rates, Business Cycles, and Macroeconomic Policy in the Open Economy (optional)
- Chapter 14 Monetary Policy and the Federal Reserve System
- Chapter 15 Government Spending and Its Financing

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:

Grading for this course will be based on an in-class, closed-book final examination given the last day of class and a post-seminar paper.

Post Seminar Assignment:

Students will be required to write a term paper on any **macroeconomics related topic** with the permission of the course professor. The term paper must be at least 15 pages in length with appropriate citation, etc. **Due Date: July 7, 2019**

Grading:

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

| Assignment | Percent of Grade |
|------------|------------------|
| Final Exam | 70% |

| Assignment | Percent of Grade |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Post - Seminar Assignment | 30% |

Notice: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.

POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution's policy regarding "I" (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any "I" (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on "financial aid probation." If the "I" grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student's Financial Aid may be suspended making the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Integrity and Student Conduct

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Academic assignments exist to help students learn; grades exist to show how fully this goal is attained. Therefore all work and all grades should result from the student's own understanding and effort.

Academic misconduct is any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student's academic performance or achievement. Misconduct occurs when the student either knows or reasonably should know that the act constitutes misconduct. Academic misconduct includes: cheating and using unauthorized materials on examinations and other assignments; improper collaboration, submitting the same assignment for different classes (self-plagiarism); fabrication, forgery, alteration of documents, lying, etc...in order to obtain an academic advantage; assisting others in academic misconduct; attempting to commit academic misconduct; destruction of property, hacking, etc...; intimidation and interference with integrity process; and plagiarism. All students should review the Student's Guide to Academic Integrity at http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. All students should review policies regarding student conduct at <http://studentconduct.ou.edu/>

Accommodation Statement

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

Adjustment for Pregnancy/Childbirth-Related Issues

Should you need modifications or adjustments to your course requirements because of documented pregnancy-related or childbirth-related issues, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss. Generally, modifications will be made where medically necessary and similar in scope to accommodations based on temporary disability. Please see <http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo/faqs/pregnancy-faqs.html>.

Title IX Resources

For any concerns regarding gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, stalking, or intimate partner violence, the University offers a variety of resources, including advocates on-call 24/7, counseling services, mutual no-contact orders, scheduling adjustments, and disciplinary sanctions against the perpetrator. Please contact the Sexual Misconduct Office at smo@ou.edu or (405) 325-2215 (8-5), or the Sexual Assault Response Team at (405) 615 -0013 (24/7) to report an incident. To learn more about Title IX, please visit the Institutional Equity Office's website at <http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo.html>

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: <http://www.goou.ou.edu/>

INSTRUCTOR VITA

Zhen Zhu, Ph.D.

Education

1994 Ph.D. in International Economics, Macroeconomics, Econometrics, University of Michigan

Current Positions

- Advanced Programs professor since 1997
- Dr. Michael Metzger Endowed Chair, Professor of Economics, University of Central Oklahoma

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses

- Economics 5613 International Economics - Trade
- Economics 5633 International Economics – Finance
- Economics 5073 Contemporary Economic Policy and Analysis

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- International Financial Market
- Energy Markets (especially natural gas markets)

Representative Publications and Presentations

- “Chinese Natural Gas Market: Huge but Beset with Difficulties.” *Natural Gas and Electricity*, July 2018, Volume 34, Number 12, pp. 1-7.
- “Cost of Natural Gas in Eastern Chinese Markets: Implications for LNG Imports,” with Yue Wang, *Energy Forum*, International Association for Energy Economists, 2018:1, pp. 13-20.
- “What motivates merger and acquisition activities in the upstream oil & gas sectors in the U.S.?” with Kuang-Chung Hsu, Michael Wright. *Energy Economics*, pp. 240-250, June 2017.
- “Controlling for Relevant Variables: Energy Consumption and Economic Growth Nexus Revisited in an EGARCH-M Model”, with Song Zan Chiou Wei, *Energy*, Vol. 109, 391-399, August 2016.
- “A Meta-Analysis of the Energy Consumption-Economic Growth Nexus,” with Song Zan Chiou Wei, *International Journal of Economics and Social Sciences*, April 2015.
- “Forecasting Natural Gas Consumption: China and Japan,” with Chiou Wei Song Zan, Fanbei Zhou, *Asia-Pacific Economic and Management Review*, Vol. 18, No. 1, September 2014, 65-84.
- “Is the Stock Market Sticker Shocked? A Study of Market Response to CAFE Regulations in the U.S.,” with Mariya Berdina, Michael Wright, *Applied Economics*, 2014.
- “The response of U.S. natural gas futures and spot prices to storage change surprises: Fundamental information and the effect of escalating physical gas production,” with Chiou Wei Song Zan and Scott Linn, *Journal of International Money and Finance*, 2014, Vol. 42, 156-173.
- “An Economic Analysis of Wind Generation Capacity,” *International Journal of Economics and Social Sciences*, with Joe Johnson and Cody Woods, Spring, 2013
- “The Equivalent Risk Standard and Allowed ROEs in the Gas and Electric Utility Industries,” with Don Murry and Mike Knapp, *Journal of Applied Economics and Policy*, 2011, Volume 30, Number 1, 47-60.
- “The Roles of Speculation and Fundamentals in Commodity Markets: The Case of U.S. Natural Gas Market,” with Mengzhu Ji, Hai Lin, *Review of Futures Markets*, 2011, Volume 19, Issue 3, 217-246.
- “Price Dispersion in a Model with Middlemen and Oligopolistic Market Makers: A Theory and an Application to the North American Natural Gas Market,” with J.D. Ju, Scott Linn, *Journal of Economic and Management Strategies*, Volume 19, Number 1, Spring 2010, 1–23.
- “An Empirical Examination of the Impacts of Natural Gas Prices and LNG Transport Costs on the Dynamics of LNG Import Demand,” with Don Maxwell, forthcoming in *Energy Economics*.

- “Stock Market Volatility and Commission Deregulation: Further evidence from Japanese Stock Markets,” with Shinhua Liu, *Journal of Financial Services Review*, August 2009, V 36, issue 1, 65-83.
- “Government Size and Economic Growth: An Application of the Smooth Transition Regression Model,” with Chiou Wei Song Zan and Yung-Hsing Kuo, *Applied Economics Letters*, 2010, Vol.17, 1405–1415
- “GDP Growth and Energy Consumption Revisited: Evidence from Linear and Nonlinear Granger Causality,” with Song Zan Chiou Wei and Ching-Fu Chen, *Energy Economics*, Volume 30, Issue 6, November 2008, Pages 3063-3076.
- “A revisit to the outward FDI determinants: further evidence from count panel data models with fixed effects,” with Song Zan Chiou Wei, *Applied Economic Letters*. August-October 2007, v. 14, issue 10-12, pp. 809-12.
- “Volatility Impact of Political and Economic Events on Stock Prices: Empirical Evidence from Taiwan,” with Song Zan Chiou Wei, *India Economic Journal*, Vol. 55, Number 3, Oct-Dec 2007, page 24-39.
- “Commodity convenience yield and risk premium determination: the case of the U.S. natural gas market,” *Energy Economics*, 2006.
- “Asymmetric Price Responses, Market Integration and Market Power: A Study of the U.S. Natural Gas Marke,” with Don Murry, *Energy Economics*, Vol. 30, page 748-765, 2008.
- "Storage Announcement and Natural Gas Futures Market Volatility," with Scott Linn, *Journal of Futures Market*, March 2004, v. 24, iss. 3, pp. 283-313.
- “EnronOnline and Informational Efficiency in the U.S. Natural Gas Market,” with Don Murry, *The Energy Journal*, v. 25, iss. 2, 2004 57-74.
- “Equality of Interest Rates Revisited: The Multi-Country Evidence,” with Chiou Wei Song Zan, *International Economic Journal*, June 2004, v. 18, iss. 2, pp. 245-57.
- “Sri Lanka's Experiment with Devaluation: VAR and ECM Analysis of the Exchange Rate Effects on Trade Balance and GDP,” with De Silva, Dakshina G.; *International Trade Journal*, Winter 2004, v. 18, iss. 4, pp. 269-301.
- "Time-Varying Forward Bias and Expected Excess Returns," *Journal of International Financial Markets, Institutions and Money*, 2002.
- “Sources of Export Fluctuations: Empirical Evidence from Taiwan and South Korea, 1981-2000”, with Chiou Wei Song Zan, *Journal of Asian Economies*, 2002.

Representative Honors and Awards Received

- Transformative Learning Scholar, UCO 2014 to present
- Barnabas Fellow, UCO, 2011-2012
- McGraw-Hill/Irwin Distinguished Paper Award, Southwest Society of Economists, 2006
- Exemplary Service Award, UCO Economics Department, 2004
- Faculty Research Merit Award, UCO, 2003, 2007, 2011
- Distinguished Researcher of the Year, College of Business, UCO, 2002
- Research Fellow, Financial Research Institute, University of Missouri, 2001, 2002
- Hauptman Fellow for Research Excellence, UCO, 2001