

<https://courseoutline.auckland.ac.nz/dco/course/ECON/711/1213>



Business and Economics

ECON 711 : Macroeconomic Theory and Policy (15 POINTS)

2021 Semester One

Course Prescription

Discusses advanced analytical tools and concepts used in modern macroeconomics and shows how to apply these tools in policy settings. The focus will be on dynamic macroeconomic models with micro-foundations and their applications to understanding macroeconomic policy issues, such as growth, fluctuations, debt-crises, ageing, unemployment, and global imbalances.

Course Overview

In this course, students will learn the core analytical tools and frameworks underpinning modern macroeconomic theories involving dynamic optimization in models with an infinite horizon and with overlapping generations, followed by calibration techniques for quantitative analysis of those models. Applications of theories will focus on policy issues related to equitable growth with human capital accumulation and knowledge diffusion, real business cycles, great recessions and effectiveness of fiscal and monetary policies, public debt, pension and demographic transitions, inflation-unemployment tradeoff and the impact of the global imbalance for a small open economy like New Zealand. Thus the course will provide a stepping stone for students interested in pursuing further graduate study in applied macroeconomic topics.

Course Requirements

No pre-requisites or restrictions

Capabilities Developed in this Course

- Capability 1: Disciplinary Knowledge and Practice
- Capability 2: Critical Thinking
- Capability 3: Solution Seeking
- Capability 4: Communication and Engagement
- Capability 5: Independence and Integrity

Graduate Profile: [Bachelor of Commerce \(Honours\)](#)

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand and critically evaluate contemporary problems in macroeconomics (Capability 1, 2, 3 and 4.2)
2. Demonstrate competencies in macroeconomic modelling (Capability 1, 2, 4.1 and 4.2)
3. Understand the logic and development of macroeconomic thought pre- and post GFC. (Capability 1, 2 and 4.2)
4. Develop analytical frameworks for thinking about macroeconomic policy issues. (Capability 1, 2, 4.2 and 5.1)

Assessments

Assessment Type	Percentage	Classification
Final Exam	50%	Individual Examination
Assignments	30%	Group & Individual Coursework
Test	20%	Individual Test
3 types	100%	

Assessment Type	Learning Outcome Addressed			
	1	2	3	4
Final Exam	✓	✓	✓	✓
Assignments	✓	✓		✓
Test		✓	✓	✓

Workload Expectations

This course is a standard 15 point course and students are expected to spend 10 hours per week involved in each 15 point course that they are enrolled in.

Delivery Mode

Campus Experience

Lectures will be available as recordings.

Attendance on campus is required for the test/exam.

The activities for the course are scheduled as a standard weekly timetable.

Learning Resources

There is no single prescribed textbook, but three recommended books:

- (1) Advanced Macroeconomics by David Romer (McGraw-Hill/Irwin),
- (2) Introduction to Modern Economic Growth by Daron Acemoglu (Princeton University Press),
- (3) Foundations of International Macroeconomics by Obstfeld and Rogoff (MIT Press).

There will be a comprehensive reading list on Canvas.

Student Feedback

At the end of every semester students will be invited to give feedback on the course and teaching through a tool called SET or Qualtrics. The lecturers and course co-ordinators will consider all feedback and respond with summaries and actions.

Your feedback helps teachers to improve the course and its delivery for future students.

Class Representatives in each class can take feedback to the department and faculty staff-student consultative committees.

Digital Resources

Course materials are made available in a learning and collaboration tool called Canvas which also includes reading lists and lecture recordings (where available).

Please remember that the recording of any class on a personal device requires the permission of the instructor.

Academic Integrity

The University of Auckland will not tolerate cheating, or assisting others to cheat, and views cheating in coursework as a serious academic offence. The work that a student submits for grading must be the student's own work, reflecting their learning. Where work from other sources is used, it must be properly acknowledged and referenced. This requirement also applies to sources on the internet. A student's assessed work may be reviewed against online source material using computerised detection mechanisms.

Inclusive Learning

All students are asked to discuss any impairment related requirements privately, face to face and/or in written form with the course coordinator, lecturer or tutor.

Student Disability Services also provides support for students with a wide range of impairments, both visible and invisible, to succeed and excel at the University. For more information and contact details, please visit the [Student Disability Services' website](http://disability.auckland.ac.nz) <http://disability.auckland.ac.nz>

Special Circumstances

If your ability to complete assessed coursework is affected by illness or other personal circumstances outside of your control, contact a member of teaching staff as soon as possible before the assessment is due.

If your personal circumstances significantly affect your performance, or preparation, for an exam or eligible written test, refer to the University's [aegrotat or compassionate consideration page](https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/students/academic-information/exams-and-final-results/during-exams/aegrotat-and-compassionate-consideration.html) <https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/students/academic-information/exams-and-final-results/during-exams/aegrotat-and-compassionate-consideration.html>.

This should be done as soon as possible and no later than seven days after the affected test or exam date.

Learning Continuity

In the event of an unexpected disruption we undertake to maintain the continuity and standard of teaching and learning in all your courses throughout the year. If there are unexpected disruptions the University has contingency plans to ensure that access to your course continues and your assessment is fair, and not compromised. Some adjustments may need to be made in emergencies. You will be kept fully informed by your course co-ordinator, and if disruption occurs you should refer to the University Website for information about how to proceed.

Student Charter and Responsibilities

The Student Charter assumes and acknowledges that students are active participants in the learning process and that they have responsibilities to the institution and the international community of scholars. The University expects that students will act at all times in a way that demonstrates respect for the rights of other students and staff so that the learning environment is both safe and productive. For further information visit [Student Charter](https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/students/forms-policies-and-guidelines/student-policies-and-guidelines/student-charter.html) <https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/students/forms-policies-and-guidelines/student-policies-and-guidelines/student-charter.html>.

Disclaimer

Elements of this outline may be subject to change. The latest information about the course will be available for enrolled students in Canvas.

In this course you may be asked to submit your coursework assessments digitally. The University reserves the right to conduct scheduled tests and examinations for this course online or through the use of computers or other electronic devices. Where tests or examinations are conducted online remote invigilation arrangements may be used. The final decision on the completion mode for a test or examination, and remote invigilation arrangements where applicable, will be advised to students at least 10 days prior to the scheduled date of the assessment, or in the case of an examination when the examination timetable is published.