

Carthage College

Spring 2022

Syllabus for Economics 1020 : Tues/Thurs 12.30 and 2:20 pm

Course Title: Introduction to Macroeconomics Instructor: Jennifer Clark

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Optional Text: Macroeconomics by David C. Colander, 11th Edition: McGraw-Hill; 2019.

Course Description: An introduction to the principles and issues of the national economy, and the institutions of macroeconomic behavior. Topics include the role of government in a mixed market economy; measuring and determining national income; money and the banking system; cryptocurrencies, the public policies available for achieving full employment, price stability, and continuing economic growth in modern industrial and democratic societies. We will focus on both domestic and international current events to illustrate macroeconomic economic concepts.

Communication: The best way to contact me is by email: jclark5@carthage.edu . I check my email daily. Proper grammar, punctuation and sentence structure is appreciated.

Please indicate which class time you are in when sending an email. I teach two sections here at Carthage and that will help me more quickly help you.

This course requires the extensive use of Schoology for announcements, exams, assignments, the course grade book and quizzes.

Methodology: This course will consist of video lectures, small group discussions, and articles and videos about current world and domestic events. All assignments will be on Schoology.

Attendance and Participation: This class will feature the “flipped” classroom model. Most classes on Tuesday will consist of you watching a video that I made about that week’s chapter materials. We will meet in person on Thursdays to further discuss the concepts and go over practice materials and in class presentations. All students are expected to watch the video BEFORE class on Thursday since knowledge of the contents will be necessary for our classroom activities. We may occasionally also meet in person on Tuesdays during class time.

Class attendance is expected during our in person class. However, I understand that sometimes missing class is necessary due to illness or personal emergency. All assignments for the week will be available on Schoology, including any that we complete in class. If you must miss class, it is your responsibility to check all the materials and assignments on Schoology for that week and complete all assignments by their due date.

Assignments: I will post a folder each week on Schoology with the assignments and lectures due for that week. All assignments (except Lecture Discussion Questions) are due by midnight Sunday at the end of that week.

Cards: I will be putting everyone's names on a card to be used to call on people during our class discussions.

Civility: This class will be a safe place for all participants. We will treat one another with respect. There will be no talking outside of class discussions or other disruptions that can affect the learning environment for all students.

Accommodations: Carthage College strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers due to your disability (including mental health, learning disorders and chronic medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, you also need to register with Diane Schowalter in Learning Accessibility Services (dschowalter1@carthage.edu).

Extended Time: I have given extended time for all students for our assignments and tests on Schoology. If you feel that even the extended time is not enough, please let me know. This also means that there is a lot of time given for the assignments, do not worry if it does not take you much time to complete the assignment compared to the time given.

Health and Counseling Center Information

The Health and Counseling Center (HCC) supports students by addressing physical, mental, and emotional well-being. All services are free and confidential and are available to currently enrolled, full-time undergraduate students. Health services include the assessment and treatment of minor illness and injury. Diagnostic testing, complimentary over-the-counter medications, and referrals to off-campus providers are all available. Our licensed counselors help students with challenges that can be resolved with short-term, solution-focused counseling. Some topics discussed during counseling include depression and anxiety, traumatic experiences, gender and sexuality, relationship concerns, stress management, and academic challenges. More details - including info about appointments - can be found at carthage.edu/health-counseling.

Uwill is a free teletherapy platform for Carthage students. Uwill connects students with licensed therapists from all 50 states. Support is available in a variety of formats -- video, chat, messaging, or phone. Counselors are available nights, weekends, and during holidays. Access is quick and easy: app.uwill.com.

Suggested email signature: Students receive free, immediate access to teletherapy through Uwill. It's private, secure & confidential. Click [here](#) to get started.

HCC Hours and Location

TARC 2240 / 262-551-5710

M-F 8:30-4:00

Health Services (in-person): Call to schedule a same-day appointment; walk-ins accepted
Counseling Services (in-person): Call to schedule an appointment; walk-ins accepted M-F
11:30-1:00

**Services, hours, and walk-in availability are subject to change*

Additional Info

--Nurse Practitioner: Wednesdays 2pm-4pm (appointment required; NP services are provided by a third party and billed to student's insurance) --HCC is a Title IX confidential resource for students.

--We provide consultation for faculty and staff. If you need to talk to a provider, call our office at 262-551-5710.

--COVID-19 Testing is available for students with signs or symptoms of illness. Please call to be screened and to schedule a testing time.

--Carthage's vaccine requirement and associated testing is not administered by HCC. Visit the [COVID-19 Update Page](#) for more information.

Computer/Electronics usage: I strongly encourage each student to take notes using paper. Studies (and personal experience) have shown that your brain processes the information much differently when it is written instead of typed and students learn better when they write. Not to mention how easy it is to be distracted by chats, websites, etc., while you are on your computer. However, I understand some students strongly prefer taking notes on their laptops during class and that is fine.

Please do not watch non class videos or other content while in class. This is a distraction for the students around you. Please be respectful of their time and ability to learn without additional distractions.

Grading Basis:

2 Tests (midterm and final)

Chapter Quizzes and Review Questions

Discussion Board Assignments

In Class Participation Assignments

Other Assignments

No late assignments are accepted

Grading: Final letter grades will be assigned on the basis of the following distribution:

A-=90-92, A= 93-100%, B-=80-82%, B=83-86%, B+=87-89%, C-=70-72%, C=73-76%, C+=77%-79%, D-=60-62%, D=63-66%. D+=67-69%. F=less than 60%

Last Day to Withdraw (for a W grade): April 6

Final Exam: May 17 for the 2:20 class, May 18 for the 12:30 class

Exams: Tests will be multiple choice and will be given online. Students can use their notes. The tests will be timed.

Chapter Quizzes: There will be an online quiz after we complete each chapter. Quizzes are due on the Sunday all assignments for the week are due. **No late quizzes will be accepted.** I will give credit for two missed quizzes during the semester.

Chapter Review Questions: We will have chapter review questions we will complete in class. Students can also complete the review questions if they do not attend class. **No late chapter review questions will be accepted.**

Discussion Forum Assignments

During the semester there will be assignments on the Discussion Forum. **Discussion Board assignments can only be turned in once. I can see if you turned it in and then did it again. If you make an editing mistake and turn it in too soon, you can just respond to your own post with the rest of your answer. Points may be taken off for assignments turned in more than once and if it happens frequently, then no credit will be given.**

Lecture Discussion Questions: Each week there will be an assignment to answer questions based on the lecture video for that week. Since students are expected to watch the lecture video before in person class on Thursday, this assignment will be due on **Wednesdays** before midnight to enhance our class discussions. No late assignments are accepted.

In Class Assignments: We will have in class participation assignments. Each assignment will also be offered online and due that Sunday. If you complete the assignment in class, you do not need to turn it in online.

Bonus Points/Extra Credit: Each student will be given 40 bonus points during the semester to make up for missed assignments. These points are truly to make up for forgotten or missed assignments, so if you miss an assignment, do not worry.

There may also be other opportunities for extra credit given in addition to the extra credit science fiction opportunity.

Tutoring: Tutoring is available to assist you with any aspect of the class, including understanding readings, preparing for quizzes, and studying for exams. These resources are not engineered especially for struggling students; they are for everyone to maximize your academic growth potential. Please take advantage of them. For information and to book an appointment visit carthage.edu/tutoring.

Current Events Presentations (40 points)

For the in class presentations, choose an article or short video that was published within the past six weeks of your due date from The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, BBC News, Washington Post, PBS Newshour or The Economist that discusses a macroeconomic topic. You can access these sources through the Carthage library (lower level) or online through the Carthage library website. You can access a certain number of articles free per month for most of these sources.

If you would like to use a different source, it must come from a source that “fact checks”. Please let me know ahead of time to ensure that your alternative source is acceptable for scholarly research.

You will not need to turn in a paper. You will make a three to five minute presentation about the article or video you have selected on an economic topic. You should address why you chose that article and how it addresses the concepts we are learning in macroeconomics.

Students must write the title, source and date of the article on the Schoology Discussion Board Forum “Current Events Presentations”. Articles cannot be repeated so make sure that no one else has already presented your article by checking the forum. Please post the information before the class in which you are assigned to present. No further information is required on the forum, your actual presentation will occur in class.

During class, students need to write the title of the article on the board before giving your presentation.

**Each student will be assigned a region of the world and must chose an article about a country in their assigned region.

Your presentation should address the following:

The title of my article is: It
was published on: (Date)
This article is about:
This article illustrates the following economic points:
The author is trying to say:
I think this article is interesting because:

Please choose an article that is interesting to you.

You will be assigned your date for your in class presentation during class.

** If you let me know before class begins on the day that your presentation is due that you need to reschedule due to illness or another excused reason, you will be given a new presentation date. Makeups are allowed even if you do not give notice before the presentation date, but points will be taken off your grade.

Current Events Quizzes: Quizzes will be given based on the Current Events Presentations and/or class discussions of current events.

Optional Extra Credit Assignment: 40 extra credit points: Due by May 5

Economic systems in science fiction paper

Students should choose a science fiction movie, tv show or book. Students can choose any science fiction source created in the past and present, so please indicate the year of production in case there are more than one versions of your story. If you choose a tv show, you do not have to watch every episode of the show. Just watch enough episodes so that you understand the plot and economy.

Science fiction can encompass any “alternate reality” genre including dystopian sources.

However, the exact same movie/tv show/book cannot be chosen by more than one student. In order to “claim” a source to use for extra credit, students must post the name along with the production date of his/her chosen movie/tv show/book on Schoology under “Assignments” then “Science Fiction Extra Credit”. Post the name and date of your source under “Write a comment”. Whichever student posts a science fiction source there first can use it for his/her extra credit project. If there are more than one versions of your source, please clarify which one you are using (by date, descriptive info, etc).

Students are responsible for checking on Schoology first to confirm that their science fiction source is still available and then for posting the name of it so that other students know it has been already taken.

The purpose of this paper is to analyze the economic system in the “alternative” universe in your story. That said, please choose a story that has some economics in it! Your paper should answer the following questions:

1. Name and information about your science fiction source (authors, main actors, dates, background, etc).
2. What is the basic plot of your story?
3. How does the economy function? Provide as many of the following details as possible.
 - a. Who decides what and how much to produce? How to produce it? For whom to produce it?
 - b. Is there a currency? What is it and how does it work?
 - c. Who are the workers and the business owners? Is there a class system? Is there income inequality How does the class system work?
 - d. What type of different technology does this economy use? Do you think the technology is realistic? Do you think it could happen in the “real” world? Why or why not?
 - e. How do people access goods and services?
4. What specific scene(s) illustrate the economic system? Please give a description of the scenes and how they illustrate your economic points and give a time stamp, episode number or page number in case I want to look it up.
5. What is your overall impression of the economic system of your science fiction story?

6. Did the author/creator do a good job in designing one? Why or why not? Do you think it is realistic?
7. What would you do, if anything, to improve the economic system to make it more realistic/sensible?

Remember, extra credit projects **MUST** be printed out and handed in **during class**. They should not be submitted on Schoology or by email. They are due in class on May 5. **NO LATE PAPERS ARE ACCEPTED**. You can always turn the paper in early.

Topics Covered

Economics and Economic Reasoning

Ch 1

Supply and Demand

Ch. 4, 5

Economic Growth, Business Cycles, and Unemployment

Ch. 6

Measuring the Aggregate Economy

Ch. 7

The Classical Long Run Policy Model

Ch. 9

The Financial Sector and the Economy

Ch. 10

Monetary Policy

Ch. 11

Financial Crises, Panics and Unconventional Policy

Ch. 12

Deficits and Debt

Ch. 13

Comparative Advantage, Exchange Rates and Globalization

Ch. 17

International Trade Policy (Time permitting)

Ch. 18