



Intermediate Macro Theory

ECO 3100, Fall 2025

Dr. Linli Zhao

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Course Website: [Moodle Page](#)

Daily Class Schedule: [Google Sheet Link](#)

Office Hours: Mon/Wed 3-4pm (KoBC 134)

Fri 11:20–12:20 ([via Zoom link](#))

Or by appointment

Course Description

This course offers a rigorous exploration of macroeconomic theory with a special focus on economic growth and the business cycle. We begin with a brief refresher on key macro indicators—GDP, unemployment, and inflation—then move to long-run growth models and an in-depth study of short-run dynamics before turning to modern macroeconomic models. Combining these frameworks with key economic concepts, we will evaluate policy prescriptions and their consequences, emphasizing the connection between theory and empirical evidence.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, you should: 1) be able to craft clear economic arguments grounded in macro theory; 2) critically assess the validity of alternative arguments using that theory; and 3) gather and interpret statistical evidence to support or challenge those arguments.

Textbook

To participate in this course, you need access to Achieve, which includes the e-textbook Macroeconomics by Mankiw, N. Gregory. and online homework. The cost is \$120.07 for the semester. Access is available through Moodle, and the fee will be added to the tuition directly.

Find Your Letter Grade

Grade			Percentage		
A	Distinguished		$\geq 93\%$	C	Average
A-			90% – 92.99%	C-	
B+			87% – 89.99%	D+	
B	Above Average		83% – 86.99%	D	Passing
B-			80% – 82.99%	D-	
C+			77% – 79.99%	F	
					Failure
					$< 60\%$

Class Activities

Activity	% of Grade	Policy
In-Class iClicker Participation	15%	Lowest 3 scores dropped
In-Class Adaptive Quiz	15%	Lowest 2 scores dropped
Achieve Homework	15%	1 personal emergency extension
Group Presentations	15%	2 presentations
Midterm Exam	20%	
Final Exam	20%	

In-Class iClicker Participation

iClicker checks feature quick multiple-choice questions at the start, middle, or end of class. Feel free to discuss with neighbors, but answers are graded individually. We'll run about ten to fifteen checks through semester. Your three lowest scores are dropped to cover any personal emergencies or technology issues, and no make-ups are offered. Example – scores 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 2, 2, 0 (3 = full credit, 2 = partial, 0 = missed) become full-credit scores: 100%.

In-Class Adaptive Quiz

We have open-note, in-class quizzes for review purpose in weekly basis. Each quiz covers chapter(s) from the previous week. There are about 8 quizzes through the semester, with each comes with two attempts. Quizzes are usually during Monday's class time; no make-ups afterward; instead, your two lowest quiz scores are dropped to cover any emergencies.

Achieve Homework

We will have end-of-chapter Achieve assignments to reinforce what you've learned. They all share the same Sunday deadline after the lecture. You have unlimited attempts with no penalty before the deadline. To accommodate any emergencies, You may request one emergency extension to complete the work.

Group Presentations

Groups of 3–5 will sign up to present on a macroeconomic topic using real data and theory. The aim is to connect course concepts to real-world questions through engaging, peer-led learning. Presentations begin in October; each group presents twice, and every member is expected to present. Full guidelines and the schedule will be shared.

Exams

There are two exams. Midterm exam and final (not cumulative). There are mainly multiple-choice, short answers, and graphic questions. Review sessions and mock exams are offered to help you prepare. If you miss midterm, the final score (scheduled per Elon policy) will replace it. To help you plan ahead, exam times are listed below and will not change:

Exam	Date	Time
Exam 1	Monday, Oct 13	class time
Final Exam	Thursday, Dec 11	1-3pm

Classroom Expectations

Being Courteous Let's keep the space welcoming. I'll give you my full attention—please do the same. Save side chats for breaks so we can keep one voice at a time in the room.

Being On Time I start and end on time—please do too. Occasional slips are fine, but frequent lateness or early exits distract others and cost you material. Let's respect everyone's time.

Attendance Matters Participation doubles as attendance. Showing up, asking questions, and practicing together is the best way to succeed. Feel free to reach out—office hours, email, and counseling services are all available to help.

Preparation Do the readings and concept checks before class so discussions click. Aim to revisit your notes within 48 hours—studies show it makes learning stick.

Being Engaged We'll have plenty of discussion, exercises, and group work. No perfect answers needed—just curiosity and respect for each other's voices.

Technology We will use devices for class activity purpose. But multitasking (texts, browsing) hurts your focus and distracts others—best to save it for later.

Campus Support

Student Resources ([Link](#)): Download skill-building guides on note-taking, time management, and exam prep, or meet one-on-one with a success coach to design a study plan that fits your goals.

Counseling Services ([Link](#)): Licensed counselors provide confidential sessions, outreach programs, and crisis support, ensuring a safe, inclusive space for your mental well-being.

Student Technology Support ([Link](#)): Step-by-step help for account setup, academic software, Wi-Fi, campus printing, and IT troubleshooting—everything you need to stay connected.

Academic Policies

Elon Honor Pledge: Honesty, Integrity, Responsibility, Respect. See the [student handbook](#) for what counts as violations.

Office of Academic Accommodations and Accessibility (AAA): contact Elon's Office of AAA (336-278-6568, accommodations@elon.edu). Requests accepted anytime; not retroactive. See the [AAA website](#) for more information.

Learning Assistance: The Koenigsberger Learning Center provides tutoring, success coaching, and academic support. See the [Learning Assistance website](#) for offerings; questions: learningassistance@elon.edu.

Belk Library: [Schedule an appointment to meet with a librarian](#) or chat on the [library website](#).

Writing Center: The [Writing Center](#) is located in the [Center for Writing Excellence](#).

Religious Holidays Policies: Elon has [policies and procedures](#) for students who wish to observe religious holidays. Complete the [Religious Observance Notification Form](#). This policy does not apply during the [final examination period](#).

Enrollment: Students should confirm their enrollment in courses through their OnTrack account.

Dropping a Course: Drop a course during the designated period through OnTrack.

Withdrawing from a Course: You may [withdraw from a course](#) after the drop/add period.

E-Warnings: E-Warnings are used when concerns arise about a student's academic performance.

Student Care & Outreach: Visit the [Share a Concern](#) and [Student Care and Outreach](#) websites.

Additional information on university course policies and dates: [Academic Catalog](#), [Student Handbook](#), and [Academic Calendar](#).

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Statement: Digital tools may support course prep; any such use follows university policies.