Course Description:
This course is designed to expose you to recent theoretical work regarding macroeconomics. The course should provide an understanding for further practical courses on finance and credit markets, or a basis for further theoretical study of macroeconomic theory. The course requires some knowledge of optimization techniques, as this will be used to construct macroeconomic dynamics and general equilibrium. The course begins with relatively simple models of households and firms, and then gradually adds labor markets, capital accumulation, money, monetary and fiscal policy, and market frictions such as sticky prices, credit imperfections, and search frictions in labor markets.

Instructor:
Dr. Peter VanderHart
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Office Hours: 11:00 - 12:00, M-R or by appointment

Readings:
Macroeconomics, 5th edition, Robert Barro
Monetary Policy, Inflation, and the Business Cycle, Jordi Gali
Handouts and Journal Articles, available on Canvas

Assignments and Grading:

Unannounced Quizzes: 10% of grade
About 10 times during the semester you will take a short (5 - 10 minutes) quiz. The quizzes will generally be at the beginning of class and will cover the material that you should have read in preparation for that day's class. Other formats for the quiz are possible. The quizzes will be graded on a 6 point scale and I will drop the lowest one at the end of the course.

Homework: 20% of grade
You will receive approximately 12 take-home assignments (homework) over the course of the semester. They will provide good preparation for the exams. You will be penalized if these are turned in late. The homeworks will be graded on a 10 point scale and I will not drop the lowest score of these.
Midterm Exam I: 20% of grade
There will be an in-class exam after about 5 weeks. It will cover material that has been presented up to that point. It is tentatively scheduled for September 29.

Midterm Exam II: 20% of grade
There will be an in-class exam after about 10 weeks. It will cover material that has been presented up to that point. It is tentatively scheduled for November 4.

Final Exam: 30% of grade
The final will last 2 hours and will be comprehensive. It will be held during the regular time scheduled by the university. Material covered since the second midterm will receive some emphasis.

Academic Honesty Policy:

Homework: Submitting work that is not your own, or that you have lent to others, will result in harsh penalties. For the first incident, you will receive a 0 for that assignment. For the second incident, you will receive a reduction in your course grade, possibly to a WF. While I do encourage you to work together on homeworks, you should take great care to avoid turning in identical work that you have “done together”. It is fine if you figure things out together and teach each other: I encourage that. But when it comes to writing up what you turn in, you should take care in only submitting your own work. To do otherwise invites punishment.

Quizzes and Exams: Don’t Cheat. Don’t look at other people’s exams, or allow yours to be looked at. Either activity is punishable up to a receiving a 0 for the exam.

For a complete university statement on academic honesty, please see: http://www.bgsu.edu/content/dam/BGSU/catalog/academic-honesty/official-policy.pdf.