

Name: Professor Blair Roberts

E-Mail: broberts@odessa.edu

Phone: 432-335-6829

Office: 133 CTE

<i>Office Hours</i>	
Campus Office Hours:	MTWTh: 1:00 - 3:00
Online Office Hours:	MWTh: 8:00 - 9:30

About Your Instructor

This is my third year at Odessa College as a Professor. The classes I teach include Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, and Federal Government. I have taught economics at the high school level at Midland Lee, Midland High, and Odessa High. I have also worked at the Federal Reserve Bank in Dallas as an Economic Education Specialist.

I graduated from Texas A&M with a B.S. in Economics and a minor in Finance. I have a M.S. in Economics from Baylor University, and an M.A. in Education from UTPB.

I am interested in the history of money and banking. I collect American currency with a focus on Federal Reserve Notes and Silver Certificates. My other passion is baseball. Baseball season starts for me with my spring break trip to Arizona to watch the Texas Rangers play spring ball. Once the regular season begins, I go to games in Arlington multiple times.

Preferred Method of Communication:

Email is the best method of reaching me. I can be contacted at broberts@odessa.edu I respond to emails very quickly.

Expectations for Engagement for Instructor:

As an instructor, I understand the importance of clear, timely communication with my students. In order to maintain sufficient communication, I will

- provide my contact information at the beginning of the syllabus;
- respond to all messages within 24 hours if received Monday through Thursday, and within 48 hours if received Friday through Sunday; and,

- notify students of any extended times that I will be unavailable and provide them with alternative contact information (for me or for my supervisor) in case of during the time I am unavailable.

As an instructor, I understand that my students will work to the best of their abilities to fulfill the course requirements. In order to help them in this area, I will

- provide clear information about grading policies and assignment requirements in the course syllabus, and
- communicate any changes to assignments and/or to the course calendar to students as quickly as possible.

As an instructor, I understand that I need to provide regular, timely feedback to students about their performance in the course. To keep students informed about their progress, I will

- post grades for discussion postings within one week of the discussion thread closing.
- provide grades for major assignments within 2 weeks of the due date or at least 3 days before the next major assignment is due, whichever comes first.

Textbook(s):

"Brief Principles of Macroeconomics" Mankiw, Gregory. Sixth Edition. South-Western: Cengage Learning

Recommended but not required

Hardware:

Computer with reasonably recent operating system

Software:

PDF Reader

Microsoft PowerPoint and Word

Websites:

Basic Sources of Economic Information:

Bureau of Economic Analysis: www.bea.gov

Bureau of Labor and Statistics: www.bls.gov

Dallas Federal Reserve Bank: www.dallasfed.org

Course Description

We will cover Macroeconomics, a study of the economy as a whole or its basic subdivisions or aggregates, such as government, household, and business sectors. Macroeconomics speaks of such economic measures as total output, total unemployment, total income, aggregate expenditures, and the general level of prices in analyzing various economic problems. Our goal is to be able to develop a model to be used to interpret economic events, problems, and more importantly, solutions.

Macroeconomics is a one-semester course designed for high school seniors and college students. I designed this course with the overarching objective that students would build skills and knowledge that will enable them to understand both historical and current economic data and events. Successful completion of Macroeconomics will also provide students with the ability to participate more effectively in both the larger economy and our democracy.

Course Prerequisites:

At least a high school senior.

Course Topics:

1. Introduction to Economics
2. Supply and Demand
3. Measuring National Output
4. Economic Growth
5. Aggregate Expenditures
6. Aggregate Supply and Aggregate Demand
7. Money and Banking
8. Monetary and Fiscal Policy
9. International Economics
10. Final Exam

Grades

For most assignments you have unlimited attempts, I will identify those that aren't. There are only one or two that aren't.

You only get one attempt on the test. The tests are untimed.

Grading Scale:

"A"	=	900	-	1000	pts
"B"	=	800	-	899	pts
"C"	=	700	-	799	pts
"F"	=	0-699			pts

Grading Policy:

This class is based on a point system. We have ten units and every unit is worth 100 points. The final exam is worth 100 points. There is a total of 1000 points available for the class. I am very quick with grading.

As a student, I understand that I am responsible for keeping up with the course. To help with this, I will

identify alternative computer and internet access in case my primary computer crashes or my internet service is unavailable;
recognize that the college provides free wi-fi and computer labs during regular campus hours to help me with accessing my course; and,
understand that my instructor does not have to accept my technical issues as a legitimate reason for late or missing work if my equipment or service is unreliable.

As a student, I understand that it is my responsibility to communicate quickly with the instructor any issue or emergency that will impact my involvement with or performance in the class. This includes, but is not limited to

getting "kicked off" of the system during tests or quizzes;
having trouble submitting assignments; and
dealing with a traumatic personal event.

As a student, I understand that it is my responsibility to understand course material and requirements and to keep up with the course calendar. While my instructor is available for help and clarification, I will

seek out help from my instructor and/or from tutors;
ask questions if I don't understand; and
access my course several times during the week to keep up with assignments and announcements.

Disclaimer

This syllabus is tentative and subject to change in any part at the discretion of the instructor. Any changes will be in accordance with Odessa College policies. Students will be notified of changes, if any, in timely manner.

Original Effort

The work submitted for this course must be original work prepared by the student enrolled in this course. Efforts will be recognized and graded in terms of individual participation and in terms of ability to collaborate with other students in this course.

Course Alignment with Industry Standards

NA

Digital Protocol

Cell phones must be placed on either *vibrate* or *silent* mode and are to be accessed in emergency cases only. The use of laptops or any other digital device is permitted in order to facilitate note-taking relative to instruction. Any written assignments will be submitted electronically on Blackboard. **The electronic recording of the time on Blackboard will be considered the time of assignment submission. Take necessary steps to ensure that your assignments are submitted on "Blackboard" time.** Back-up and/or additional copies of all assignments submitted is encouraged. **Computers/printers are available to OC students in the LRC (301-303); therefore, not having access**

to a computer due to technical issues (crash; corrupted files) will not be considered as an acceptable reason for not completing assignments. If there is a loss of server connection with Odessa College due to maintenance, then an email will be sent to student with pertinent information and status reports. Assignments submitted electronically need to be **WORD documents (doc or docx).**

Attendance Policy

Deadlines will be adhered to.

AVID

This course has been identified as a course by Career, Technical, and Workforce Education as one in which teaching and learning strategies adopted by AVID will be implemented. As a student in the legal program, you will be expected to develop an understanding of the strategies, to model the strategies, to maintain fidelity of implementation, and to examine how these strategies may impact your effectiveness as a professional in your chosen area of occupation, either through coursework or practicum experience as outlined by the course instructor.

Grade Inquiry Policy

It is the responsibility of the individual taking this course to maintain accurate track of assignment submissions and grades. I cannot discuss grades over the phone or through email. This is a federal law. I will be glad to meet with you to discuss grades.

General Course Requirements

1. Attend class and participate.
2. Contribute and cooperate with civility.
3. **Submit assignments on time. Late work will not be accepted. Medical and/or family circumstances that warrant an extension on assignments need to be presented to the instructor. Extensions will be allowed at the instructor's discretion.**

Incomplete Policy

An ‘Incomplete’ grade may be given only if:

4. The student has passed all completed work
5. If he/she has completed a minimum of 75% of the required coursework. A grade of an “I” will only be assigned when the conditions for completions have been discussed and agreed upon by the instructor and the student.

Course Outline		
Unit	Unit Title	Assignments
1	Introduction to Economics Due Date: February 1	Discussion Question Production Possibility Quiz Discussion Question 2 Economics Systems Quiz Unit 1 Test
2	Market Forces: Supply and Demand Due Date: February 1	Demand Quiz Supply Quiz Equilibrium Quiz Discussion Question Unit 2 Test
3	Measuring National Income Due Date: February 22	GDP Quiz Index Numbers Inflation Quiz Unemployment Quiz Unit 3 Test
4	Economic Growth Due Date: February 22	Economic Growth Quiz Discussion Question

		Financial Intermediation Quiz Loanable Funds Quiz Unit 4 Test
5	Aggregate Expenditures Due Date: March 22	Consumption Function Quiz Marginal Propensities Quiz Aggregate Expenditures Quiz Unit 5 Test
6	Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply Due Date: March 22	Aggregate Demand Quiz Aggregate Supply Quiz AD-AS Equilibrium Quiz Long-Run AD-AS Quiz Unit 6 Test
7	Money and Banking Due Date: April 22	Money and Banking Quiz Federal Reserve Quiz Demand for Money Quiz Unit 7 Test
8	Monetary and Fiscal Policy Due Date: April 22	Monetary Policy Quiz Fiscal Policy Quiz Fiscal Policy Reading Unit 8 Test
9	International Economics Due Date: May 7	International Trade Quiz International Finance Quiz

		Unit 9 Test
10	Final Exam Due Date: May 7	Final Exam

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

Explain the role of scarcity, specialization, opportunity cost, and cost/benefit analysis in economic decision-making.

Identify the determinants of supply and demand; demonstrate the impact of shifts in both market supply and demand curves on equilibrium price and output.

Compare alternative economic systems with respect to the role of government and the private sector.

Define and measure national income and rates of unemployment and inflation.

Identify the phases of the business cycle and the problems caused by cyclical fluctuations in the market economy.

Define money and the money supply; describe the process of money creation by the banking system and the role of the central bank.

Construct the aggregate demand and aggregate supply model of the macro economy and use it to illustrate macroeconomic problems and potential monetary and fiscal policy solutions.

Explain the mechanics and institutions of international trade and their impact on the macro economy.

Define economic growth and identify sources of economic growth