Course Info: ECO-203: Macroeconomics and Literacy, 3 credit hours
Instructor: Vincent Le
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Web: http://www.doane.edu/vincent-le
Cell Phone: 402-560-4481
Office hours: by appointments (I can meet at Lincoln or Crete campus)

Purpose: ECO-203 fulfills the requirement for a Foundational Area of Knowledge (FAK) in Community and Identity. Students will gain a greater understanding of themselves and the communities in which they live and work, and how identity is formed through the interaction of the individual and larger society. Students will work to:
1. Explore dimensions of human experience with regard to perceptions of self
2. Understand how individuals interact to form communities and social structures
3. Analyze the practical and ethical implications of interactions between individuals and those social structures

More specifically, this course focuses on the understanding of the basic macrocosmic theories, policies, and frameworks and how they work in the economy. The course also explores how individuals behave and interact with the markets and government policies to achieve efficiency and solutions.

Intended Audience: Students completing an undergraduate degree.


Required Technology: Because this is an online course, student must have a reliable Internet connection, an Internet browser, and Microsoft Word software.

Description: The successful operation of modern economics depends on the participation of economically literate citizens. An economically literate citizen should be able to identify problems, gather relevant information, weigh costs and benefits, analyze incentives, and make choices. Students successfully completing this course will be able to comprehend and use basic economic concepts, interpret major macroeconomic statistics, explain how both monetary and fiscal policy can be used to stabilize the economy, and discuss macroeconomic issues. (Doane College Catalog). This is an online course with a one time face-to-face meeting at Lincoln campus. The whole course is run on Blackboard (BB) platform.

Outcome: In addition to the FAK student learning outcomes, students successfully completing this course will be able to:
1. Comprehend and use basic economics concepts including supply and demand.
2. Explain examples of major macroeconomic challenges and current trends as well as future trends as they consumers and companies.
3. Comprehend the variations in different economics systems.
4. Calculate and interpret major macroeconomic statistics including GDP, unemployment rates, inflation rates, and poverty rates.
5. Analyze and evaluate the used of both monetary and fiscal policy to stylize the economy, including taxing policies.

**Strategy:** To achieve the stated course outcomes and objectives, the combination of lectures, discussions, video clip, article, assignments, and tests will be used throughout the course, more specifically:
1. Weekly PowerPoint Lectures will cover these learning areas:
2. Weekly Discussion Boards will be posted with specific topic related to the above learning areas.
3. Weekly Assignments will be set up on BB with strong applications of textbook theories and concepts to the real business world.
4. An Opinion Paper will be assigned to encourage student to ponder on and respond to a current macroeconomic issue in America.
5. Two online multiple choices Exams will be set up on BB to evaluate student learning progress, covering all lecturing chapters.

**Assessment:** Assignments are designed to reinforce macroeconomic theories and policies. More importantly, all assignments have strong applications to the real world. Students have at least a full week to complete. All assignments are due and submitted through BB in Assignments tab as an attached file. No email or hard copy assignment will be accepted. I allow late assignments within 2 days after the due dates and times on Schedule with 10% grade deduction. An Assignment Instruction file is posted on BB in Course Documents tab.

Weekly discussion topics require students to post responses by every Sunday at midnight. Weekly discussion postings cannot be late. A Discussion Instruction file is posted in Course Documents tab.

For Opinion Paper, students will be asked to respond and propose possible solutions to a current macroeconomic issue in the U.S. APA writing format is required. An Opinion Paper Instruction file is posted in Course Documents tab.

Both exams will be set up in Assignments tab and have the multiple choices format. Exams are force completion (1 attempt only without breaks). Exams cannot be late. Exam Review and Instruction files will be posted in Course Documents tab.

**Grading Components:**
4 Assignments @ 25 points each = 100 points
7 Weekly Discussions @ 20 points each = 140 points
   Opinion Paper = 60 points
2 Exams @ 100 points each = 200 points
   **Total = 500 points**
Policy:

Grading Scale:

- 97-100% = A+
- 94-96% = A
- 90-93% = A-
- 87-89% = B+
- 84-86% = B
- 80-83% = B-
- 77-79% = C+
- 74-76% = C
- 70-73% = C-
- 67-69% = D+
- 64-66% = D
- 60-63% = D-
- Below 60% = F

The Doane College Academic Integrity Policy will be adhered to in this class. All projects and tests will represent your own work. Any use of others’ ideas and words without proper citation of sources is plagiarism and will result in penalties to be determined by the instructor and/or the dean of undergraduate studies.

Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty will result in an F for the course automatically. Please read Doane College’s policy regarding academic dishonesty outlines in the student handbook.

Students are encouraged to contribute and share their opinions, ideas, and thoughts to class in a professional manner. All course communication between the instructor and students must be through the use of your Doane email address. Students with special needs and assistance, please contact me right away at the beginning of the term.

**SCHEDULE**

*A week study starts on Monday morning and ends on Sunday midnight.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Weekly Activity and Workload</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>One time face-to-face mandatory meeting at Lincoln Campus. Course Introduction &amp; Chapter 2 &amp; 3 Lectures</td>
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<tr>
<td>08/18/2014</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Chapter 4 &amp; 15 Lectures</td>
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<tr>
<td>08/25/2014</td>
<td>Discussion Response and Assignment 1 are due by midnight on Sun.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Chapter 5 Lecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>09/01/2014</td>
<td>Discussion Response and Assignment 2 are due by midnight on Sun.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Chapter 6 &amp; 7 Lectures</td>
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<tr>
<td>09/08/2014</td>
<td>Discussion Response and Assignment 3 are due by midnight by Sun.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Chapter 12 Lecture and Exam 1 Preparation</td>
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<tr>
<td>09/15/2014</td>
<td>Discussion Response and Exam 1 are due by midnight on Sun.</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Chapter 9 &amp; 10 Lectures &amp; Video Clip</td>
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<tr>
<td>09/22/2014</td>
<td>Discussion Response and Assignment 4 are due by midnight on Sun.</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Chapter 13 &amp; 14 Lectures</td>
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<td>09/29/2014</td>
<td>Discussion Response and Opinion Paper are due by midnight on Sun.</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Chapter 15 Lecture &amp; Final Exam Preparation. Feedback and Reflection.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/06/2014</td>
<td>Discussion Response and Final Exam are due by midnight on Sun.</td>
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