

**Econ 2110-501: Principles of Macroeconomics  
Fall 2020 Syllabus**

**Instructor:**

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Office Hours (conducted on Zoom): Tuesdays from 8:30 PM to 9:30 PM or by appointment

***Please read this syllabus carefully, as it may answer many questions you have about the course.  
If you have questions after reading, you can contact me at the email address above.***

**Required Course Material:**

1. This course will utilize two on-line platforms:
  - a. UNM Learn, and
  - b. Sapling Plus for Modern Principles: Macroeconomics by Cowen and Tabarrok:  
Sapling Plus Access Card for Modern Principles: Macroeconomics  
Fourth Edition | ©2018  
Tyler Cowen; Alex Tabarrok  
ISBN: 9781319195441  
Sapling Plus access comes with access to the E-book.
2. Internet and Computer (required): You will need reliable access to a computer (desktop/laptop), high-speed internet, and the ability to upload and download files to access the online materials as needed. Software such as Adobe Reader, Microsoft Office Suite will also be used. A headset might come in handy when viewing videos and listening to podcasts and during Zoom conferencing for office hours, etc.

**Course Schedule**

This is a 16-week course that runs from Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 through Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020. All due dates and time referred to in this course will be in Mountain Time.

**Course Description:**

This course introduces students to macroeconomics, the study of the economy as a whole. Macroeconomics applies the basic principles of economics to whole economic systems and the relationships among sectors of the economy. The course emphasizes the development of conceptual tools to analyze the economic problems facing modern society.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

- CL1. Explain the concepts of opportunity cost, comparative advantage and exchange.
- CL2. Demonstrate knowledge of the laws of supply and demand and equilibrium and use supply and demand curves to analyze responses of markets to external events.
- CL3. Explain the circular flow model and use the concepts of aggregate demand and aggregate supply to analyze the response of the economy to disturbances.
- CL4. Explain the concepts of gross domestic product, inflation and unemployment and how they are measured.
- CL5. Describe the determinants of the demand for money, the supply of money and interest rates and the role of financial institutions in the economy.
- CL6. Define fiscal policy and monetary policy and how these affect the economy.
- CL7. Identify the causes of prosperity, growth, and economic change over time and explain the mechanisms through which these causes operate in the economy.

## Expectations:

1. This is an online class. In order to succeed in an online class, you need to have the required level of computer skills, motivation and a commitment to learn and work on your own. Online classes are good for self-starters, i.e. students who can take the initiative to complete coursework without the direct supervision of a professor.
2. Each week, you will be expected to:
  - a. Review and complete all assigned readings,
  - b. Participate in class discussion (see discussion forum instructions below), and
  - c. Complete and submit all assignments, applied projects and practice quizzes by the assigned due dates. **No late work will be accepted.**
3. Economics courses are more like mathematics courses in that keeping up with the material and doing practice problems are imperative to receiving a good grade. Each week, read and re-read the chapters and any associated study material that I post on UNM Learn. Read until you are confident in your understanding of the material and only then attempt the assigned homework and quiz. Thinking, not memorizing, is the key to success (economics is a way of thinking, not a body of “facts”).
4. If you have any questions or need additional clarifications about any aspect of the course, e-mail me sooner rather than later. If I do not respond to your e-mail within 36 hours, please resend it. If you'd like to make sure that I receive your e-mail, write it **professionally** and put the following keywords in the subject line: **Econ 2110-501 Online** followed by a couple words describing the subject matter of the e-mail. You can anticipate a 24 to 48-hour response from me, Monday – Thursday. I will try and respond to all weekend (Friday afternoon to Sunday) emails and postings by noon on Monday or earlier.
5. UNM provides each student with a NetID and an associated email address. It is imperative to ensure “effective contact” that you check your UNM e-mail on a regular basis. Do not send me e-mail messages from your personal e-mail accounts such as Gmail, Yahoo, MSN, etc. I might not receive those emails because they are flagged as spam by the UNM mail server. Here's UNM's policy on emails: <https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2540.html>
6. Important course announcements will be communicated via the **Announcements tool on UNM Learn**. This will forward an email to your campus (registered) email address. Be sure to check the Announcements tab on the course home page regularly.
7. It is your responsibility as a student to communicate quickly with me any issue or emergency that will impact your 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;
8. Since we are dependent on the internet for this course, be mindful that problems with technology happen sometimes. To avoid missing a deadline, do not wait until the last minute to complete your assignments or quizzes. **I will not accept your technical issues (with equipment, network connection, UNM Learn or Sapling) as legitimate reason for missing work.** All written work needs to be submitted online. If you have a difficulty using a tool on UNM Learn to complete work, use the “Create a UNM Learn Support Ticket” link in the Course Menu immediately and notify me as well. If you have a difficulty using Sapling Plus, use the “Create a Sapling Plus Support Ticket” link in the Course Menu immediately and notify me as well.
9. As a student, it is your responsibility to understand course material and requirements and to keep up with the course calendar. This means that while I am available for help and clarification, it is your responsibility to seek out help from me; ask questions if you don't understand; and access your course several times during the week to keep up with assignments and announcements.

### Attendance:

This is an online course, so it is your responsibility to attend class through UNM Learn and complete all work assigned. You CANNOT afford to get behind. Non completion of the course or failing will affect your grade and thus may affect any scholarships, grants, or financial aid, requiring payment back to the offering institution. For attendance purposes, you are required by 8 PM on Friday of each week to complete the HWs due on Sapling Plus for that week. Students who fail to complete this expectation for two consecutive weeks MAY be dropped from the course. DO NOT assume, however, that if you do not log into the class, you will be dropped.

Week 1 attendance – if you do not complete your week 1 deliverables on UNM learn by the due dates, you will be dropped from the course. Beyond that if you choose not to pursue the course, it is ultimately your responsibility to officially drop the course. Please make yourself aware of drop dates [here](#).

### Grading:

Component	Weight	
Week 1 Introduction post on the discussion forum	3.00%	
Week 1 Syllabus acceptance post on discussion forum	1.00%	
Week 1 Syllabus scavenger hunt	4.00%	
Week 1 Math Review on Sapling Plus	2.00%	
2 Applied Problems	25.00%	
16 Weekly Homework Assignments on Sapling Plus	24.00%	
14 Weekly Discussions on UNM Learn	21.00%	
16 Practice Quizzes	8.00%	
Final Exam on Sapling Plus	12.00%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	
<b>Grading Scale</b>		
A+ = 97% to 100%	A = 93% to 96%	A- = 90% to 92%
B+ = 87% to 89%	B = 83% to 86%	B- = 80% to 82%
C+ = 77% to 79%	C = 73% to 76%	C- = 70% to 72%
D+ = 67% to 69%	D = 63% to 66%	D- = 60% to 62%
Below 60% = F		

### Week 1 orientation activities and requirements:

Below you will find a list of orientation activities to complete as a part of our first week module. These activities are designed to give you a chance to get to know our online environment, as well as your fellow classmates. You'll be asked to complete simple tasks using the tools that we'll be using throughout the semester.

- Course Tour (on UNM Learn) – Watch the “Course Tour” video to learn how to navigate this course on UNM Learn and on Sapling Plus as well as to acquaint yourself better with the course.
- Introduction discussion (on UNM Learn) - Your Introduction should be posted in the "Week 1: Introduction discussion" forum under the “Week 1: START HERE” folder on the course homepage on UNM Learn by **8 PM on Wednesday, August 19th**. You are also required to make reply posts to at least two of your classmates' posts by **8 PM on Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup>** for you to receive full credit. You will need to create your introduction thread before you will be able to view other students' threads.

- Syllabus Acceptance (on UNM Learn) - Please read the syllabus and post to the "Week 1: Syllabus acceptance" forum under the "Week 1: START HERE" folder prior to **8 PM on Wednesday, August 19th**. Follow instructions provided in that forum description for your post.
- Syllabus scavenger hunt (on UNM Learn) – Carefully read the course syllabus and then complete the "Week 1: Syllabus scavenger hunt" posted under the "Week 1: START HERE" folder. This quiz is not timed and you will have unlimited attempts to complete it before its due at **8 PM on Wednesday, August 19th**.
- Math Review (On Sapling)- It should be noted that, in order to ensure logical consistency, economists make extensive use of math. The math you will employ in this class is reasonably simple: graphs and algebra. Brush up on basic algebra and graphing concepts (Appendix A of your textbook is a good resource) and then take the Math Review in Sapling Plus. You have **unlimited attempts** to complete this activity by **8 PM on Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup>**. I recommend you go back and brush up on the concepts that you get wrong in the first attempt and take the review again. These concepts will come in handy and save heartache later in the course.

### Homework Assignments:

Beginning Week 2 (August 24<sup>th</sup>), each Friday you will have HW assignments due on Sapling on the chapter(s) we cover that week. You will have unlimited attempts on these HW assignments up to the due date with a 5% penalty per failed attempt. I recommend that each week, you read and re-read the chapters and any associated study material that I post on UNM Learn until you are confident in your understanding of the material and only then attempt the assigned homework.

Chapter	Sapling HW due date	Time (in MT)
Chapter 1	Friday, August 28, 2020	8:00 PM
Chapter 2	Friday, September 4, 2020	8:00 PM
Chapter 3	Friday, September 11, 2020	8:00 PM
Chapter 4	Friday, September 18, 2020	8:00 PM
Chapter 5	Friday, September 25, 2020	8:00 PM
Chapter 6	Friday, October 2, 2020	8:00 PM
Chapter 7	Friday, October 9, 2020	8:00 PM
Chapter 8	Friday, October 16, 2020	8:00 PM
Chapter 9	Friday, October 23, 2020	8:00 PM
Chapter 11	Friday, October 30, 2020	8:00 PM
Chapter 12	Friday, November 6, 2020	8:00 PM
Chapter 13	Friday, November 13, 2020	8:00 PM
Chapter 15	Friday, November 20, 2020	8:00 PM
Chapter 16	Friday, November 27, 2020	8:00 PM
<b>Chapter 17 &amp; 18</b>	Friday, December 4, 2020	8:00 PM

### Weekly Discussion Board Posts:

Beginning Week 2 (August 24<sup>th</sup>), each Monday I will start a new forum titled "Week [#] Discussion" in the Discussion Board on UNM Learn (For example "Week 2 Discussion" is already posted on the Discussion Board). You can access these forums under the weekly folders on the course homepage. You are required to create a new thread with a response to the question(s) I post in the Forum Description. Once you create your thread, you will be able to view other threads in the forum by your classmates (as and when they are created). You are then required to go back and read your classmates' threads and create a response post to at least 2 of your classmates' thread.

Each student must make their initial thread to the forum by **8 PM on Tuesdays**. After you make your initial post, you must then post a reply to **at least two** other students' initial threads (a minimum of two reply posts) by **8 PM on Thursdays**. You must also respond to ALL questions posed/ comments made by other students and/or me on their initial thread by **8 PM on Fridays**.

Your posts must be coherent, demonstrate that you engaged with the material from previous course work/this class' texts, and reinforce important content. Your initial post should have 3 to 5 critical points relevant to the week's topic.

Initial posts must be a **minimum of 250 words** and reply posts must be a **minimum of 125 words** to receive an average score (C or C+/73-79). Posts beyond these numbers AND with substantial content will be considered for an above average score (B or A/80-100). Remember, long posts don't necessarily mean that you will earn a better grade. Strive for quality over quantity when it comes to word count.

**Respond to others** - You will individually comment—reply—to your fellow learners' posts. These responses are expected to **add to the discussion and even extend it**. This should not be an "I agree or disagree" post; rather, interject your own personal analysis of the originating student's posting. Please make each posting meaningful and on-point. Respond to the other students' postings.

### Practice Quizzes

For each chapter of the book that we cover, you will have a practice quiz due on Sapling. You will have unlimited attempts with zero penalty for failed attempts until the due date to take these quizzes. These will provide you with an excellent opportunity to practice for the Final Exam. The following are the due dates for quizzes for each of the chapters:

Chapter	Practice quiz due date	Time (in MT)
Chapters 1 -7	Sunday, October 11, 2020	8:00 PM
Chapters 8, 9, 11-13, 15-18	Sunday, December 6, 2020	8:00 PM

### Applied Projects:

You will be responsible to submit 2 applied projects during the course of the semester. These will be posted on UNM Learn at least 15 days prior to their due date. The following are the due dates for these projects:

Applied Project	Due on	Time (in MT)
Applied Project # 1	Sunday, September 13, 2020	8:00 PM
Applied Project # 2	Sunday, November 8, 2020	8:00 PM

### Final Exam:

Your final exam will be posted on Sapling at least 15 days prior to its due date **at 8 PM on Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**. You will only have one attempt to complete this exam. The format of the exam will be similar to the practice quizzes and will be based on everything that we cover during the course.

## Course Schedule

The following is the schedule that we'll be following. I will use the Announcements tool of UNM Learn to notify you of any changes that I might make to this schedule during the course.

Week	Topics
Week 1	Introductions, Syllabus Acceptance, Syllabus Scavenger Hunt, Math Review
Week 2	Chapter 1 -- The big ideas
Week 3	Chapter 2 -- The power of trade and comparative advantage
Week 4	Chapter 3 -- Supply and Demand
Week 5	Chapter 4 -- Equilibrium
Week 6	Chapter 5 -- Price ceilings and price floors
Week 7	Chapter 6 -- GDP and the measurement of progress
Week 8	Chapter 7 -- Wealth of nations and economic growth
Week 9	Chapter 8 -- Growth, capital accumulation and the economics of ideas
Week 10	Chapter 9 -- Saving, investment and the financial system
Week 11	Chapter 11 -- Unemployment and labor force participation
Week 12	Chapter 12 -- Inflation and the quantity theory of money
Week 13	Chapter 13 -- Aggregate demand and supply
Week 14	Chapter 15 -- The Federal Reserve system and open market operations
Week 15	Chapter 16 -- Monetary policy
Week 16	<b>Chapter 17 and 18</b> -- Federal Budget and Fiscal Policy

### Office Hours:

I will be available for office hour every Tuesday from 8:30 PM to 9:30 PM on Zoom. **Please e-mail me at least 24 hours in advance if you plan to utilize these office hours with a brief description of the issue you want to discuss so I'll be prepared for our meeting.** Use the following link to access the Zoom Meeting:

Join Zoom meeting at <https://unm.zoom.us/j/99029880565>

Meeting ID: 990 2988 0565

Passcode: MacOffHr

### UNM Learn log-on procedure:

The log-on procedure for UNM Learn is as follows: log onto URL: [learn.unm.edu](http://learn.unm.edu) and enter your net ID and password. Click on your Econ course. A menu will appear on the left side of your screen, click on "Course Information." For help or instructions on how to submit assignments or view your assignment grades, read the information provided at the following URL: <http://online.unm.edu/help/learn/students/>.

### Sapling Plus Registration Information:

For Sapling Plus, you will purchase an access code and follow the following instructions:

- 1) Go to [www.saplinglearning.com/login](http://www.saplinglearning.com/login) to create an account. If you already have a Macmillan Learning account you can log in with your existing credentials and skip to step 3.
  - a) Create your password and set all three security questions.
  - b) Start typing in your institution to select from the options that appears in the Primary Institution or School name field. If you institution does not appear you can add it by typing in the full name.
  - c) Accept the terms of use and click "Sign Up".

- d) Check your email for the confirmation link to complete your registration and return to the login page.
- 2) Set your institution by searching using your institution's full name and selecting the appropriate option from the menu that appears.
- 3) Under Enroll in a new course, you should see Courses at [Your College]. Click to expand this list and see courses arranged by subject. Click on a subject to see the terms that courses are available.
- 4) Click on the term to expand the menu further (note that Semester 1 refers to the first course in a sequence and not necessarily the first term of the school year).
- 5) Once the menus are fully expanded, you'll see a link to a specific course. If this is indeed the course you'd like to register for, click the link.
- 6) *If applicable*, to access your e-book click on the image of the cover on the right sidebar of your course site. Create an account or log in with an existing Macmillan Learning eBook account.
- 7) **Need Help?** Our technical support team can be reached by phone, chat, or by email via the Student Support Community. To contact support please open a service request by filling out the webform: <https://macmillan.force.com/macmillanlearning/s/>

The following link includes more detailed instructions on how to register for your course:

<https://macmillan.force.com/macmillanlearning/s/article/Sapling-Learning-Registering-for-courses>

## UNM Policies

### [Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination](#)

In an effort to meet obligations under Title IX, UNM faculty, Teaching Assistants, and Graduate Assistants are considered "responsible employees" by the [Department of Education](#) (see pg. 15). This designation requires that any report of gender discrimination which includes sexual harassment, sexual misconduct and sexual violence made to a faculty member, TA, or GA must be reported to the Title IX Coordinator at the [Office of Equal Opportunity](#).

[Read more about campus policy regarding sexual misconduct.](#)

### [Copyright Issues](#)

All materials in this course fall under copyright laws and should not be downloaded, distributed, or used by students for any purpose outside this course. [The UNM Copyright Guide](#) has additional helpful information on this topic.

### [Accessibility and Accommodations](#)

The American with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodations of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring accommodation, please contact:

- [UNM-Valencia Student Services](#) if you are a Valencia campus student. The phone number is 505-925-8560
- [UNM Accessibility Resource Center](#) in 2021 Mesa Vista Hall if you are a main campus student. The phone number is 505-277-3506.

Information about your disability is confidential and your instructor cannot refer you for accommodations. Be aware that you will need to provide documentation. If you need assistance in obtaining documentation, the offices above can assist you.

### [Accessibility Statements](#)

[Blackboard's Accessibility statement](#)

[Microsoft's Accessibility statement](#)

### [Macmillan's Accessibility statement](#)

### [Academic Integrity](#)

You should be familiar with UNM's [Policy on Academic Dishonesty](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#) which outline academic misconduct defined as plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, or facilitating any such act.

### [Drop Policy:](#)

Please refer to the UNM Valencia Website for deadlines for dropping a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop the class. DO NOT assume that your instructor will drop you or change your grade if you fail to make progress in the class.

### [UNM Resources](#)

- [UNM Valencia Campus Tutoring Services](#)
- [UNM Main Campus CAPS Tutoring Services](#)
- [UNM-Valencia Library](#)
- [UNM Libraries](#)
- ["Life" Resources available to UNM-Valencia Students](#)
- [Student Health & Counseling \(SHAC\) Online Services](#)

### [FOR MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS](#)

There are resources on campus designed to help you succeed. You can approach any faculty or staff for help with any issues you may encounter. Many faculty and staff have completed the GREEN ZONE training to learn about the unique challenges facing military-connected students. If you feel that you need help beyond what faculty and/or staff can give you, please reach out to the Veterans Resource Center on main campus at 505-277-3181, or by email at [vrcc@unm.edu](mailto:vrcc@unm.edu). The Veterans Coordinator at UNM-Valencia is in the Student Services Office, at 505-925-8560.