

ECON 1 Macroeconomics

Course Information

- Semester and Year: Spring 2026
- Course ID and Section number: ECON 1 V9966
- Instructor's name: Michael Dennis
- Course units: 3

Instructor Contact Information

- Office location: Humanities Building, Room HU 108A
- Zoom Office Address: <https://redwoods-edu.zoom.us/j/9597888796>
- Office hours: Wednesday, 11:40 AM – 1:05 PM
- Phone number: 707 476 4367 -- But please use Canvas messaging system whenever possible.
- Email address: Michael-dennis@redwoods.edu -- But please use Canvas messaging system instead.
- Between 9 am Monday and 5 pm Friday, I will usually respond to Canvas messages within 24 hours. Between 5 pm Friday and 9 am Monday and on official College holidays, I may be slower to respond.

Required Materials:

- There is no required textbook for this class. All the required course materials will be available through free online sources, mainly lecture videos. But for students who learn better from a traditional textbook, the video lectures are based on the following textbook: Modern Principles: Macroeconomics, 6th edition, Cowen and Tabarrok
You should be able to save yourself a lot of money by buying a used 5th edition, which is mostly the same.

Catalog Description

An introductory course focusing on aggregate economic analysis. Topics include: market systems, aggregate measures of economic activity, macroeconomic equilibrium, money and financial institutions, monetary and fiscal policy, international economics, and economic growth.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

1. Apply macroeconomic concepts and models to make predictions and decisions about personal, business, and social topics.
2. Use macroeconomic concepts and models to formulate and evaluate arguments.

Course Calendar

There are no required synchronous meetings for this class. You should expect to check into Canvas 2-3 times per week and spend about 6-12 hours per week on the class.

Evaluation and Grading Policy

Your grade will be determined out of 1000 points. Class grades will be assigned based on the following cut-offs: 930 is an A, 900 is an A-, 870 is an B+, 830 is a B, 800 is a B-, 770 is a C+, 700 is a C and 600 is a D. You will earn these points by three main types of work:

Weekly Canvas Quizzes (Approximately 400 points, 40% of your final class grade): These will be mostly multiple choice and numerical quizzes. You will get 3 attempts on each quiz. Unless otherwise noted, there will be Canvas quizzes due every Sunday night at 11:55 pm. Extensions and make-ups are available by request for students who don't abuse it.

Weekly Participation: (10 points possible per week after that, maximum of 100 points = 10% of your final class grade.). You'll earn participation via the Canvas discussion forums. Your response to my initial question will be worth up to 4 points and is due **by midnight Wednesday**. Responding to a classmate's initial post will be worth up to 3 points per response and your responses are due **by midnight on Sunday**. No make-ups are allowed.

Term Paper: (500 points). This will be a team/group project. More details will follow in a separate document. The basic idea of the paper is to consider arguments BOTH for (Pro) and against (Con) a particular idea or proposition. It will have the following parts:

- Strongest Pro Discussion: due 2/22 (40 points)
- Draft Pro Section: due 3/15 (40 points)
- Strongest Con Discussion: due 3/25 (40 points)
- Draft Con Section: due 4/12 (40 points)
- Final Project: due 5/10 (300 points)
- Teammate Evaluation: due 5/10 (40 points)

I will use the results of the Teammate Evaluation to adjust your score on the rest of the project. If your teammates rate you above average, I'll give you a bump up on the rest of the project. If your teammates rate you below average, I'll reduce your score on the rest of the project

Prerequisites/corequisites/ recommended preparation

Recommended Preparation: Elementary Algebra or equivalent placement.

Educational Accessibility and Support

College of the Redwoods is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for qualified students who could benefit from additional educational support and services. You may qualify if you have a physical, mental, sensory, or intellectual condition which causes you to struggle academically, including but not limited to:

- Mental health conditions such as depression, anxiety, PTSD, or bipolar disorder
- Common ailments such as arthritis, asthma, diabetes, autoimmune disorders, and diseases
- Temporary impairments such as a broken bone, recovery from significant surgery, or a pregnancy-related disability
- Neurodevelopmental disorders such as a learning disability, intellectual disability, autism, acquired brain injury, or ADHD
- Vision, hearing, or mobility conditions

Available services include extended test time, quiet testing environments, academic assistance and tutoring through the [LIGHT Center](#), counseling and advising, alternate formats of course materials (e.g., audio books, braille, E-texts), assistive technology, learning disability assessments, approval for personal attendants, interpreters, priority registration, on-campus transportation, adaptive physical education and living skills courses, and more. If you believe you might benefit from disability- or health-related services and accommodations, please contact [Student Accessibility Support Services \(SASS\)](#). If you are unsure whether you qualify, please contact Student Accessibility Support Services (SASS) for a consultation: sass@redwoods.edu.

SASS office locations and phone numbers

Eureka campus

- Phone: 707-476-4280
- Location: Learning Resource Center (Library)

Del Norte campus

- Phone: 707-465-2353
- Location: main building, near the Library

Klamath-Trinity campus

- Phone: 707-476-4280