UCL SUMMER SCHOOL

PRINCIPLES OF MACROECONOMICS

Key Information

Module code: ISSU0030
Taught during: Session Two: Monday 22 July - Friday 9 August 2019
Module workload: 45 teaching hours plus approximately 100 study hours
Module leader: Dr Nalini Vittal
Department: Centre for Languages and International Education
Credit: 15 UCL credits, 7.5 ECTS, 4 US
Level: Level 1, first year Undergraduate
Pre-requisites: Standard entry requirements
Assessment:
- Class report (5%)
- Presentation (25%)
- Exam (70%)

Module Overview
This module in introductory macroeconomics enables further formal study. Students understand models and apply them to problems.

Week One
- Introduction
- The concerns and problems of macroeconomics
- Structure and working: who performs what function? What are the connections? How do individuals make up the whole?
- The Keynesian contribution
- What is a model? Relevance and limitations

Week Two
- National and international
- Foreign trade
- Finance: what is it and what does it do in macroeconomics?
- The macroeconomics of foreign aid
- Rich and poor: does society matter?

Please note that this module description is indicative and may be subject to change.
Week Three

- Perspectives and themes
- Current problems, solutions, 'debates'
- Examine one or two contemporary themes
- Some macroeconomists and their contribution
- The financial crisis: lessons for macroeconomics

Module Aims
This module will introduce students to the structure and workings of modern economic activity, focussing on macroeconomics. Students will identify influences in the national and international economies, and consider the role of government policy. Students will learn basic approaches in macroeconomics and the value of models. They will proceed to consider different perspectives. Problems will be discussed in groups to enable participatory learning and students will apply macroeconomic theory to debate issues in the real world.

Teaching Methods
Interactive lectures and seminars, open class and small group discussions, excursions, group work and private study. Reading lists will be available online via the UCL library site. Students will be directed towards class materials and further support on Moodle once the course starts.

Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this module, students will:

- Feel familiar with major macroeconomic terms and concepts
- Understand the parts of the macroeconomy and how they work and relate to each other
- Understand macroeconomic processes in the real world
- Describe the part played by policy in modern economic activity, and discuss the strengths and limitations of models
- Select a problem to analyse and be able to discuss it orally and in writing

Assessment Methods

- Class report (10%)
- 10-minute presentation and Q&A (25%)
- 2-hour exam (70%)

Key Texts


Please note that this module description is indicative and may be subject to change.