Instructor: Dr. Aaron Smallwood
Office Location: 327 Business Building
Phone: (817) 272-3062
Email: smallwood@uta.edu

Time and Location: M,T,W,R: 8:00-10:00 am COBA 239.
Office Hours: Tuesday 4:30-5:30 (p.m.)
Thursday 4:30-5:30 (p.m.)
And by appointment.

I have worked with the publisher to make the book available online, where you can purchase the specific chapters we will cover. This will significantly lower the cost to the student. With the exception of chapters 5 and 6, I anticipate covering chapters 1-15 in the textbook. The link to the textbook can be found here: http://www.cengagebrain.com/shop/search/9781285453545
Please visit the course Blackboard page to obtain instructions on how to download the chapters we will cover.

Recommended readings: We will concentrate heavily on current events as we analyze various economic theories throughout the course. It is highly recommended that students keep current with economic events to facilitate class discussion. Excellent sources for economic information include The Wall Street Journal and The Economist.

Blackboard: All course material will be posted to Blackboard, an electronic learning software platform. Please check Blackboard before each class. You can go to http://elearn.uta.edu to log in.

Course Description:
This course is an introduction to macroeconomics. Our academic pursuit in this class is to create theories to explain how the macroeconomy works. To this end, we will start with a discussion of what economics is about, while introducing the powerful supply and demand tools. Inevitably, we will introduce aggregate demand and aggregate supply, and we will use it to analyze the effects of changes in important economic variables. Specific emphasis will be placed on studying monetary and fiscal policy. Throughout, we will place our emphasis on the effects of various policies on output, employment, and prices.

Course Objectives:
The successful student WILL accomplish each of the following:
1. The student will be able to read and understand economic jargon in popular business periodicals such as The Wall Street Journal.
2. The student will be familiar with important macroeconomic models. The student will be able to use these models to successfully analyze macroeconomic policies.
3. The student will be able to critique various models on the basis of criteria such as the model's assumptions and the model's implications.
4. The student will possess analytical skills that will enable him/her to study economics at a more advanced level.

Grading: Course grades will be based on the following:

Weekly assignments 32%
Midterm 34%
Final 34%.
I. Exams:
   Midterm: Tentatively scheduled for June 17, 2014
   Exam coverage: determined by pace of the course.
   Final Exam: July 3, 2014:
   Exam coverage: Again determined by the pace of the course.

II. Weekly assignments/quizzes:
   There are a total of 4 assignments and quizzes each worth 8% of your grade. At the end of each week except the last one, I will provide an assignment with questions related to the material covered during that week.

   Course Outline: Please note that the course is very dynamic and thus will be skewed heavily toward current events. Please note that topics can and will likely change and that the following may also change due to the pace of the course.

   Week 1 (June 2-5): Introduction to the economic way of thinking. The concept of opportunity cost and an introduction to economic tools. Introduction to demand and supply (chapters 1-4).

   Week 2 (June 9-12): Supply and demand continued. Analyzing the current health of the US economy. Measuring income (GDP), unemployment (the unemployment rate), and prices (inflation). Introduction to the resource market, the market for goods and services, the market for loanable funds, and the market for foreign exchange (chapters 4,7-9).


   Week 4 (June 23-26): Fiscal policy continued. Money and the banking system. (chapters 12-14).


Drop Policy: It is the student’s responsibility to complete the course or withdraw from the course in accordance with University regulations. Students are strongly encouraged to verify their grade status before dropping a course after their first withdrawal date. A student who drops a course after the first withdrawal date may receive an “F” in the course if the student is failing at the time the course is dropped.

Grade Grievances: You have one calendar year from the date the grade is assigned to initiate any grievance. The normal academic channels are department chair, academic dean, and the Provost.

Non-payment of fees policy: Students who have not paid their fees by the census date and are dropped for non-payment cannot receive a grade for the course under any circumstances. Emergency loans are available from the Financial aid Office.

Academic Dishonesty: The UTA Student Handbook contains the following statement on academic dishonesty:

“It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures.”

“Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusions, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.” (Regents’ Rules and Regulations, Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3, Subsection 3.2 Subdivision 3.22)
Reasonable Accommodations: Students with academic disabilities needing accommodations should make an appointment to meet with me in my office during the first week of class. I will do my best to make the necessary accommodations to insure that no student is at a disadvantage because of his/her disability.

Bomb Threats: Effective April 8, 1997, the College of Business Administration has adopted a policy to deal with the classroom disruption caused by bomb threats in the building. (A) Section 22.07 of the Texas Criminal Law Statutes governs terrorist threats and classifies bomb threats as Class A misdemeanors. Section 12.21 of the Texas Criminal Law Statutes states that a Class A misdemeanor is punishable by (1) a fine not to exceed $4,000, (2) a jail term of not more than one year, or (3) both such a fine and confinement. (B) If anyone is tempted to call in a bomb threat, be aware that UTA will soon have technology to trace phone calls. (C) Every effort will be made to avoid cancellation of presentation/tests caused by bomb threats to the Business Building. Unannounced alternate sites will be available for these classes. If a student who has a class with a scheduled test or presentation arrives and the building has been closed due to a bomb threat, the student should immediately check for the alternate class site notice which will be posted on/near the main doors on the south side of the Business Building. If the bomb threat is received while class is in session, your instructor will ask you to leave the building and reconvene at another location. (D) Students who provide information leading to the successful prosecution of anyone making a bomb threat will receive one semester’s free parking in the Maverick Garage across from the Business Building. UTA’s Crimestoppers will provide a reward to anyone providing information leading to an arrest. To make an anonymous report, call 817-272-5245.