

Macroeconomic Strategies
(Course 180.336, Spring 2020)

<http://www.econ2.jhu.edu/courses/336/index.html>

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Course Objectives:

1. To attain a rigorous understanding of U.S. macroeconomic barometers (Issues: theoretical concepts, real world representations, measurement errors/revisions and cyclical fluctuations/secular patterns).
2. To become familiar with the pattern of economic news and the shaping of the consensus view.
3. To come to appreciate the interplay between long-term trends, economic policies, financial market fluctuations, and exogenous shocks.
4. To learn techniques for *Separating Signal from Noise* and the Risks/Rewards Inherent in Thinking and Forecasting *Outside the Box*.

Required Texts: *The Cost of Capitalism*, Robert J. Barbera, McGraw-Hill.

Periodicals:

The Economist Magazine, Weekly Publication
Wall Street Journal, Daily Publication

New York Times, Daily Publication
Financial Times, Daily Publication

Websites:

U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis: www.bea.gov

U.S. Congressional Budget Office: www.cbo.gov

U.S. Department of Labor: www.bls.gov

International Monetary Fund: www.imf.com

U.S. Federal Reserve Board: www.federalreserve.gov

European Central Bank: www.ecb.int/

National Bureau of Statistics of China: <http://www.stats.gov.cn/english/index.htm>

The People's Bank of China: <http://www.pbc.gov.cn/english/>

Course Requirements:

1. Exam I (40%)
2. Exam II (50%)
3. Class Participation (10%)

“KEEP IT FAIR, KEEP IT FAIR”

“The strength of the university depends on academic and personal integrity. In this course, you must be honest and truthful. Ethical violations include cheating on exams, plagiarism, reuse of assignments, improper use of the Internet and electronic devices, unauthorized collaboration, alteration of graded assignments, forgery and falsification, lying, facilitating academic dishonesty, and unfair competition.”