VERNON COLLEGE
SYLLABUS

DIVISION: Behavioral & Social Sciences DATE: 2026-2027

COURSE NUMBER & TITLE: ECON 2301 Principles of Macroeconomics

CREDIT HRS: 3 HRS/WK LEC: 3 HRS/WK LAB: 0 LEC/LAB COMB: 3

I. VERNON COLLEGE CORE CURRICULUM PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

Vernon College's Core Curriculum reflects the institution's deep conviction that successful, satisfying lives require a wide range of skills and knowledge. We are dedicated to providing educational opportunities that develop the academic, career, and personal capabilities of individuals so they may achieve self-fulfillment and participate fully and positively in a democratic society. In accordance with Texas Education Code, Vernon College offers a 42 semester credit hour Core Curriculum. The State of Texas has identified Foundational Component Areas and Core Objectives that enable students to gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

CORE CURRICULUM FOUNDATIONAL COMPONENT AREA

**Social and Behavioral Sciences:**

- Courses in this category focus on the application of empirical and scientific methods that contribute to the understanding of what makes us human.
- Courses involve the exploration of behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events, examining their impact on the individual, society, and culture.
- The following four Core Objectives must be addressed in each course approved to fulfill this category requirement: Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical and Quantitative Skills, and Social Responsibility.

CORE OBJECTIVES*

A. **Critical Thinking:** Students will demonstrate creative thinking, recognize innovation, practice inquiry, perform analysis, and evaluate and synthesize information.
B. **Communication Skills:** Students will effectively develop, interpret, and express ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.
C. **Empirical and Quantitative Skills:** Students will manipulate and analyze numerical data or observable facts resulting from informed conclusions.
**D.** Teamwork: Students will develop abilities to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.
**E.** Personal Responsibility: Students will demonstrate an ability to recognize and connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision making.
F. **Social Responsibility:** Students will develop intercultural competency, civic knowledge, and an ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

*Core competencies highlighted in bold are emphasized in this core course.

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II. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisite: Texas Success Initiative complete in reading and writing. An analysis of the economy as a whole including measurement and determination of Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply, national income, inflation, and unemployment. Other topics include international trade, economic growth, business cycles, and fiscal policy and monetary policy.

III. REQUIRED BACKGROUND:

Prerequisite: Texas Success Initiative complete in reading and writing. Sophomore standing is recommended.

IV. STUDENT E-MAIL:

All students should activate and regularly check their Vernon College issued student email account. Student emails are an official form of communication between Vernon College and students and will be used by various components of the college including the Office of Financial Aid, Admissions & records, the Business Office, Student Services, and Instructional Services.

Additionally, an active VC student email account is required for students to access online courses and supplemental instruction provided on the College's Learning Management System – *Canvas*.

V. TEXTS, OTHER REFERENCE MATERIALS:

Lee Coppock and Dirk Mateer, *Principles of Macroeconomics*, 5th Edition. W.W. Norton & Company.

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Lecture, discussion, and class participation with appropriate A/V materials for on-campus students. Assistance with assignments through Canvas for on-line students.

Students desiring auxiliary aids and services for this course should make their requests to the instructor and the PASS Department Director/Office for Students with Disabilities Coordinator.

VII. COURSE CONTENT:

1. The economic perspective
2. International trade
3. Demand and supply
4. International trade
5. Measuring national income
6. Unemployment and inflation
7. Production and growth
8. Aggregate demand and supply
9. Monetary and fiscal policy
10. Money supply and banking

11. Tradeoffs between inflation and unemployment

VIII. COURSE OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course, each student should be able to:

1. Explain the role of scarcity, specialization, opportunity cost and cost/benefit analysis in economic decision-making. (COM, EQ)
2. Identify the determinants of supply and demand; demonstrate the impact of shifts in both market supply and demand curves on equilibrium price and output. (CT, EQ)
3. Define and measure national income and rates of unemployment and inflation. (CT, EQ)
4. Identify the phases of the business cycle and the problems caused by cyclical fluctuations in the market economy. (SR)
5. Define money and the money supply; describe the process of money creation by the banking system and the role of the central bank. (EQ, SR)
6. Construct the aggregate demand and aggregate supply model of the macro economy and use it to illustrate macroeconomic problems and potential monetary and fiscal policy solutions. (CT, SR)
7. Explain the mechanics and institutions of international trade and their impact on the macro economy. (SR)
8. Define economic growth and identify sources of economic growth. (SR)

IX. ASSESSMENT:

Final course grades may be determined on a basis of:

1. Attendance and Class Participation
2. Assigned Work
3. Pop Quizzes
4. Major Exams
5. Final Exam

Vernon College does not discriminate on the basis of color, race, gender, age, religion, national origin, or disability.