



Syllabus

Macroeconomics (2026/27)

Instructor (Lectures): Prof. Dr. Thomas Beissinger
Email: beissinger@uni-hohenheim.de

Instructor (Tutorials): Dr. Victoria Krautter
Email: victoriasophie.krautter@uni-hohenheim.de

General information: This is a compulsory module in the 1st semester in the Master's program in *Economics with Data Science* at the University of Hohenheim. It consists of lectures and accompanying tutorials. Lectures and tutorials will take place on campus.

Frequency: once a year (winter term)

Credits (lecture plus tutorials): 6 ECTS

Course language: English

Assessment and Grading:

1. Final Exam

- The course grade is primarily based on a final written exam on campus (90 minutes), which counts 100% of the total grade.
- There is the possibility of retake near the beginning of the following semester.

2. Voluntary Bonus Assignment

Students have the option to complete a voluntary assignment to earn bonus points for the final exam.

- The assignment can yield a maximum bonus of 10% of the total exam points.
- For instance, a maximum score of 60 points on the exam implies a maximum of 6 bonus points with the full bonus.
- Participation is entirely optional. Not submitting the assignment will not negatively affect your grade in any way.

Course Objectives:

This course aims to provide students with a solid understanding of fundamental macroeconomic models that explain business cycle fluctuations and economic growth. It will also explore the ongoing debate between (New) Keynesian and (Neo-)Classical economists regarding the role of governments and central banks in stabilizing a market economy.

Accompanying tutorials will offer students the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the lecture topics. A key goal of the course is to familiarize students with the analytical tools commonly used in modern macroeconomics. Students are required to attempt the problem sets, either individually or in groups. Proficiency in using these tools can only be achieved through independent practice; solving exercises is therefore essential.

Course requirements

- Solid understanding of intermediate macroeconomics as summarized, for example, in Blanchard, O., Macroeconomics, 5th or 6th edition, chapters 2-8.
- Introductory reading for the course: Mankiw, N. G. (2006), The Macroeconomist as Scientist and Engineer, Journal of Economic Perspectives 20(4), pp. 22-46.

Literature: Selected chapters from:

- Acemoglu, D. (2009), Introduction to Modern Economic Growth, Princeton University Press.
- Heijdra, B. J. (2017), Foundations of Modern Macroeconomics, 3rd edition, Oxford University Press.
- Romer, D. (2018), Advanced Macroeconomics, 5th edition, McGraw-Hill.

Additional literature is announced in the lectures.

Contents

1. Macroeconomics and Economic Policy
2. Trend and Cycle
3. Classical Macroeconomics
4. The Keynesian Revolution
5. Neoclassical Synthesis
6. The Rational Expectations Revolution
7. The Solow Growth Model
8. The Ramsey Model
9. Real-Business-Cycle Theory