

ECON 310-C01
 Summer 2019
 Music Theater Building 1002
 TR 7:00-10:00pm & S 8:30-11:30

INSTRUCTOR: Anne Blas
OFFICE: Location: Economics Department, Mason Hall D150
 Hours: Thursdays, 5:30pm – 6:30pm and by appointment
EMAIL: ablas@masonlive.gmu.edu

ECON 310: Money and Banking

Course Description: This course will examine monetary, commercial, and central banking systems, with particular emphasis on their relationship with U.S. government programs, fiscal policies, and controls.

Course Objectives: By the end of the semester, students will have a broad understanding of how financial institutions affect the economy. In particular, we will study the behavior of interest rates, how banks are structured and managed, and how the Federal Reserve conducts monetary policy.

Course Materials:

- Mishkin, 5th Edition of *The Economics of Money, Banking, and Financial Markets, Business School Edition*.

Grading/Requirements

- 10% Current News Article Summary
- 30% Homework
- 30% Midterm
- 30% Final

Current News Summary:

Current News Article Summary: Students will summarize and review 2 current news articles based on class material. Summaries will be due Jul 11 and Jul 25. Further guidance, grading criteria, and article suggestions will be provided during the first class.

Daily Homework: Homework problems will be assigned after every lecture, and will derive from the reading materials and lecture. They will be due at the beginning of the following class session. Homework may be submitted via Blackboard or submitted hardcopy in class. I cannot accept late homework. *Homework may be submitted early; therefore, a missed homework will result in a grade of 0.*

EXAMS: There will be two exams (one midterm and a final). The midterm will occur during class on July 13 and will cover material taught prior to that date. If you must be absent on the day of the midterm, please contact me beforehand and have proper documentation ready. I will

shift the weight of the missed midterm to the final exam. The final exam will be cumulative and will occur on Jul 27.

Course Policies

- **Academic Integrity:** It is expected that students adhere to the George Mason University Honor Code as it relates to integrity regarding coursework and grades. The Honor Code reads as follows: "To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of the George Mason University community and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the University Community have set forth this: Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal and/or lie in matters related to academic work." More information about the Honor Code, including definitions of cheating, lying, and plagiarism, can be found at the Office of Academic Integrity website at <https://oai.gmu.edu>
- **Disabilities:** If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Services at 703-993-2474 or ods.gmu.edu. All academic arrangements concerning disabilities must be made through that office.

Tentative Schedule

| Date | Assigned Chapters | Topic |
|----------------|---|---|
| June 27 | 1, 2, 3 | Introduction; Overview of the Financial System and Money |
| June 29 | 4, 5 | Meaning and Behavior of Interest Rates |
| July 2 | 6, 7 | Risk and Term Structure of Interest Rates; Stock Market, Rational Expectations, Efficient Markets |
| July 4 | <i>Independence Day – No Class</i> | |
| July 6 | 8, 9 | Financial Institutions |
| July 9 | 11 | Banking Industry |
| July 11 | Review | |
| July 13 | <i>Midterm</i> | |
| July 16 | 16, 17 | Central Banks and Money Supply |
| July 18 | 18 | Monetary Policy |
| July 20 | 20, 21 | International Finance and Monetary Policy |
| July 23 | 22 | Monetary Theory |
| July 25 | Review | |
| July 27 | <i>Final Exam</i> | |