ECON 204A
Intermediate Macroeconomics
Fall 2012

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Lectures and Sections

• **Lecture Day/Time:** Tuesday and Thursday, 11:15am-12:30pm

• **Lecture Room:** Holdsworth Hall 203

• **Sections: Room:** Goessmann Lab. room 51
  - **AD01:** Mon 3:35–4:25pm
  - **AD02:** Mon 4:40-5:30pm
  - **AD03:** Wed 3:35–4:25pm
I. Introduction: Blanchard, Chap 1, 2, 28; Pollin, chap 1, 2
   a. The world economy: overview
   b. Key macroeconomic indicators
   c. What determines output in the short-run, medium-run, long-run?

II. Short-run analysis: Blanchard, chap 3-5
   a. Goods market
   b. Financial market
   c. Equilibrium in goods and financial markets

III. Medium-run analysis: Blanchard, chap 6-7
   a. Labor market
   b. Aggregate supply and aggregate demand model
      i. Equilibrium
      ii. Effects of macroeconomic policy
IV. Long-run analysis: Blanchard, chap 10-12
   a. Growth: stylized facts
   b. Growth analysis
   c. Technological change
V. Open economy macroeconomics: Blanchard, chap 18-20;
   a. The exchange rate
   b. The Balance of Payments
   c. Equilibrium in open-economy goods market
   d. Fiscal and monetary policy in open-economy context
VI. Policy discussion: Blanchard, Chap 8, 23-26; Pollin, chap 3-5
   a. Inflation and unemployment
   b. Inflation and deficit financing
   c. Monetary policy tools
   d. Policy making as a game
Textbook and other course material

• Required textbook: Olivier Blanchard, *Macroeconomics*, 6\textsuperscript{th} Edition or Updated 5\textsuperscript{th} Edition.
  – Available at *Food for Thoughts* bookstore (downtown Amherst)
• Videos/documentaries:
  – “The Inside Job”
  – “Black Gold”
  – “Life and Debt”
Grading

• Class attendance (lectures and sections): 5%
• Mid-term exams (two): 30% + 30%
• Final exam: 30%
• Reflection essay on 2 documentaries: 5% (specifics to be given in due course)
• Extra credit (optional): essay on 3rd documentary
Exam schedule

• Mid-term exam I: October 2
• Mid-term exam II: November 1 (please note change from initial date of Nov. 8th)
• Final exam: December 12, 4pm, THOM 0106