Instructors:

Neil Arnwine
Sections 01 through 19
Monday 8:40-10:30am
Wednesday 10:40am -12:30pm
V-02

Selin Sayek Böke
Sections 23 through 37
Tuesday 8:40-10:30am
Thursday 10:40am-12:30pm
V-02

Office hours:

Monday 10:40-11:30am
Wednesdays 2:30-3:30pm

Office hours:

Tuesday 10:30 am-12:00 pm

Format: This course is composed of 4-hour lectures in the auditorium (V-02), followed by two-hour lectures of class discussion for groups of 20 students which will be conducted by teaching assistants. For each section you should check for your discussion hour details from your registration. Attendance to discussion hours is mandatory.

Goal of course:

This course will familiarize you with macroeconomics. You will learn both about “economics” as a way of thinking about the world and about the basic characteristics of Turkish and other economies. At the end of the semester not only should you have a better understanding of economics, you should also have a better awareness of the state of the world. Your performance in this class will depend on how well you understand the economic concepts and how well you relate them to the real world.

Towards that end, part of your weekly responsibility will be to read “The Economist,” available at the library and on line through the library’s electronic collection, as well as at newsstands if you’d like to purchase a copy or to subscribe. You will be writing short essays based on articles from The Economist and revising them based on the feedback you will receive.

Also, if you have not already done so, get into the good habit of reading a newspaper daily. Importantly, you should not take for granted the validity of everything offered to you in these publications but read them critically, drawing your own conclusions.

The Economics Department offers a seminar series on the Turkish economy. Attendance to these is not mandatory but is strongly recommended. These non-technical seminars will help you gain a better understanding of the economy you are living in.

We would like to emphasize that this class will be in English. We will lecture in English and ask questions in English, so will the teaching assistants of the small sections. We expect you to ask your questions and answer ours—and the TAs’—in English as well. If you don’t trust your language skills, that’s OK. Do your best, the teaching assistants and we will help you. Do not switch to Turkish because it is convenient for you. An important part of your Bilkent education is acquiring fluency in English which you can only do by using the language.

While part of your grade is based on participation attendance to our lectures are not mandatory. We will make this class interesting and rewarding for you but, if you feel our lectures are not worth your time, we will not force you to come to class. Having said that, we should also point out that there is a high correlation between attendance and performance. (People who come to class actually learn something.) If you are not planning to attend the lectures, we recommend not taking this class.

Requirements:

The grading will consist of a mid-term exam, home-works, quizzes, and a final exam. The breakdown of the grading is as follows:

- Midterm: 30%
- Final Exam: 35%
- Quizzes and Homework: 25%
- Discussion participation: 10%

Note on final exam and overall grading: It is important to note that although the weight of the final exam is 35%, those who get a grade below 40 in the final exam will automatically fail. Also, please note that the grades reflect your performance in each assessment tool and not how much effort you put into the class (though, performance should be highly correlated with the effort...)

Note on exam grading: It is possible to get negative grades from questions. Not answering a question or making reasonable mistakes is fine. Writing nonsense or proudly displaying lack of understanding of basic definitions is not. These instances will lead to negative grades from those questions.

Note on exams: The exam schedule is set as follows. Make sure you arrange your personal schedule around this set exam dates as THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP EXAMS given without documented medical or other emergencies. Make-up exams and the final exam will be comprehensive. Make note that cell phones are not allowed during the quizzes and exams.

Note on quizzes and homework: There will be about 13 homework assignments. Each homework has equal weight and the same applies to the quizzes. If you miss a quiz or are not able to turn in a homework due to a valid excuse you should provide us with an official notification (just like you do for your exams). If you are unable to produce valid excuses to miss any course requirement then the grade for that particular requirement will be zero.

Your homeworks should be typed, and submitted via Turnitin. You will receive information about how to do this separately. Homeworks will be assigned on Mondays and will be due next Monday at noon. Since your homeworks will be electronically submitted and Turnitin will be closed at noon on Mondays you must make sure to submit your work before the deadline.

Also, regularly you will be asked to write one page essays based on the articles in The Economist. Please pay attention to detail when handing your essays in. Think twice before handing in work with your name on it: Do you want to be known as the person who produced that piece?

You will have irregularly spaced quizzes in your discussion hours. The quizzes will have questions almost identical to what you worked on in your homeworks. The aim is to encourage you to think about your homework questions (we think a lot when we prepare them) and make sure that you understand what you do in homeworks.

Discussion Participation: Please note that participation is distinct from attendance. Your participation score will be based on the insightful questions you ask, the meaningful answers you provide and your contribution to class discussion in your small group sections. Attendance to the recitation sections is mandatory, large class attendance is not.

To prepare for the class discussion you must do the readings. There will also be regular homeworks to be done before the recitation session. The homework will help you think about the relevant ideas and apply these to the real world. Note that if you don’t do the readings and the homework and don’t follow the world around you (by reading newspapers, The Economist, etc.) you won’t be able
to contribute to and benefit from the class discussion. Take this class only if you are going to extend the effort to improve yourself.

**Honesty:** There is a zero-tolerance for any kind of cheating, including plagiarism. Needless to say, being punctual, respecting others right to listen to class during the lectures, **turning off your cell phones during class**, are among the list of “proper behavior” and we expect no less from each of you. Let’s respect each other.

**Information dissemination:** The course related announcements and electronic documents will be posted on the course web-page via Moodle services as well as Selin Sayek Böke’s web-page (www.bilkent.edu.tr/~sayek/eco102econman.htm). For your questions please come by our offices during our office hours set aside to answer your questions and to assist you. If you cannot make it to these scheduled office hours please e-mail us to schedule an appointment.

Enjoy the semester!

**Spring 2011 (Tentative) Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Week of...</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Topic(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6 February</td>
<td>19, 19</td>
<td>Orientation: What is macroeconomics? Measuring GDP, inflation and Growth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>13 February</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Unemployment, Inflation, and Interest Rates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>20 February</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Economic Growth: the Financial System Interest Rate Determination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>27 February</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Economic Growth: Sources and Policies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>5 March</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Income-Expenditure Model, GDP multiplier, and Deriving AD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>12 March</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>AS-AD Model and LRAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>19 March</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Fiscal Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>26 March</td>
<td>27-28</td>
<td>Midterm Exam (Thursday 29 March, 17:40) (Chapters 19-24, 27)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>2 April</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Fiscal Debt and Deficit (Not in textbook)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>9 April</td>
<td>25-26</td>
<td>Money and Banks Banks’ Balance Sheets / Monetary Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>16 April</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Monetary Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>23 April</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Phillips curve / Velocity of Money (Not in textbook)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>30 April</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Phillips curve / Velocity of Money (Not in textbook)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>7 May</td>
<td>29, 30</td>
<td>Open Economy</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>14 May</td>
<td></td>
<td>General Review</td>
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