

Sciences Po
Master of Public Affairs 2009-2010

Syllabus, Required Course, 2nd Semester (2.5 credits)

International Macroeconomics and Policy Making - Level 1b

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Instructor:

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Participation in classes is mandatory. There will be no scheduled office hours, but you can email me at any moment to schedule an appointment.

Course web page: ENTG.

Course Description:

This course builds on the theoretical tools studied during the first semester. It covers a wide range of topics, all of which fall under the label of "International Macroeconomics", and cover not only international finance, but also trade-related issues.

Students will develop communication related skills, and the capacity to carry on rigorous debates on topics that are currently the subject of controversy both at the academic level and among policy makers.

Course Objectives :

The course will in fact consist of a series of seminars/case studies, on topics that will meet the students' interests. During these seminars, all students will be required to actively participate in the discussion. This will constitute a first opportunity to put the tools learned during the first semester "to work." After presentations are done in groups, the class discussions will take the form of debates.

By the end of the course, the students will be able to give a rigorous assessment of current economic developments, and to derive policy implications from their analysis.

Course Outline :

The course will consist of twelve classes (2 hours each)

Possible themes for discussion, to be determined with the students:

(1) The Washington Consensus. (2) Financial crises. (3) Poverty reduction strategies: Successes and failures. (4) Trade policy, the Doha Round, and the future of WTO. (5) New powers for the new century: China and other emerging economies. (6) Unemployment and growth in the US and in Europe: Why so many differences in performance? (7) Enlargement of the European Union: Problems and opportunities. (8) Fiscal and monetary policy in Europe. (9) The EMU and the theory of Currency Areas. (10) \$/€ exchange rate fluctuations. (11) Oil prices and the global economy. (12) Reform of the Welfare State.

Students will be allowed to propose other subjects for presentation, which will have to be validated by me.

Assessment:

The evaluation will be based on class assignments (30%), on the class presentations (30%) and on a final multiple choice exam (40%)