JÖNKÖPING UNIVERSITY
Jönköping International Business School

COURSE SYLLABUS

Macroeconomic Principles, 5 credits

Macroeconomic Principles, 5 högskolepoäng

Course Code:	J1MPVJ	Education Cycle:	First-cycle level
Confirmed:	Oct 07, 2026	Disciplinary domain:	Social sciences (75%) and Natural sciences (25%)
Valid From:	Jan 18, 2027	Subject group:	Economics
		Specialised in:	G1F First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
		Main field of study:	Economics

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

On completion of the course you will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

1.1 Explain central theories, frameworks, and concepts from business administration and/or economics and apply these to clearly defined problems or cases.

1.2 Relate disciplinary knowledge to broader trends and phenomena in society.

Skills and Abilities

2.2 Select and apply relevant disciplinary concepts and theories to analyse phenomena and/or situations, and justify conclusions with appropriate evidence.

2.4 Apply appropriate tools, techniques, or models to analyse problems and formulate informed recommendations, recognising their opportunities and limitations.

Content

Understanding the economy as a whole is essential for interpreting developments that shape business, policy, and society. This course introduces you to the key questions of modern macroeconomics: What determines economic growth, inflation, and unemployment? Why do economies experience booms and recessions? How can governments and central banks stabilise the economy? By studying these issues, you will gain insights into the forces that influence living standards and economic stability across countries and over time.

The course covers how to measure economic activity through indicators such as gross domestic product (GDP), inflation, and unemployment, and how these indicators reflect overall performance. It examines long-run growth and productivity, as well as short-run business cycles driven by demand and supply shocks. A central focus is fiscal and monetary policy—how policymakers use spending, taxation, and interest rates to manage output, employment, and prices. Throughout the course, theory is connected to real-world cases and current policy debates, enabling you to see how macroeconomic reasoning applies in practice.

After completing the course, you will be able to interpret macroeconomic data, understand policy responses to economic fluctuations, and critically evaluate economic developments in the news. You will strengthen your ability to think analytically about aggregate outcomes and relate them to business and societal contexts. The course contributes to the programme's broader learning goals of developing structured economic reasoning, critical reflection, and informed decision-making in an international environment.

Connection to Research

The course is grounded in core macroeconomic theory that underpins contemporary economic research. You will engage with established models of growth, fluctuations, and economic policy, and learn how economists confront these models with data. The material on long-run growth and structural change connects to JIBS research on renewal. Throughout the course, current research findings and data, for example on inequality and on the effects of monetary policy, illustrate how macroeconomic knowledge advances.

Connection to Practice

The course connects macroeconomic theory to current economic events and policy debates. Lectures link each topic to real-world cases, and in the exercises you apply the models to concrete problems of the kind that companies, banks, and governments face. You will learn to interpret the macroeconomic indicators reported in the news, such as GDP, inflation, and unemployment, and to read central bank and government policy announcements with a trained eye.

Connection to Ethics, Responsibility, Sustainability (ERS)

ERS perspectives are integrated through the analysis of inequality, unemployment, and economic policy. You will examine how income and wealth are distributed within and across countries, who bears the costs of inflation and unemployment, and how fiscal and monetary policy decisions affect different groups in society. Through this, you will develop the ability to reflect on the societal consequences of economic policy in line with JIBS' guiding principles.

Type of Instruction

The course is delivered through a combination of lectures and exercises, allowing you to acquire theoretical knowledge and apply it to practical problem-solving.

Attendance is expected for scheduled on-campus sessions and may be compulsory for some sessions.

Language of instruction is English.

Entry Requirements

General entry requirements and passed at least 30 ECTS in first-cycle courses in Business Administration or Economics and Proof of English proficiency is required.

Examination and Grades

The course is graded A, B, C, D, E, FX or F.

Individual written exam (ILOs: 1.1, 1.2, 2.2, 2.4), representing 5 credits. On-campus digital written examination covering the topics addressed in the course, including questions testing economic understanding as well as short quantitative calculations.

All parts of the compulsory examination in the course must receive a passing grade before a final grade can be set. Grades are set in accordance with JIBS grading policy.

Registration of examination:

Name of the Test	Value	Grading
Individual written exam	5 credits	A/B/C/D/E/FX/F

Course Evaluation

The course evaluation is important for the continuous improvement of JIBS' courses and degree programmes. The examiner is responsible for ensuring that each course is evaluated, but as a student you are essential in this process. We rely on your input to understand how we can improve. At the outset of a course the student representatives are identified. In the middle of the course there should be an opportunity for the student representatives (or a larger group of students) to share reflections on how the course is progressing. At the end of the course, you will get a course evaluation survey to fill in. The examiner will then host a debrief meeting with the student representatives to discuss improvement opportunities, based on the course evaluation data and comments.

Other Information

As a JIBS student, you are expected to maintain strong academic integrity. You must act within the boundaries of academic rules and expectations relating to all types of teaching and examination.

Copying someone else's work is a particularly serious offence and can lead to disciplinary action. When you use someone else's work without proper citation or transparency about where it came from, you are committing plagiarism. Cutting and pasting without clearly acknowledging the original source is a textbook example of plagiarism.

You must also act responsibly when using Generative AI tools. Acting responsibly includes staying informed about the school's AI-policy, understanding what rules apply in each course, and properly declaring or disclaiming any use of generative AI. You are accountable for all content you submit, including AI-assisted material. Using AI without disclosure or beyond what is allowed in a course is a violation of academic integrity and will be subject to the same academic consequences as other forms of misconduct, which may include failing the assignment, failing the course, or further disciplinary action according to school policy.

The Jönköping University library offers online and in-person support for assisting you in identifying relevant sources, using and referencing literature, and creating texts that meet academic standards and integrity.

Other forms of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) adding your name to a project you did not contribute to (or allowing someone to add their name), cheating during an examination, helping other students to cheat or submitting other students' work as your own, and using non-allowed electronic equipment during an examination. All such actions may result in disciplinary measures.

Course Literature

Please note that the course literature may be revised up to eight weeks before the start of the course.

Acemoglu, D., Laibson, D., & List, J. A. (2022). *Economics* (latest edition), Pearson.