TA: ZHENG ZHANG
Email: zhangzheng0529@gmail.com
Website: [http://publish.illinois.edu/zzhangecon/teaching/](http://publish.illinois.edu/zzhangecon/teaching/)
Office Location: Room 17 Basement of DKH
Office Hours: Wednesday 2-5 pm

Meeting location and times:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:50pm Fri</td>
<td>215B DKH</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:50pm Fri</td>
<td>215B DKH</td>
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<td>3:50pm Fri</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:50pm Fri</td>
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Grade Distribution:

- Class participation: 5%
- Homework: 15%
- Quizz: 5%
- Midterm Exam I: 20%
- Midterm Exam II: 20%
- Final Exam: 25%
- Paper: 10%

Important Dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm I</td>
<td>Feb 23rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm II</td>
<td>Apr 13rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>May 12nd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper Due Date</td>
<td>May 1st</td>
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Objective: Discussion Section is intended to have a better understanding of the concepts, theories and calculations by doing exercises I made. I hope this would let you perform better in the midterms and final.

Requirement: Please try to attend as many lectures and discussions as you can, otherwise you would not learn anything because the materials are interconnected and you’ll find everything much harder once you can not keep up with our pace.

You’re REQUIRED to attend the discussion sections you are registered with. For example, if you’re registered with AQ7, Do not attend AQ 4. Registering with a TA and attending another TA’s discussion section is NOT allowed.

Sometimes, I may need you to preview some readings yourself before coming to my class and I hope you can follow my instruction because I may ask some students to go to show their works on the blackboard. In addition, calculator is also needed on many occasions.
Last, please bring your course packet to this class.

Course Policies:

1. **Webpage:** My personal webpage ([http://publish.illinois.edu/zzhangecon/teaching/](http://publish.illinois.edu/zzhangecon/teaching/)) is a resource I expect you to use throughout the semester. You will find helpful information, additional material, and announcements. It is also your responsibility to regularly visit the common website at compass2g.illinois.edu where you’ll find discussion board, announcements etc.

2. **Dates:** Exam and Term Paper Due dates are listed above. If you think you can’t make it to any of these exams on the scheduled date and time (of course for a good reason e.g. you will have another exam at the same time, please let me know by this Sunday (Jan 25) and I will help arrange a conflict exam for you. I won’t accept any request for conflict exams after this date. Should any emergency happen, such as serious sickness or bereavement, make sure you notify me of the emergencies before an exam and should you be not able to give me a short notice prior to an exam, you must bring me adequate documentation of the reasons for missing the exam thereafter to be sit at a conflict exam.

3. **Exams:** Two midterms and one final make up 65% of your total grades, so your performance in the exams will generally determine your rankings and letter grades.

4. **Grades:** Grades will be given in percentage for exams and paper. Letter grades will be calculated using the weights of components listed above and I won’t be able to know your letter grades until the final has been graded. The total grades MAY be curved depending on how well you perform on those three exams. It usually takes at least one week to get your exams back after the test is held. For example, Midterm is held on Feb 23, we will likely return your exams in discussion section in the following week (March 6). Keep in mind that this is your only opportunity to get your exams. If you don’t come to the class without asking for a leave, you won’t be able to get your exams in the class unless you come to my office hours and find the exams yourself. You can also ask me to help review your exams if you have any doubt about our grading or want to go over the questions. But please do so within one week since you get the exams and no request would be responded thereafter.

5. **Attendance:** Attendance is required and I expect that you will be in class on time and ready to actively participate. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to get the handouts, class notes, and course changes from a classmate or webpage. I will not respond to emails asking what you missed.

6. **Homeworks and Quizzes:** Homeworks and quizzes will be assigned on a weekly basis and you can find them at [http://www.pearsoncustom.com/il/uillinois_econ103/](http://www.pearsoncustom.com/il/uillinois_econ103/). The due date will always be Monday 3AM

7. **Term Paper:** You will find the term paper instructions on my webpage and compass2g.


You are expected to write a report on an article published on mainstream media such as New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, etc. The article has to be published during the current semester, i.e., after Jan 20, 2015, and on a Macroeconomic topic. Remember it is due at the beginning of the class on May 1st (Friday). Any paper submitted after the deadline will be graded as zero. I do not preview or revise any paper before it is due but I can help read an article to decide if an article is appropriate to be used for a Macroeconomic essay.

8. **Email**: Feel free to send me an email. However, because of the nature of this course, I may not answer questions about homework and quizzes, materials, term paper and exams through e-mail, you are encouraged to use discussion board on compass 2g to ask these types of questions. In addition, I do not give any information about your grades through e-mail. It is best to come to my office hours to talk to me in person for this.

9. **James Scholar Program**: If you want to enroll into JS program, you need to let me know by next discussion section Jan 30 (Friday). No request for joining in this program will be accepted after this date.

10. **Other**: If you are on a sports team, please let me know now. If you can’t attend many of my classes, I will help find you a tutor from Econ Department. Otherwise, it would be hard for you to get good grades in the exams. If you need to take DRES exam, also let me know right after this first class because we need to do additional work to coordinate between TAs and make sure your exam can be graded on time.