

Intermediate Macroeconomics

Advice from former students

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- Student 1

My way of studying is really simple. I don't start studying a day or two days before a big exam as most of the students do, but I study maybe five or six days before the exam, two hours a day. That way, I don't get overwhelmed, and if needed, I can study more hours per day. When studying, I review all kinds of sources, including the slides, articles, YouTube videos, and especially the course textbook. The course textbook is my primary source when I study because I can find everything, from descriptions of a topic to graphs.

- Student 2

To study for your class my approach was relatively simple. I don't take notes because the slides (as posted) can easily serve the same function. The lectures are super helpful, and even if you didn't require attendance by kahoot/turning in homework, I'd have still attended every lecture.

(easy for a six week class, but I absolutely get tempted to miss a lecture come fall/spring)

One of the most important things that a student should do is keep up with the reading. Technical material is not really like a novel, I think reading multiple chapters in one sitting is a mistake because it takes a bit of time to process. I typically won't read more than an hour or two in a sitting if it's course material. Reading the corresponding material to a section before doing the homework is a good approach to see how well this process is coming along. If by the time I do the homework after reading I don't understand the material, I go to office hours.

If I did the above correctly, exam prep is easy. At this stage if I'm 'learning new things' I failed at the above and the next section absolutely does not apply. I redid any quantitative exercises that you had up, gave a light reading of the slides, and usually had a short study session with a classmate. In general i didn't spend more than 4-5 hours for any exam, but probably averaged a higher than average grand total hours of study.

Another thing of note was your office hours situation. While I'm sure it'd be nice if you had your own office, it was really nice to have a collaborative environment that got students to work together on problems. I don't really think you'd have had 8 students before the exam if you had a regular office.

- Student 3

Yeah I wrote about it a little in the spot survey but I really really just liked this class. Part of it is because I'm really interested in economics but I just liked how it was taught. I think the assessments between the power points were amazing and when you showed real examples of hyperinflation or the Great Depression it was really interesting.

In terms of studying I would review the power points first and rewrite anything I thought was important. I would come to the office hours to do the homework which helped me so much not to just finish the hw but actually understand it.

- Student 4

I employed a number of different strategies to study for the class. As you are probably aware, I took fairly detailed notes during the class lectures, which was almost always the first time that I would see the material. I then have to thank to a classmate because the next round of studying involved debating the course material with him while we did the homework together. We would go over the homework until we were both confident that we could walk any other student through the steps necessary to solve the problems you gave us without help.

Finally, 1-3 days before the exams, I would go through the study guide that you gave us with however many students wanted to work with me, try to answer them on my own, compare my answers with the

answers of whoever was with me, and talk about the question until we reached a consensus. Additionally, for the midterm, since there was a whole bunch of new vocabulary that I wasn't familiar with, I wrote up a document with all of the relevant definitions and formulas and published it to the class' chat group, but I didn't feel that that was necessary for the final exam.

- Student 5

As far as my studying tips, one of them that truly made a difference is taking the time to rewrite the slides that you presented to us. As I wrote them on a separate sheet of paper, I was able to memorize each and every one of them. I also believe that it is imperative to attend the tutoring center at least two times a week, preferably before or after class as the notions are fresh within your head.

- Student 6

What I did to do great in the class was to pay as much attention as I could in class and solve the activities you made before showing the answers. That gave a base to apply my knowledge and retain the information to apply it to the homework, which even though it was harder, if I applied the theory and read the presentation slices they were easy to solve. I think it is also good to go over the homework in class to see early where people could have made a mistake for them to clarify their doubts. But that's what I mainly did, pay attention

in class, solve every activity by my own, review the slices, and doing the homework and reviewing it afterwards. And just to say one of the main things to pay attention in class is to the formulas you wrote on the board for every model. Which by learning them you can have a map of how the entire economy works for the class.