

MACROECONOMICS AND COVID REPORT

OSUN Connected Learning Contest Winner

Sameh Hallaq Al-Quds Bard College for Arts and Sciences Course: Introduction to Macroeconomics

This assignment was requested from the students during the last month of teaching. The lectures covered the majority of the course materials according to the course outline. During the course the students learned how to read and analyze macro-level data extracted from the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics about the overall Palestinian economy indicators. The purpose of this assignment is to let students show their ability to analyze and present macroeconomic concepts, in relation to their different disciplines and the current situation in Palestine.

Introduction to Macroeconomics

This course begins with the examination of the aggregate behavior of modern economies: the factors leading to economic growth, explanations of booms and recessions, unemployment, interest rates, inflation, and budget deficits or surpluses. We will also analyze the government's ability (or inability) to use monetary and fiscal policies to achieve economic goals such as full employment and price stability. The focus of this course is mainly on the domestic macroeconomy.

Practical and pedagogical value

Students are able to employ their acquired knowledge and skills in their research. Part of the assessment was done by students about whether their colleague was able to present the topic clearly and whether the discussion is connected to real life. The evolution was based on the submitted materials, discussion rather than either a take home or online exam.

The assignment

The students were asked to submit a five page report on one of the macroeconomics concepts discussed during the term and analyze its implication on the Palestinian economy. Then they had to present their report with some reflection on the current economic situation associated with COVID-19 full closure.

All presentations were on zoom and the class used zoom tools to evaluate students' performance on the presenting, making use of voting on the Likert Scale (a scale of 5 that begins with strongly agree (5) to strongly disagree (1). Students were evaluated on clarity, time, and main message. We also agreed to use breakout rooms so that students could meet in small groups to discuss their work with the teacher's input. This ended up happening as a larger group discussion (the course had 12 students) because of time constraints.

Macroeconomics 9104102

Second Assignment

Dear Students,

Please select one of the following topics and write a short report (maximum of 5 pages).

The report should have the following sections:

- Overview (one or two Paragraphs)
- Introduction and motivation (why we care about this subject –one page)
- Summary of the main points based on the related literature (2 or 3 references) (2 pages)
- Conclusion (one page)
- References and works cited

Presentation (10-15 minutes)

Due Dates:

Selecting the topic: April 15, 2020

Submitting the final report: April 29, 2020

Presentation: May 4,6 and 11, 2020

#	Topic	Student Name	Presentation	n Day (time)
1	The Role of the "Palestine Monetary Authority" in		May 4,2020	9:00 am-9:15
	the Palestinian Economy			am
2	The Relationship between Banking System In		May 4,2020	9:15 am-9:30
	Palestine and the Annual Growth			am

3	The Impact of Inflation and Unemployment on the	May 4,2020	9:30 am-9:45
	Aggregate Expenditures in Palestine		am
4	The Effect of Budget Deficit on the Palestinian	May 4,2020	9:45 am –
	Economic Indicators		10:00 am
5	The Relationship between Gross Disposable		
	Income and the Consumption Function in		
	Palestine (Or Could be General)		
6	Fiscal Policies of the Palestinian National Authority		
7	Public Expenditure Review of the Palestinian	May 6,2020	9:00 am-9:15
	Authority		am
8	Money Multiplier, Interest Rate, Required Reserve	May 6,2020	9:15 am-9:30
	Ratio and the expansion of the Money Supply		am
	(General)		
9	The Multiplier Effect of Fiscal Policy (General)	May 6,2020	9:30 am-9:45
			am
10	Money Supply, CPI and Inflation in Palestine		9:45 am –
			10:00 am
11	An Aggregate Consumption Function and Saving	May 6, 2020	
	(General)		
12	The Palestinian Economy After Oslo, main indictors	May 11, 2020	9:00 am-9:15
	(Unemployment, Inflation, Growth)		am
			9:15 am-9:30
			am