

Introduction to Economics and Finance

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Brunel

We're delighted you're thinking about studying at Brunel University London.

Our lecturers have put together the following information, with a focus on Macroeconomics, to help you prepare for your course. This will give you a snapshot of the materials and reading list you'll be using. You'll get a full breakdown of information before you enrol.

On our website you can also [find out more about your modules](#) and [chat to a current student](#).

If you have any more questions, [please get in touch](#).

We look forward to welcoming you to Brunel.

Sample lecture/coursework questions

1. What is the gross domestic product equal to and how is it calculated?
2. What does the consumer price index measure?
3. What is cyclical and frictional unemployment?
4. What are the main responsibilities of a Central Bank and how do they affect the money supply of the economy?
5. Explain how the market for goods and services and the market for money are interlinked.
6. Define the aggregate demand (aggregate supply) curve and explain why it has a negative (positive) slope.



Reading list

- McDowell, M., Thom, R., Pastine, I., Frank, R., Bernanke, B., (2012) Principles of Economics, Third European Edition, McGraw-Hill Education.
- Mankiw, N., G., (2017) Principles of Economics, Eighth Edition, South-Western College Publishing.
- Begg, D., Vernasca, G., Fischer, S., Dornbusch, R., (2014) Economics, Eleventh Edition, McGraw-Hill Education.
- Sloman, J., Guest, J., Garratt, D., (2018) Economics, Tenth Edition, Pearson.

Popular Economics books – look for second hand copies

- Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity and Poverty by Daron Acemoglu and James A. Robinson.
- Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner.
- The Black Swan: The Impact of the Highly Improbable by Nassim Nicholas Taleb.
- Predictably Irrational: The Hidden Forces That Shape Our Decisions by Dan Ariely.
- Intelligent Investor: The Definitive Book on Value Investing - A Book of Practical Counsel by Benjamin Graham

Websites

News

- [Economist](#)
- [Project Syndicate](#)
- [Financial Times](#)
- [Bloomberg](#)
- [Reuters](#)

Data

- [Office for National Statistics](#)
- [Bank of England](#)
- [Trading Economics](#)

Indicative content

Study Themes	Reading
Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	Chapter 17, McDowell, 2012 3e
Inflation	Chapter 18, McDowell, 2012 3e
The Labour Market	Chapter 19, McDowell, 2012 3e
Short-Run Equilibrium	Chapter 22, McDowell, 2012 3e
Money and Interest Rates	Chapter 23, McDowell, 2012 3e
IS-LM model	Chapter 24, McDowell, 2012 3e
Fiscal and Monetary Stabilisation	Chapter 25-26, McDowell, 2012 3e
AD-AS-Inflation	Chapter 27, McDowell, 2012 3e
Philips Curve	Chapter 28, McDowell, 2012 3e
Exchange Rates	Chapter 29, McDowell, 2012 3e

