

Principles of Macroeconomics (ECON252)
This course introduces economic analysis of aggregate employment, income, and prices. Topics include major schools of economic thought; aggregate supply and demand; economic measures, fluctuations, and growth; money and banking; stabilization techniques; and international trade. Upon completion, students should be able to evaluate national economic components, conditions, and alternatives for achieving socioeconomic goals.
Activity and Author Name
Banking / Financial Crisis Information Literacy Assignment
Objectives:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To extend the international component of a macroeconomics class. 2. To study the variety and frequency of banking and financial crisis. 3. To learn to navigate the library resources at the college. 4. To analyze and appraise the quality of information. 5. To summarize complex material in written form. 6. To compare/contrast events in oral or written form.
Global Learning Outcome(s):
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students demonstrate global research skills 2. Students analyze and interpret global economic data 3. Students synthesize and communicate the results of a global analysis
Time:
<p>Allow students one week to collect data from the database, find articles, perform the CRAAP Test, and prepare summary statement.</p> <p>Instructor may use as class time for student presentations or assign as a discussion forum.</p>
Materials:
None.
Procedure:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Each student will select a financial crisis from the database constructed by Fabian Valencia and Luc Laeven and published as IMF Working Papers. The instructor can direct students to focus on particular geographic regions, time periods, or a subset of the “larger” crisis that are better documented. The instructor can assign crisis or have a lottery drawing to avoid duplication of crisis across students. <p>The 2008 paper catalogues the starting date for 124 banking crises, 208 currency crises, and 63 sovereign debt crises over the period 1970 to 2007 and provides information on the share of non-performing loans, gross fiscal cost (as % of GDP), output loss, minimum real GDP growth rate, and comments. It also provides information on crisis containment and resolution policies for 42 of the banking crisis.</p> <p>http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/cat/longres.aspx?sk=22345</p> <p>The 2012 update extends the database through 2011 and includes 147 banking crisis, 218 currency crisis, and 66 sovereign crisis. The update adds additional details on fiscal outlays and output losses, and policy responses for 147 of the episodes identified.</p>

<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/cat/longres.aspx?sk=26015>

2. Student will extract information about the crisis from the database. Cut, paste and cite properly.
3. Students will use the library resources to find 2 newspaper or magazine articles about the banking/financial crisis. (Note that some crisis may not be well documented.) The student will document their search process by providing a replicable step-by-step search process that begins with the college library's home page. (Cut and paste URLs. Annotate the logic of the search process.)
4. Student will apply the CRAAP Test – Currency, Relevance, Authority, Accuracy, Purpose – to each article. Address each of the five criteria in sentence form.
5. Student will use the information from the database plus the articles to prepare a brief summary overview of the banking/financial crisis for their classmates
6. Presentation of results:
For seated class: students will present the summary and have class discussion in which they compare/contrast the sources and impacts of each crisis and the policy response to the crisis.
For online class: student will post their summary to a discussion forum and reply to one other post. Reply must compare/contrast the sources, impacts, and policy response of their crisis to the original post.

Assessment:

The assignment has 5 components (110 points total), which can be assigned individually or combined into one or more larger assignments. See rubric for additional grading details.

1. Collect information from database (10 points)
2. Article 1 & 2 and search process (20 points)
3. CRAAP Test 1 & 2 (40 points)
4. Summary of Crisis (20 points)
5. Presentation of results (20 points)