

MACROECONOMICS

Section II

Planning Time—10 minutes

Writing Time—50 minutes

Directions: You have 10 minutes to read all of the questions in this booklet, to sketch graphs, to make notes, and to plan your answers. You will then have 50 minutes to answer all three of the following questions. It is suggested that you spend approximately half your time on the first question and divide the remaining time equally between the next two questions. Include correctly labeled diagrams, if useful or required, in explaining your answers. A correctly labeled diagram must have all axes and curves clearly labeled and must show directional changes. Use a pen with black or dark blue ink.

1. Assume that the United States economy is operating below full employment.
 - (i) Current equilibrium output and price level, labeled as Y_1 and PL_1
 - (ii) Full-employment output, labeled as Y_f
- (b) Assume that the Federal Reserve targets a new federal funds rate to reach full employment. Should the Federal Reserve target a higher or lower federal funds rate?
- (d) The policy makers pursue a fiscal policy rather than the monetary policy in part (b). Assume that the marginal propensity to consume is 0.8 and the value of the recessionary gap is \$300 billion.
 - (i) If the government changes its spending without changing taxes to eliminate the recessionary gap, calculate the minimum required change in government spending.
 - (ii) If the government changes taxes without changing government spending to eliminate the recessionary gap, will the minimum required change in taxes be greater than, smaller than, or equal to the minimum required change in government spending in part (d)(i) ? Explain.
- (e) Assume the government lowers income tax rates to eliminate the recessionary gap. Will each of the following increase, decrease, or stay the same?
 - (i) Aggregate demand. Explain.
 - (ii) Long-run aggregate supply. Explain.