



Department of Economics Course Outline

		Term:	Fall 2008
Course:	Economics 203 [Principles of Microeconomics]	Sections:	01
Time:	TR 11:00-12:15	Place:	KNB 132 (subject to change)
Instructor:	Peter Tracey	Email:	tracey@ucalgary.ca
Office:	SS 1046	Phone:	220-2693
Office Hours :	R 13:00 – 13:45		

Textbook(s):

Required: Mankiw et al. *Principles of Macroeconomics*, 4th Canadian edition. Thomson Nelson. + Aplia Software Kit (sold together) **or** Aplia Software Kit (sold by itself): This kit gives you access to an on-line version of the textbook.

Optional: Study Guide for above.

Book(s) on Reserve: None.

Blackboard: This course will make use of Blackboard - students who are registered in the course can log on at <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/webapps/login>. Please note that Blackboard features a class e-mail list that I will use. It is your responsibility to ensure that Blackboard uses the e-mail address of your choice. The default is your University of Calgary e-mail address.

Course Outline: This course focuses on key macroeconomic concepts in order to understand the problems faced by government policy makers. (Some of the topics listed below may be added or deleted depending on time constraints.)

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| 1. The Data of Macroeconomics | Chapters 5 – 6 |
| 2. The Real Economy in the Long Run | Chapters 7 – 9 |
| 3. Money and Prices in the Long Run | Chapters 10 - 11 |
| 4. The Macroeconomics of Open Economies | Chapters 12 - 13 |
| 5. Short-Run Economic Fluctuations | Chapters 14 - 16 |
| 6. Final Thoughts | Chapter 17 |

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

5 assignments (using Aplia) of which the 4 best will count	20 %
Midterm Examination (October 21)	30 %
Final Examination	50%

Assignments:

1. In order to complete assignments in this course, you will be required to access the Aplia website at <http://econ.aplia.com>. Please register on the website within the first week of classes.
2. Due dates for the assignments will be announced during the first week of the semester.
3. Course material dealing with a particular assignment will typically be covered in class at least three days before the assignment is due; thus, assignments can be completed at any time up to and including the due date. Given these factors, only situations where someone can document illness or domestic affliction for an extended period (i.e., the entire 3 days prior to the due date) would possibly warrant shifting the assignment weight to the final exam. Furthermore, technical problems can be expected to sometimes occur with computer systems and internet availability so it may be a good idea to not wait until the last minute to submit your assignment. Technical problems will typically not justify shifting the assignment weight to the final exam.
4. Using Aplia, you will be able to complete practice problem sets prior to each assignment. In the practice problem sets, you will obtain immediate feedback as to whether you have answered a question correctly. In many cases you will be provided with an explanation if you have not answered correctly. Your results in the practice problem sets are neither counted nor reported to the instructor. It is strongly recommended that you do the practice problems related to a particular assignment prior to completing the assignments.
5. Emails regarding Aplia should be directed towards the providers of Aplia, or to the teaching assistants (TAs), who will be assigned to this course.

Examinations:

1. Examinations will consist of multiple choice questions.
2. The midterm examination will be held during the lecture time. **The exam must be completed during the specified time. Extra time will not be given for any reason.**
3. The final examination will last two hours, will be scheduled by the Registrar and will be held in a gymnasium. **The exam must be completed during the specified time. Extra time will not be given for any reason.**

4. The use of a simple, non-programmable calculator is permitted during the midterm test and the final examination. **The use of scientific calculators, business calculators, graphing calculators, computers, etc. is not permitted.**

Assignments, tests and final exams are marked on a numerical (percentage) basis. The marks are then added using the weights indicated above and converted into letter grades. As a guide to determining standing, these letter grade equivalences will generally apply:

A+	97 – 100	B	79 - 83	C-	62 - 66
A	92 – 96	B-	76 - 78	D+	57 - 61
A-	89 – 91	C+	73 - 75	D	50 – 56
B+	84 - 88	C	67 - 72	F	0 – 49

If, for some reason, the distribution of grades determined using the aforementioned conversion chart appears to be abnormal the instructor reserves the right to change the grade conversion chart if the instructor, at the instructor's discretion, feels it is necessary to more fairly represent student achievement.

Notes:

1. Students should be aware that no "make-up" midterms will be given. Any student who finds it necessary to miss the midterm must notify the instructor in advance and produce a valid medical certificate or other required documentation in order to have the weighting adjusted. This adjustment will result in the final exam counting for 70% of the final grade and the Aplia assignments counting for 30% of the final grade. Note that deferred final examinations may contain short/long answer questions. Also, deferred final examinations do not have to cover the same material or have the same format as the regular final examination.
2. Examinations will not be given prior to the scheduled date.
3. Students should be aware of the academic regulations outlined in The University of Calgary Calendar.
4. Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work should discuss their work with the instructor *within* fifteen days of work being returned to class. However, the earliest that grades will be discussed will be two days after the return of an assignment or examination.
5. Students will be responsible for all material listed on the course outline, regardless of whether or not the material has been covered in class, unless the instructor notifies the class that the material will not be covered.
6. Please note that the following types of emails will receive no response: emails not addressed to anyone in particular; emails where the recipient's name is not spelled correctly; anonymous emails; emails which do not specify the course and section in which you are registered; and, emails involving questions that are specifically addressed on the course outline.

7. It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

Students' Union Vice-President Academic:

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Society of Undergraduates in Economics (S.U.E.):

www.ucalgary.ca/~sue

Safewalk / Campus Security: 220-5333

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PRT:pst

2008-06-11