Department of Economics
Course Outline

		Term:	Fall 2005
Course:	Economics 311 [Computer Applications in Economics]	**Section:**	01
Time:	MW 10:00 ? 11:15	**Place:**	SS 020
Instructor:	P. Tracey		
Office:	SS 1046	**Telephone:**	220-2693
Office Hours:	TR 11:30 ? 12:15 (subject to change)	**E-Mail:**	tracey@ucalgary.ca

Textbook(s):

Blank, L., and A. Tarquin, *Engineering Economy,* McGraw Hill, 6th edition (**Required)**

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.

The main goal of this course is to provide proficiency in practical applications of economics using computers. Students will learn about the elementary and advanced features of spreadsheets using Excel. Examples will be drawn from Engineering Economics and Financial Economics.

This is a blended learning course. The formal lecture will be only one time per week. During the remaining lecture students will be responsible for mastering the material under the supervision of a teaching assistant, and attendance will be required.

E-mail questions will be answered in class.

The following topics (some additional ones may be added; some of these may be deleted) will be discussed in the course:

- Introduction to Spreadsheets with Graphs and Charts
- Basic Concepts of Financial Economics
  - Interest Rates
  - Mortgage Loans
  - Present Worth Analysis
- Project Evaluation
  - Cash Flow Analysis
  - Sensitivity Analysis
- Database Management Applications
  - Database Tools
  - Statistical Functions
  - Statistical Functions for Databases
  - Pivot Tables
- Advanced Topics

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

Midterm I.	25%	October 3, 2005
Midterm II.	25%	November 7, 2005
Final Exam	50%	Date set by Registrar?s Office

The format of these exams will be discussed during the first week of classes. These exams will be open book and computer based.

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

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

Students must pass the final exam to pass the course as a whole.

Calculators WILL NOT be allowed during the writing of tests and the final examination.

There will be a Registrar scheduled final examination. It will last for 2 hours; will be open book; will be computer based; and, will be held in a computer lab.

Tests and exams will not involve multiple-choice questions.

Students? Union Vice President Academic:
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　　E-Mail: socuecon@ucalgary.ca

Notes:

- Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work (test) should discuss their work with the Instructor *within* fifteen days of the work being returned to the class.
- Make-up tests/exams and deferred tests/exams will not be given. In cases of documented illness, documented family emergency, or documented religious observance, extra weight will be given to the final examination.
- Tests and examinations will not be given <u>before</u> the scheduled dates.

Safewalk / Campus Security: 220-5333

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PRT:pst
2005-07-22