



Department of Economics Course Outline

Course:	Economics 355 Canadian Public Finance	Term:	Spring 2012
Time:	TR 09:00 – 11:50	Section:	20
Instructor:	Peter Tracey	Place:	SB 105 (subject to change)
Office:	SS 552	Telephone:	403-220-2693
Office Hours:	TBA	E-mail:	tracey@ucalgary.ca

Textbook(s):

Required: Harvey Rosen, Jean-Francois Wen, & Tracy Snoddon, *Public Finance in Canada*, 4th Canadian Edition, McGraw-Hill.

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: (Some topics may be added or deleted depending on time constraints.)

1. Fundamentals of Welfare Economics – Chapter 2
2. The Economic Roles of Government – Chapter 3
3. Public Goods – Chapter 4
4. Externalities – Chapter 5
5. Public Choice – Chapter 7
6. Fiscal Federalism – Chapter 8
7. Taxation and Income Distribution - Chapter 14
8. Taxation and Efficiency – Chapter 15
9. Efficient and Equitable Taxation – Chapter 16

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

Assignment	20%	Tuesday, May 29, 2012 at the beginning of class
Midterm Test	30%	Tuesday, June 5, 2012 @ 10:00
Final Exam	50%	Scheduled by the Registrar's Office

The midterm exam will be held in class on the date indicated. The time and location of the final exam, which will be two hours in length, will be scheduled by the Registrar's Office. Exam questions may consist of multiple choice questions. The use of a non-programmable calculator during exams is permitted. The use of graphing calculators, computers, and cell phones is not permitted.

The midterm exam, assignment, and the final exam are marked on a numerical basis. The grades are then added using the weights indicated above. 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

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 80% of the final grade and the assignments counting for 20% of the final grade.
2. Examinations will not be given prior to the scheduled date.
3. **Answers to the midterm test, the assignment and the final exam questions must make use of equations and diagrams wherever possible. Numerical questions require numerical answers.**
4. **Students will not be given extra time to complete tests and exams.**
5. Students should be aware of the academic regulations outlined in The University of Calgary Calendar.
6. **The use of cell phones for any purpose in class is prohibited. The classroom is a no cell phone zone. Computers may only be used for note-taking purposes.**

7. Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work should discuss their work with the instructor within 7 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.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. 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 403-220-8237. 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 seven (7) days after the start of this course.**

Students' Union Vice-President Academic:

Kenya-Jade Pinto

Phone: 220-3911

E-mail suypaca@ucalgary.ca

Students' Union Faculty Representative (Arts)

Phone: 220-3913 Office: MSC 251

E-mail arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

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

www.ucalgary.ca/sue

Society of Undergraduates in Economics is a student run organization whose main purpose is to assist undergraduate economics students succeed both academically and socially at the University of Calgary. Services include access to the exam bank, career partnerships with the Career Centre through hosting industry nights and information sessions, recognizing achievements in teaching, and organizing social events for members. Join now by contacting sue@ucalgary.ca.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Safewalk / Campus Security: 220-5333
Emergency Assembly Location – ICT Food Court
