



Department of Economics Course Outline

		Term:	Winter 2007
Course:	Economics 355 [Canadian Public Finance]	Section:	(02)
Time:	TR 12:30 ? 13:45	Place:	ED 386 (subject to change)
Instructor:	Todd Hirsch		
Office:	TBA	Telephone:	TBA
Office Hours:	TBA	E-Mail:	thirsch@ucalgary.ca

Required(s):

John Strick, *The Public Sector in Canada: Programs, Finance and Policy*, Thompson Educational Publishing, 1999.

Book(s) on Reserve:

None

Course Outline:

This course provides a practical overview of the institutions and economic rationale for Canadian government policy relating to public expenditures and taxation. Notions of efficiency and equity are developed and used to discuss policies such as public health insurance, education, social welfare, and progressive income taxation. The course is designed to follow the chapters in the textbook, but the lectures are intended to complement this material, rather than repeating it. In addition, there are some other compulsory readings, which will serve as the basis for class discussion and assignments. Current events and news clippings on public policy will also be used to motivate class discussions.

Topics and Required Readings:

- Government in the Economy ? the Role of Government, Efficiency and Resource Allocation (Strick Chapters 1-4)
- The Growth and Theories of Government Spending (Strick Chapters 5-6)
- How Do We Pay for it All? Financing Government Spending (Strick Chapters 8-12)
- Federal, Provincial and Municipal Governments: Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations (Strick Chapters 13-15)
- Fiscal Policy in Canada (Strick Chapters 16-17)

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

Midterm Examination #1	30%	Feb. 15
Midterm Examination #2 / optional term paper	30%	March 22
Final Examination	40%	TBA

When you receive the option paper (to be read by March 12) and the personal article in English as well as the list of the set and mid-term. The set paper will be available in a guide to determine grade (0-100). Possible options that be discussed in general by the paper will be legitimately missed from the second term March 22 (the value of the) This is only a option. Adjusted paper is received, it will be assumed the student is choosing the mid-term #2 option.

A+	90-100	B	73-76	C-	60-62
A	85-89	B-	70-72	D+	56-59
A-	80-84	C+	67-69	D	50-55
B+	77-79	C	63-66	F	0-49