

## Economics 203 (04) Principles of Macroeconomics

Instructor:	Apostolos Serletis	Lecture Location:	ZOOM Delivery
Email:	Serletis@ucalgary.ca	Lecture Days/Time:	TR 9:30 - 10:45
Office:	ZOOM Delivery		
Office Hours:	TR 11:00 – 12:00		
	<a href="https://ucalgary.zoom.us/my/serletis">https://ucalgary.zoom.us/my/serletis</a>		Winter 2021

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### Course Description:

This course addresses the measurement of economic variables related to the performance of an economy (e.g., national income, inflation, unemployment, and growth) the determinants of these variables, and how these variables are influenced by institutions and government policy. There is a particular focus on understanding economic fluctuations in the short-run and economic growth in the long-run. The objective is to understand how the macroeconomy works, when it works well, when it does not work well, and the role for governments in influencing how it works.

### Course Objective:

Students who complete Econ 203 successfully will be able to understand introductory macroeconomic theory, solve basic macroeconomic problems, and use these techniques to think about policy questions affecting the economy. This will include being able to understand measurement issues associated with macroeconomic variables; the determinants of national income, unemployment, exchange rates, interest rates, and inflation; the determinants of economic growth and the effects of government policy and institutions on promoting economic growth; the causes of business cycles and the effects of policy responses; the implications of being a small open economy for macroeconomic performance and government policy; and the relationship between financial markets and the real economy.

### Course Learning Outcomes:

The curriculum for Econ 203 is organized around six broad topic areas. The key principles and models are introduced in the context of addressing these six broad topic areas. The six topic areas are:

1. *Introduction and Measurement of Economic Activity*: Students are introduced to the key macroeconomic variables of interest, national income, unemployment, inflation, interest rates, growth rates, and exchange rates, as well as how these are measured, and the difficulties associated with their measurement and interpretation.
2. *Real Economy in the Long Run*:
  - The determinants of national income in the long run, emphasizing the determinants of economic growth in a market economy and the role of government policies and institutions on the rate of economic growth. The concept and determinants of productivity and its importance for the standard of living.
  - The functioning of the labour market and the determinants of employment and unemployment.
3. *Money and Prices in the Long Run*. The focus is on money, prices, and interest rates in the long run.
  - Defining the roles of money and the characteristics that make something money.

- Understanding the banking system, fractional reserve banking, and how central monetary authorities can control the money supply. Design of monetary policy and central bank independence.
  - The causes, costs, and benefits of inflation.
  - The linkage between monetary policy and interest rates.
4. *Economic Fluctuations and Stabilization: Short Run Macroeconomics*. Macroeconomic modelling in the short run: aggregate demand and aggregate supply. Business cycles and the inherent instability of market economies and the potential role for fiscal and monetary policy to stabilize the economy. Linkages between the real and financial sides of the economy, including financial leveraging and asset bubbles and their liquidation. The Philips curve, supply shocks, and expectations. The effects and consequences of government debt and deficits.
  5. *Open Economy Macro*. Foreign exchange rates and markets, balance of payments, and international capital flows. The implications of a small open economy for interest rates, exchange rates, and the level of economic activity, as well as on the effect of government policy.
  6. *Debates in Macroeconomic Policy*.

### Course Outline:

The following table maps the corresponding chapters from the Hubbard book to the (first) five topic areas.

Macroeconomic Statistics	Chapters 4 and 5
Long Run Economic Growth	Chapters 6 and 7
Short Run Economic Fluctuations	Chapter 8 and 9
Monetary and Fiscal Policy	Chapters 10-13
The International Economy	Chapters 14 and 15

### Prerequisites/corequisites:

ECON 201

### Required Textbook:

Hubbard, R. Glenn, Anthony Patrick O'Brien, Apostolos Serletis, and Jason Childs. 2021. *Macroeconomics*, Third Canadian Edition. Toronto: Pearson.

### Online Delivery:

This course will be delivered online. Students are expected to be able to participate online in accordance with this Course Outline. Lectures, assignments, office hours, exams, readings and other course material all require online access and this access is the responsibility of the student.

In order to remotely participate in online courses, students will need to have: computer with a current and updated operating system (macOS or Windows will work with all university-supported online learning technologies), a current and updated web browser installed – the latest versions of Firefox, Safari, Chrome or Edge will help to avoid compatibility issues, secure and reliable internet, microphone / headphones, webcam (optional), scanner (or camera to scan your work).

### Desire2Learn:

This course will make use of the Desire2Learn (D2L) platform. Students who are registered in the course can log on at <http://d2l.ucalgary.ca> through their student centre. Please note that D2L features a class

e-mail list that may be used to distribute course-related information. These e-mails go to your University of Calgary e-mail addresses only.

**MyLab Economics:**

MyLab Economics uses adaptive learning technologies and is an efficient tool for learning as students get instant feedback on their work. The ability to see your mistakes, and use help tools to make changes and improvements allows students to learn on their own timelines. Registration details will be posted on D2L.

**Lectures:**

Lectures will be delivered online at the Registrar scheduled times and delivered using ZOOM. The lectures will be recorded and subsequently posted to D2L.

**Tutorials:**

Students are expected to attend “virtually” the tutorial sections to which they have been assigned. Tutorials will be offered online, typically using ZOOM, but can involve moderated discussion boards and curated delivery of alternative online resources. During the tutorials, the TA will discuss pre-assigned questions and additional material relevant to the course that is not covered in lectures.

**Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:**

There will be two assignments, two midterm tests, and a Registrar scheduled final examination. The weights of these in the course grade are as follows:

Assignment 1 (February 9)	10%
Midterm 1 (February 11)	20%
Assignment 2 (March 23)	10%
Midterm 2 (March 25)	20%
Final Examination	40%
Total	100%

The official grading system will be used. See <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html>.

A passing grade on any particular component of the course is not required for a student to pass the course as a whole. Part marks of 0.5 or above will be rounded up; those below 0.5 will be rounded down.

If a student’s letter grade on the final exam exceeds their midterm(s) letter grade, the weight of the midterm(s) may be transferred to the final exam at the discretion of the instructor. The student must have written the midterm(s) or provided supporting documentation for the absence(s) such as a medical note or statutory declaration

As per the Writing Across the Curriculum Statement in the Calendar, writing and grading thereof will be a factor in the evaluation of student work. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>.

Tests and exams will involve multiple choice questions and / or fill-in-blank questions.

Course material dealing with a particular assignment will typically be covered in class at least one week 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 week prior to the due date) would possibly warrant shifting the assignment weight to the final exam. Furthermore, technical problems can be expected to 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.

The midterm exams will be multiple choice / fill-in-blank exams. They will be take-home and are designed and intended to be completed in 75 minutes online in D2L. Students will have 50% more time to complete the exams, at a time of their choosing, within a 24-hour period, as follows:

Midterm 1:     **Start:** 10:45 AM, 10-Feb-2021 (Wednesday)  
                  **End:** 10:45 AM, 11-Feb-2021 (Thursday)

Midterm 2:     **Start:** 10:45 AM, 24-Mar-2021 (Wednesday)  
                  **End:** 10:45 AM, 25-Mar-2021 (Thursday)

The exams will be OPEN book.

The final examination will be take-home, comprehensive, and scheduled by the Registrar. The final exam will be a multiple choice / fill-in-blank exam completed online in D2L. The exam is designed and intended to be completed in two hours. Students will have 50% more time to complete the exam, at a time of their choosing, within the 24-hour period that begins 24 hours before the end date of the Registrar's scheduled final exam for this course. The exam will be OPEN book.

All other course components will also be accessed, submitted, and returned through D2L.

If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html>. Under no circumstance will this be accommodated by the Department.

THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP OR DEFERRED QUIZZES/TESTS/EXAMS under any circumstances, nor may the quizzes/tests/exams be written early. Students unable to write the quizzes/tests/exams because of documented illness, family emergency, religious observance, or university-sanctioned event will have the weight shifted to the final examination; otherwise a grade of zero will be assigned.

**Reappraisal of Grades and Intellectual Honesty:**

*For Reappraisal of Graded Term Work, see Calendar I.2*

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

*For Reappraisal of Final Grade, see Calendar I.3*

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

**ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior that compromises proper assessment of students' academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

Student committing academic misconduct during the final exam will not receive a passing grade on the course.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>.

**Academic Accommodations:**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

**Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act:**

Personal information is collected in accordance with FOIP. Assignments can only be returned to the student and will be accessible only to authorized faculty and staff. For more information, see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/files/legalservices/faq-students.pdf> and [http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/files/legalservices/faq-faculty\\_0.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/files/legalservices/faq-faculty_0.pdf).

**Copyright Legislation:**

See the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright at [www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Course materials created by the instructor (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

**Recording of Lectures:**

Recording of lectures is prohibited, except for audio recordings authorized as an accommodation by SAS or an audio recording for individual private study and only with the written permission of the instructor. Any unauthorized electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, their transcription, copying, or distribution, constitutes academic misconduct. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html>.

**Important Dates:**

Please check: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>

**Student Organizations:**

Faculty of Arts Students' Association (F.A.S.A.):

Economics Department Representative

Office: SS 803, E-mail: [econrep@fasaucalgary.ca](mailto:econrep@fasaucalgary.ca) and Web: [www.fasaucalgary.ca](http://www.fasaucalgary.ca).

Society of Undergraduates in Economics:

<https://www.ucalgarysue.com/>.

Society of Undergraduates in Economics is a student run organization whose main purpose is to assist undergraduate economics students to succeed both academically and socially at the University of Calgary. Services include access to the exam bank, career events such as Industry Night and information sessions, mentorship programs, and social events for members. They invite you to join by contacting SUE at [societyofundergradsineconomics@gmail.com](mailto:societyofundergradsineconomics@gmail.com).

**Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:**

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Call them at 403-220-3580, or email them at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto: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, including program planning and advice.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625].

**Student Support and Resources:**

- See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for information on campus mental health resources, the Student Ombuds' Office, Student Success Centre, Safewalk, and Emergency Evacuation and Assembly.
- Online writing resources are available at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support>.

**Notes:**

Students are responsible for all assigned material, e.g., supplementary material posted on D2L, regardless of whether or not the material was covered in class.

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