



Department of Economics Course Outline

		Term:	Fall 2007
Course:	Economics 311 [Computer Applications in Economics]	Section:	01
Time:	MW 9:00 - 10:15	Place:	SS 020
Instructor:	P. Ponsko		
Office:	SS 409	Telephone:	220-4631
Office Hours:	MW 10:30 – 11:30 (subject to change)	E-Mail:	pponsko@ucalgary.ca

Textbook(s):

- Walkenbach, John, *Microsoft Excel 2000 Formulas*. IDG Books, 1999
[Recommended]

Book(s) on Reserve:

- Blank, L., and A. Tarquin, *Engineering Economy*, McGraw Hill, 5th edition, 2002
- Cornelis van de Panne. *Introductory Financial Economics with Spreadsheets*. Harwood Academic Publishers, 1999
- Walkenbach, John, *Microsoft Excel 2000 Formulas*. IDG Books, 1999

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>

Course Outline:

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.

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

1. Introduction to Spreadsheets
2. Graphs and Charts
3. Basic Concepts of Financial Economics
4. Project Evaluation
5. Database Management Applications
6. Some advanced topics

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

Assignments	25%	Due dates will be announced in class
Midterm Exam	25%	November 7, 2007 in the class
Final Exam	<u>50%</u>	Date is set by Registrar's Office
	100%	

Important: Be advised that the midterm's time overlaps the regular class hour.

The format of these exams will be discussed in the class. These exams (midterm and final) 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+	96 – 100	B+	80 – 84	C+	66 – 69	D+	54 – 57
A	90 – 95	B	75 – 79	C	62 – 65	D	50 – 53
A-	85 – 89	B-	70 – 74	C-	58 – 61	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.

Calculators are **not** permitted during the midterm and final examination.

There will be a Registrar scheduled final examination. It will last for 3 hours; will be open book; will be computer based; and, will be held in a computer lab. Students would have to pass the final exam in order to pass the course as a whole. .../3

Tests and exams will not involve multiple-choice questions.

Students' Union Vice-President Academic:

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Students' Union Faculty Representative (Social Sciences)

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

www.ucalgary.ca/~sue

Notes:

- Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work (test, assignments) 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 before the scheduled dates.
- 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.

Safewalk / Campus Security: 220-5333

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PP/mi
2007-07-30