

York University
Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies
Department of Economics

Course No & Title: ECON 2400 3.00 INTERMEDIATE MACROECONOMIC THEORY I
Semester: Winter 2020, Sec- M

1.1 Course Webpage:

Relevant materials would be posted in Moodle. After semester starts, please check Moodle on a regular basis. Most of the online materials would be password protected with the **PASSWORD: "Econ"**. This course outline is part of *required reading for W20 2400 M*. You are expected to understand the policies and grading components discussed in this outline. Note: For environment friendly reasons, this outline will NOT be printed for distribution.

1.2 Prerequisite / Co-requisite:

Course Prerequisites: AP/ECON 1000 3.00, AP/ECON 1010 3.00, and AP/ECON 1530 3.00, or equivalents.

Prerequisites/Co-requisites: AP/ECON 1540 3.00.

1.3 Course Instructor/Contact:

Simin Seury (PhD)

Department of Economics, York University, 4700 Keele St., Toronto, ON M3J 1P3, CANADA

Office: **DB 2043**. Hours: **Tuesday 5:30-6:30 PM**

Phone: (416) 736 2100 Ext. 33501. Email: seury@yorku.ca

1.4 Lecture Time/Location & Information about the TA:

Lecture Details: **Day/Time:** Tuesday 14:30 – 17:30 (2:30-5:30 PM), Location: **VH (Vari Hall) B**.
Information about **TA:** TBA

1.5 Email Communication:

For general course related questions, please check course outline and all other information posted online before sending any email. Please note that **email communications** are meant to be restricted **for administrative concerns only**. All academic concerns are meant to be dealt during class lectures and office hours.

- a) If you need to send me an email, please (i) state the course and section number (e.g. **Econ 2400 M**) in the subject, address the email properly (for example: "Hi teacher"/"Hi prof"/"Hi Miss"), (ii) state valid administrative concerns clearly, (iii) write your full name with ID (no nick names please).
- b) Please note, when you contact any office, you need to follow required etiquette, and you cannot expect a reply after regular work hours (for example after 5pm), or during weekend or during holidays. Similarly, remember to follow required etiquette when you are writing to your Professor. I will not be able to respond to emails during weekends and holidays. During the regular office hours and weekdays, I will strive to respond to your emails within two business days.
- c) I will not open/read/reply any email with sick notes as attachments; do not send me your application for missed test (or any document relating to your illness) attached with your email.

2.1 Course Description:

This course provides intermediate level tools for the students to analyze macroeconomic phenomena. Topics include measurement of macroeconomics variables, national income accounting, the business cycle, aggregate consumption decision, aggregate production decision, aggregate spending, unemployment,

inflation, and economic growth. The purpose of this course is to introduce theoretical foundations of modern macroeconomics to the students, using models that are based on microeconomic principles. Questions of interest in our course would involve the causes of long-run growth, analysis of household and firm's optimization decision, analysis of business cycles, and analysis of appropriate role for government policy in influencing the economic performance of a nation.

2.2 Course Text / Readings:

Required Textbook: Macroeconomics (5th Canadian Edition), by Stephen D. Williamson, Pearson Canada, 2013. ISBN: SBN: 978-0-133847-14-7

You can check the following alternative options:

- CEB E-BOOK MACROECONOMICS (180 DAY EXPIRY) 5TH CDN. Author: WILLIAMSON. ISBN: 978-0-134604-87-9. Publisher: Pearson; Edition: 5C; Copyright: 18; Volume; Binding: WEB ACCESS CODE.
- LL MACROECONOMICS 5TH CDN. Author: WILLIAMSON, ISBN: 978-0-134604-77-0. Publisher: Pearson; Edition: 5C; Copyright: 18; Volume; Binding: LOOSELEAF.

Please be aware that (i) we are following the Canadian edition; not the US edition. (ii) If you are buying/reading an older edition, it is your responsibility to check/read the updated/additional contents from the current (5th) edition.

A copy of Macroeconomics (5th Canadian Edition), by Stephen D. Williamson, Pearson Canada, 2016 is placed on SCOTT-RESV for 24 hours; Call No. HB 172.5 W55 2016

For reviewing Math Concepts from ECON 1530/1540 the following textbook is recommended: Sydsæter and Hammond (2012). Essential Mathematics for Economics Analysis 4/e [Placed on reserve; Call No. HB 135 S886 2012].

2.3. Tentative Topics

The course would cover the following topics (as time permits):

- I. Introduction - Ch 1 [GDP, Macroeconomics Models, Microeconomic Principles, Disagreement in Macroeconomics, Analysis of Macroeconomic Events]
- II. Consumer and Firm Behaviour – Ch 4 [A Closed-Economy One-Period Model of the Macroeconomy: Work–Leisure Decision and Profit Maximization]
- III. Measurement Issues – Ch 2 and 3 [Measuring Macroeconomic Variables, National Income and Expenditure Accounting, Price Indices, Labour Market Measurement, Measuring Business Cycles]
- IV. A Closed-Economy One-Period Macroeconomic Model- Ch 5 [Analysis of competitive equilibrium outcome, characterized by the equilibrium values of the aggregate output, consumption, employment, taxes, and the real wage (endogenous variables). Analysis of Pareto Optimality and Welfare Theorems]
- V. Long-run Economic Growth- Models of Economic Growth - Ch 7 and 8 [Economic Growth: Malthus and Solow. Income Disparity among Countries and Endogenous Growth]

Math concepts

- Materials from ECON 1530 and 1540 [No formal lecture; students are responsible to review on their own], including differentiation, derivatives in use, and integration.
- Optimization (single variable and multi-variable), Constrained Optimization, The Lagrange Multiplier method, Utility Maximization, Profit Maximization, Comparative Statics, Analysis of Competitive Equilibrium

A **Tentative Schedule** would be posted in Moodle during the first week of lecture. The instructor reserves the right to make small changes to the coverage as the course develops. Students are encouraged to keep up with the material on a lecture by lecture basis and they are expected to read the texts.

Highlights from class lectures would be posted on the course website in pdf format. But those online materials are NOT substituting for textbook materials and class lectures. Students are responsible for materials in the main text that correspond to the materials covered in class. However, students should NOT expect the instructor to talk about every single page from the textbook. The lectures will focus on the most challenging parts of the material and problem solving. Some basic materials will be left for the students to study on their own. This is not an online course and it would not be possible for your instructor to post online everything that we discuss in class. Your instructor takes no responsibility for any adverse effect a student might experience as a result of not attending class lectures and thereby missing valuable information conveyed in class. Email communication is restricted for administrative purpose only (which implies, missing class lectures and requesting your instructor to explain lecture topics through email communication, is not an option).

Videotaping/ Recording class lectures is not permitted without written permission for special accommodation.

3.1 Evaluation⁽¹⁾:

Grading Components

Midterm 1

Midterm 2

Final Exam

Class Work, Participation, Assignments⁽²⁾

Date/Time(1)

Tuesday, Feb 11, 2020

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

TBA, during W 2020 Exam period

Throughout the semester

(1) These tentative dates would be reconfirmed after first two lectures. It is **mandatory that students bring original copy of their **Student ID card** (or valid picture ID) to the tests and the Final exam.*

**(2) Please see section 3.3 for details*

Students who would attend both Midterms and Final Exam would have the option of getting maximum grade out of the following two schemes:

Scheme I: Total Marks = (30% of Best Midterm + 70% of Final)

Scheme II: Total Marks = (30% of Best Midterm + 10% of the other Midterm + 60% of Final)

3.2 Tests:

All exams (in class Tests and Final Exam) are closed book tests.

Midterm Tests will be held on the dates mentioned above (in the regular class room, unless otherwise notified). Duration of midterm would be 90 minutes. There would be several problem-solving questions; you need to answer all (no Multiple-Choice Questions).

Syllabus of Midterm 1 would include materials from Chapter 1, 2 and 4 (see section 2.3 for details).

Syllabus of Midterm 2 would include materials from Chapter 3, 4 and 5 (see section 2.3 for details).

It is important to note that due to the comprehensive nature of the syllabus, level of difficulty would naturally increase from Midterm 1 to Midterm 2 to Final Exam. Your instructor reserves the right to re-write an exam. Math concepts are included in all exams. Exam questions would be similar to the end of the chapter questions from the text book and problems solved in our class. As such, no further sample questions would be provided.

Final exam will be held according to the Winter 2020 exam schedule. Exam duration for final would be 2.5 hours. Syllabus would be **comprehensive**. That is, for the final exam, we will cover all the materials discussed in this course. There would be several problem-solving questions; you need to answer all (no Multiple-Choice

Questions). **The Winter Exam Period runs from April 07 to 25, 2020** (inclusive). It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you are available to sit for examinations during the entire exam period for the term corresponding to your course. No alternative date for the exam will be offered. Deferred exams are often scheduled right after the end of the official final exam period. We strongly recommend that you do not make any travel arrangements prior to the end of all these probable examination dates.

3.3 Class Work, Participation and Assignments:

Positive in-class participation is highly encouraged in this course (*please do not hesitate to ask me any course-related question, including the simplest question “Teacher/Miss, I did not understand this, could you please explain again?”*). Absenteeism is strongly discouraged, particularly because we would solve problems in our class that will help you to prepare for the exams. We would have assignments on a regular basis. These are not to be graded, but you should try to solve these on your own before I provide the answers in class. You are expected to copy the solutions from the board, as these details would not be posted online. Class works (CWs) are based on questions discussed/solved during earlier class lectures. Students who would be able to do at least 70% of work done in class correctly, would get 4 bonus marks. Students who can get more than 70% of the CWs correct, would get 5 bonus marks. CW is an open book exercise (usual duration 10 to 15 minutes). You should be able to find answer of a CW question from your previous class notes. There is no option to get partial bonus marks (that is, there is no option to get bonus marks from doing less than seventy percent of all works done in class); there is no option to write make-up for a CW. Further explanation about CW would be provided during first two lectures.

3.4 Missed exams/Tests and Other details:

There will be NO MAKE-UP exam for any midterm exam. If a student misses one midterm, Scheme I would become default (and only) scheme for them [that is, Total Marks = 30% marks from the Midterm (which they did not miss) + 70% from Final]. Students with a documented reason for missing one Midterm test, such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., which is confirmed by supporting documentation (e.g., doctor’s letter, death certificate for someone in immediate family etc.) may submit their supporting documents, if they want. There is no option to shift midterm weights for any student who would miss both midterms. If a student misses both Midterms, their grade would be determined according to Scheme I: Total Marks = 70% Final + “0” from missed Midterms.

- ☐ Required procedure for any student who wants to submit application for missed midterm:
 - (a) **Students missing the mid-term exam for Medical Reasons:** Complete an application with original copy of completed Registrar’s Office **Attending Physician’s Statement** showing a physical incapability of writing the test/exam on the test date, dated the day of the test/exam or earlier. Read description of “Medical Circumstances” for more details. The physician’s office may be contacted to verify that the statement of the physician provided in your application.
 - (b) **Students missing the mid-term exam for Non-Medical reasons:** Write an application complete with appropriate documentation. Read description of “Non-Medical Circumstances” for more details.
 - (c) The student needs to submit their completed application within **7 business days of the missed exam** to the reception desk of Department of Economics (to my attention), 1144 Vari Hall. **Do NOT send documents as email attachments. I will not open/accept any email with attachment(s).**
 - (d) After submitting your application, you must send your professor an email (must follow the email format, posted in Moodle).
- ☐ No permission is ever given to a student to write a test or exam in advance of its scheduled date.
- ☐ No permission can be given to a student to retake an exam to improve their grade.
- ☐ The weight of missed class participation cannot be transferred to other components.
- ☐ Deferred Standing for the final exam will be considered only under the following circumstances:

1. **MEDICAL CIRCUMSTANCES:** Exams missed due to medical circumstances must be supported by an original copy of York Attending Physicians Statement filled out completely by a medical doctor or licensed psychologist/counselor, dated within **48 hours of the final exam date**. That is, your **Physician's Statement** should show that you have consulted the physician within this 48 hour time span. Any other forms of doctor's note, especially one stating simply that "The student was seen in my office" is not acceptable. The statement must include:
 - ☐ Full name, mailing address, telephone number of the physician.
 - ☐ The nature of the illness and its duration (i.e., specific dates covered)
 - ☐ An indication of whether the illness and/or medication prescribed would have **SERIOUSLY** affected the student's ability to study and perform over the period in question.
 - ☐ The physician's office may be contacted to verify that the statement was actually completed by the physician.
2. **NON-MEDICAL CIRCUMSTANCES:** Exams missed due to non-medical circumstances must be supported by appropriate documentation, i.e., death certificates, obituary notice, automobile accident reports, airline/bus ticket receipt for emergency travel (with the date of booking on the ticket), etc. Airline/train/bus ticket/receipts for emergency travel must indicate destination, departure, and return dates. Having to work at the time of the exam or non-emergency travel would not be considered as valid excuse for missing the exam.

To apply for the deferred exam students must fill out the **Deferred Standing Agreement form** and submit it along with all original supporting documentation including original copy of documents (such as completed Registrar's Office **Attending Physician's Statement** showing a physical incapability of writing the exam on the exam date, dated the day of the exam or earlier for medical reasons.). The complete application should be submitted at the office of the Department of Economics located in 1144 Vari Hall (to my attention) **within 7 calendar days of the original exam date**. After submitting the application, you should send me an email (following email format, posted in Moodle). Submitting the form does NOT guarantee permission to write the deferred exam. Only submissions that meet all requirements will be granted permission. Students whose submissions are not granted will receive a zero for their final exam score. If the application is approved, the date and time of the deferred exam will be announced to the student later. Students who may require further extensions or accommodation will have to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

3.5 Grading and Re-evaluation Policy:

The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 89, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.) (For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - <https://calendars.students.yorku.ca/>). If you feel that you disagree with the grading of your Test, and you would like to request for re-evaluation, you have to return your paper immediately to your Grader or your Instructor, when it is handed to you, and you must visit the person who marked your exam during the next 5 business days. Your TA/Grader would provide time to explain how the exam was graded. Your Instructor/TA/Grader reserves the right to re-grade the entire content of the exam (for example maybe your instructor/TA/Grader overlooked a problem/mistake in your answer during the first evaluation, but it might get noticed during re-evaluation). As such, your marks may increase, may decrease or may remain the same after re-evaluation.

4.1 Letters of Accommodation

If any student requires special accommodations for the exams or even for the class works, s/he must hand me the hard copy of his/her proper supporting documents ASAP so that we can work together for arranging the special accommodation. For alternate exam accommodations, students are responsible to contact their

counselor(s) and Alternate Exam Centre well ahead of time. Alternate exams for Tests must be held during the same day the rest of the class is having the exam.

4.2 Course ADD/Drop Deadlines

	Winter Term 2020(W)
Last date to add a course without permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Jan. 19
Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Feb. 3
Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	March 13
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of “W” on transcript – see note below)	March 14 - Apr. 5

****Policy and Guidelines on Withdrawn from Course:** <http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/withdrawn-from-course-w-policy-and-guidelines/>
<https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/fw19>

4.3 IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

- **York’s Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures:** As per Senate Policy, academic honesty and integrity is defined as conduct that violates the ethical or legal standards of the University community or of one’s program or specialization is subject to severe penalties. Students are responsible for understanding the nature and consequences of these offences, as contained in the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty. More information visit: <https://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/academic-honesty-senate-policy-on/> and <https://econ.laps.yorku.ca/students/academic-policies-procedure/academic-integrity/>
- Ethics Review Process for research: <http://research.info.yorku.ca/ore/process/>
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities: <https://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/academic-accommodation-for-students-with-disabilities-guidelines-procedures-and-definitions/>
- Student conduct standards: <http://oscr.students.uit.yorku.ca/student-conduct>
- Religious Accommodations Guideline: <https://w2prod.sis.yorku.ca/Apps/WebObjects/cdm.woa/wa/regobs>

GOOD LUCK! I wish you all the success in this course and in your future endeavour.