

Intermediate Macroeconomics Theory I
AP/ECON 2400 M
S2 2020

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Course webpage: Moodle

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Technical requirements for taking the course: In this course, we will be using Moodle for posting course materials (including pre-recorded online lectures, presentation slides to facilitate online lectures, practice problem sets and solutions, case studies with solutions, practice exams and solutions, etc.) and for online Moodle-based tests. Thus, having stable, higher-speed Internet connection is important to learn the materials and take the online tests for this course. In addition, for some questions in the online tests, you will need to upload files of your handwritten answers. Thus, having photo-taking device or scanner is essential for taking the online tests.

Here are some useful links for student computing information, resources and help:

[Student Guide to Moodle](#), [Computing for Students Website](#), [Student Guide to eLearning at York University](#) Technology requirements and FAQs for Moodle can be found here - <http://www.yorku.ca/moodle/students/faq/index.html>

To determine Internet connection and speed, there are online tests, such as [Speedtest](#), that can be run.

Times and locations: Please note that this is a course that depends on remote teaching and learning. There will be no in-person interactions or activities on campus. The official class meeting time is Monday and Wednesday 6-9pm. Test-taking (online Moodle-based) will take place during the scheduled official meeting time. Please refer to the [schedule of readings and activities](#) below for the dates and times for the various tests. Although online lectures are pre-recorded and you could learn the course materials at your own pace, there is a correspondence between the various lecture clips and the official meeting dates and times by which you are supposed to learn the materials, as detailed in the [schedule of readings and activities](#) below.

Organization of the course

The entire course, including pre-recorded online lectures, uploading and downloading of course materials, participation/discussion and test-taking, will take place on the course's Moodle. Although we are scheduled to meet at particular times and days of the week, this course has no live virtual meetings. Like an online course, you can learn the course materials at your own pace, following the [schedule of readings and activities](#).

Forum for Questions and Answers: In place of in-person office hours, I will set up a forum in Moodle for you to ask questions, and your TA and I will provide feedbacks and answers to your questions. Since this question-and-answer forum is visible to all students who enrol in the course, if a student has a question, other students could make comments. Make sure that your comments are polite and respectful. If I find any comments that use inappropriate language, I will not only delete the comments from the forum, but I might ban the student who makes such comments from the forum. If you have personal questions that you do not find comfortable to raise in the forum, you could send me or your TA an email at the above email addresses instead.

Expanded course description: This course aims at equipping students with basic tools to use economic theory in analyzing important macroeconomic issues. We shall discuss topics such as measurement of macroeconomic data, aggregate production and spending in macroeconomics, national savings, investment and net exports, interest rate and exchange rate behaviours in the long run, and economic growth.

Prerequisite / Co-requisite: Prerequisites: AP/ECON 1000 3.00, AP/ECON 1010 3.00, and AP/ECON 1530 3.00, or equivalents. Prerequisite or corequisite: AP/ECON 1540 3.00. Course credit exclusions: GL/ECON 3240 6.00 (prior to Fall 2014), SB/ECON 2000 3.00. Note: Acceptable course substitutes are available in the Calendar.

Course text / readings

The required textbook for this course is Mankiw, Gregory N. and William Scarth, "Macroeconomics" 6th Canadian edition.

We shall cover Ch. 1 (introduction), 2 (macroeconomics variables and measurements), 3 (classical model of the LR closed economy), 6 (classical model of the LR small open economy), 8-9 (economic growth and the Solow growth model).

You should note that although I use the textbook as the basis for the topics we are discussing for the course, I will also cover some materials that are relevant for the understanding of the various topics but are not covered in the textbook. Roughly about 30% of the course materials will be my own materials (covered in the online pre-recorded lectures) that provide you with a fuller understanding of the topics that correspond to the various chapters of the textbook readings. Therefore, in order to learn the course materials, it is imperative that you do not only read the textbook but also attend all the online pre-recorded lectures and understand the materials there.

The lectures will be delivered through pre-recorded online lecture clips. Presentation slides will be posted to facilitate the online recorded lectures. These presentation slides are NOT meant to be self-sufficient, but should be considered an aid to facilitate the online lectures. During the online recorded lectures, I will show you more detailed analyses with additional handwritten slides that are NOT included in the posted presentation slides.

Evaluation

Mandatory participation in Demo Online Test (completed by 3 rd class on July 8)	2%
Online Test 1 (July 13, Monday, 6-7:15pm, covers Ch 2)	19%
Online Test 2 (July 20, Monday, 6-7:15pm, covers Ch 3)	19%
Online Major Exam 3 (July 29, Wednesday, 6-8:30pm, covers Ch 2, 3 and 6)	40%
Online Test 4 (Aug 12, Wednesday, 6-7:15pm, covers Ch 8 and 9)	20%

Note: There will be no "final exam" during the final exam period. Each online test will consist of both multiple choice (MC) questions and problem-solving questions that you have to fill in your answers or upload files of your handwritten answers to the corresponding questions.

Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles.

Schedule of readings and activities

The following detailed schedule shows the date and time of when various online Moodle-based tests will take place and the corresponding official meeting date and time for the various pre-recorded lecture clips by which you should learn the materials.

Detailed schedule of lectures and tests

Date	Day	Time	Pre-recorded lectures/on-line tests/activities
June 29, 2020	Monday	6-9pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductory Lecture Clip • Tutorial for taking online tests • Ch2 online lecture clip 1
July 1, 2020	Wednesday	6-9pm	No class (Canada Day)
July 6, 2020	Monday	6-9pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch2 online lecture clip 2 • Ch2 online lecture clip 3
July 8, 2020	Wednesday	6-9pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch3 online lecture clip 1 • Ch3 online lecture clip 2
July 8, 2020	Wednesday	9pm	Deadline to complete Demo Online Test
July 13, 2020	Monday	6-7:15pm	Test 1 (on the materials for Ch2)
July 13, 2020	Monday	7:30-9pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch3 online lecture clip 3
July 15, 2020	Wednesday	6-9pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch3 online lecture clip 4 • Ch3 online lecture clip 5
July 20, 2020	Monday	6-7:15pm	Test 2 (on the materials for Ch3)
July 20, 2020	Monday	7:30-9pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch6 online lecture clip 1
July 22, 2020	Wednesday	6-9pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch6 online lecture clip 2 • Ch6 online lecture clip 3
July 27, 2020	Monday	6-9pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch8&9 online lecture clip 1 • Ch8&9 online lecture clip 2
July 29, 2020	Wednesday	6-8:30pm	Major Exam 3 (cumulative test on the materials for Ch2, 3 and 6)
Aug 3, 2020	Monday	6-9pm	No class (Civic Holiday)
Aug 5, 2020	Wednesday	6-9pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch8&9 online lecture clip 3 • Ch8&9 online lecture clip 4
Aug 10, 2020	Monday	6-9pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch8&9 online lecture clip 5 • Ch8&9 online lecture clip 6
Aug 12, 2020	Wednesday	6-7:15pm	Test 4 (on the materials for Ch8&9)

Course policies

As all the tests are offered as online Moodle-based test, I would like to make sure that all students have training in taking such Moodle-based online test. All tests will include both multiple choice (MC) questions and problem-solving questions that you have to fill in your answers or upload files of your **handwritten** answers to the corresponding questions. I will provide a short pre-recorded online tutorial to give you guidance on how to take such Moodle-based online test. Such tutorial is based on a Demo Online Test that I will post on the Moodle course website. It is **mandatory** that all students also take the Demo Online Test. Participation in completing the **Demo Online Test** is worth 2% of the course. You could take such Demo Online Test any time after the course start date but must complete it **by the end of the 3rd class at 9pm on July 8, 2020**. With the completion of the Demo Online Test, it will be assumed that you have the training in taking such Moodle-based test, particularly in navigating from one page to another in the test, in uploading files on the Moodle-based test, and in submitting your test in a timely manner. Failure in participation of the Demo Online Test does not constitute as an excuse that you do not have training in taking such online Moodle-based test either, as participation in the Demo Online Test is **mandatory**.

There are 4 tests in the course. **Test 1, 2 and 4** are “short” tests, **each 1 hour and 15 minutes long**. Each of these tests is set up as an 1-hour test but I will give you an extra 15 minutes to **upload your files for each test**. Thus, you will have 1 hour and 15 minutes in total to complete each test (**this already includes time to upload your files**). Each of these “short” tests will be on a particular topic. **Test 1** will be **on Ch2** about “Macroeconomic variables and measurement”, **Test 2** will be **on Ch3** about “The Classical Model of the LR Closed Economy” and **Test 4** will be **on Ch8&9** about “Economic Growth and the Solow Growth Model”.

Test 3 (Major Exam 3) on the other hand is a longer **cumulative** exam that covers the first 3 topics (**Ch2** on “Macroeconomic variables and measurement”, **Ch3** on “The Classical Model of the LR Closed Economy” and **Ch6** on “The Classical Model of the LR Small Open Economy”). Major Exam 3 is **2 hours and 30 minutes long**. This test is set up as a 2-hour test but I will give you an extra 30 minutes to upload your files for this test. Thus, you will have 2 hours and 30 minutes in total to complete this Major Exam 3 (**this already includes time to upload your files**).

To help you study and prepare for tests, I will give out problem sets, case studies (with practice problem-solving questions) and practice tests. These will be posted on the class website as time goes by. These problem sets, case studies and practice tests will not be graded. Solutions will be posted on the website for you to check your answers. For the practice tests, I will post both an online version as well as PDF version. You could take the online version to familiarize yourself with how to take the actual online test. Solutions are however only provided in PDF version.

Missed Tests:

If you miss any one test, you will have to email me within 48 hours of the scheduled date of the corresponding test to tell me why you miss the exam. If I find your excuse to be valid, the following accommodation will be provided:

Missed test	Date of test	Email excuse by	Accommodation
Test 1	July 13, 2020	July 15, 2020	Weight transferred to Major Exam 3
Test 2	July 20, 2020	July 22, 2020	Weight transferred to Major Exam 3
Major Exam 3	July 29, 2020	July 31, 2020	Makeup exam (date and time TBA)
Test 4	Aug 12, 2020	Aug 14, 2020	Makeup test (date and time TBA)

Essentially, if you miss either Test 1 or Test 2 with a valid excuse emailed to me within 48 hours of the scheduled date of the corresponding test, your marks will be re-allocated to Major Exam 3 (since Major Exam 3 is cumulative and covers topics in Test 1 and Test 2 as well). On the other hand, if you miss Major Exam 3 or Test 4 with a valid excuse emailed to me within 48 hours of the scheduled date of the corresponding test, I will provide you with a makeup online test/exam for the corresponding test/exam (date and time TBA).

If you miss more than one tests, however, I will use my discretion to decide on whether you will have to submit a formal petition to the Faculty for further accommodation. Similarly, missing makeup test/exam will require a formal petition to the Faculty for further extensions.

Academic honesty and integrity

In this course, we strive to maintain academic integrity to the highest extent possible. Please familiarize yourself with the meaning of academic integrity by completing SPARK's Academic Integrity module at the beginning of the course. Breaches of academic integrity range from cheating to plagiarism (i.e., the improper crediting of another's work, the representation of another's ideas as your own, etc.). All instances of academic dishonesty in this course will be reported to the appropriate university authorities, and can be punishable according to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty.

Course information

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information:

- [Student Rights & Responsibilities](#)
- [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#)
- Please also consult the University's [Important Course Information document](#).