

York University
Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies
Department of Economics
Winter 2022

Course # and Title:

Public Finance I – ECON 4070 3.00 M

Course Webpage/delivery:

Remote/Online. Course will be available through eClass.

Course Instructor/Contact:

Name: Mat Brzozowski
Office: 1086 Vari Hall
Phone: 416-736-2100 Ext. 20152
Office Hours: Thursday: 3:00 – 4:30 PM PM
Email: brzozows@yorku.ca

NOTE: The instructor reserves a right not to be disturbed under ANY circumstances during the one hour immediately preceding the lecture time – this applies especially to the days the tests are held.

Lecture Time and Location:

Lecture: Thursday: 4:00 -7:00
Location: PM DB 0005
TA hours: TBA

Prerequisite / Co-requisite:

Prerequisites: AP/ECON 2300 3.00, AP/ECON 2350 3.00, AP/ECON 2400, and AP/ECON 2450 3.00, or equivalents. Course credit exclusion: GL/ECON 3570 3.00. PRIOR TO FALL 2009: Course credit exclusions: AK/ECON 3450 3.00, AS/ECON 4070 3.00, GL/ECON 3570 3.00.

Course Description:

Identifies the role of government in a modern economy and examines the interaction between government's attempts to provide services and the financing of expenditures through traditional and non-traditional means.

Weighting of Course:

Evaluation

Important dates and grading scheme are as follows:

Term Test 1	25%	February 9 th , regular class hours	Location: regular classroom
Term Test 2	25%	March 23 rd , regular class hours	Location: regular classroom
Final Exam	50%	Date: TBA	Location: TBA

The tests and the final will not be re-weighted in order to benefit any single student or any group of students.

Missed exams/Tests:

There will be no make-up for the term tests. If you are unable to take a term test **for a valid reason ONLY**, the weight of the test will be added to the final exam. Students missing a term test must provide detailed documentation in the manner required by York. The instructor must be contacted about missing the term test via e-mail at brzozows@yorku.ca or in person within 48 hours after the end of the test (*since it is student's responsibility to make sure that the instructor has been contacted e-mail works much better than any other means of communication*). Students missing the mid-term exam who do not provide such documentation will receive a grade of zero for the mid-term exam.

For both tests, students are responsible for **all** the material covered until the date of the test.

The final exam will be held during the university exam period. While it will be weighted towards the material covered after the second term test, it will cover **all** the material since the first lecture in September. The location, day, and time of the final exam will be announced later by the official university channels.

Students who choose to write their tests in pencil are advised that the instructor may choose to photocopy their work for future verification.

Grading

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 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

Course Text / Readings:

Required Text

A Course in Public Economics. by John Leach, 2003, Cambridge University Press,

Organization of the Course (Topics):

Topics and Readings¹

- General Equilibrium theory

¹ This list of topics is indicative only; changes may be made to the sequence; additional material may be added.

- Consumer and producer surplus
- Externalities
- Permit trading
- Renewable common property resources
- Co-ordination failures
- Natural monopoly and pricing rules under imperfect competition
- Taxation and efficiency
- The welfare cost of tax interactions
- The theory of the second best
- The distribution of income
- The limits of income distribution
- Tagging and targeting
- Health care and health insurance

Important Dates

	Winter Term 2021
Last date to add a course without permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	January 23 rd
Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	February 7 th
Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	March 18 th
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of "W" on transcript)	March 19 th – April 10 th

Important Academic Forms

- Religious Accommodation - http://registrar.yorku.ca/sites/registrar/files/pdf/exam_accommodation.pdf
- Deferred Standing - http://registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/deferred_standing_agreement.pdf
- Attending Physician's Statement Form - <http://registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/attending-physicians-statement.pdf>

Important Information for Students

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage.

- York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures is located on the York University Senate webpage. 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 on academic integrity for students can be found on the York Academic Integrity Website.

- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants located using the Senate Policy Research Involving Human Participants link
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities can be accessed using the Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities link.
- Information on student conduct standards can be reviewed on the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities webpage.
- Students requiring religious accommodation should review the Religious Accommodations Guidelines using the Religious Observance link.

Private Third-Party Tutoring Companies, Academic Honesty and Support Resources

Many private, third-party tutoring companies advertise their services to YorkU students. One way you can help eliminate these advertisements is by changing your eClass profile settings to private (see instructions below). Some of these private companies claim to be affiliated with, or recognized and supported by, York University. Some also claim to help you by providing you with quiz and test answers, suggesting that this practice is safe and permitted by York. These claims are **not** true. York University has not officially recognized or endorsed any third-party tutoring service. When you are provided with quiz, test and exam answers, you run the risk of violating the [university's academic honesty policy](#). Students have been caught using these services to cheat and gain unfair advantage over honest students. The cheating students and "tutors" have received academic dishonesty punishments ranging from failing courses, to being expelled, to losing their YorkU degrees. Officially supported resources to help students learn course material will be provided by YorkU officials, such as your professors and your department. These services are offered at no cost to you as a student. Your professor will likely provide weekly office help hours to meet with students and if you are a first- or second-year student and would like help with course material, make sure you join one of our weekly [Peer Assisted Study Sessions \(PASS\)](#). If you require help with any of your numeracy-related courses that involve math, statistics or Excel, drop in online to meet with one of our peer tutors at the [Student Numeracy Assistance Centre at Keele \(SNACK\)](#). If you are ever unsure of whether a resource is allowable or endorsed by YorkU, please feel free to email the Department of Economics at lapsecon@yorku.ca and they would be happy let you know.

To hide your email address in eClass: Step1: Click your name on the top-right of the eClass website, then click "Profile" on the drop-down menu; Step 2: Under "User details" click "Edit profile"; Step 3: From the "Email display" drop-down menu choose "Hide my email address from non-privileged users"; Step 4: Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the "Update profile" button.