



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
UNIVERSITY

ECON 102

Introductory Macroeconomics

Winter 2022

Instructor:

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Department of Economics – Faculty of Arts



Syllabus

Course Overview

This three-credit course provides an introduction to macroeconomic concepts. Students will learn about national income accounting and the components of the national economy; unemployment; inflation; economic growth; the AD/AS model; exchange rates; and how to analyze the impact of government policies and economic shocks on the economy in both the short-run and long-run.

Course Outcomes

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Compute basic macroeconomic indicators, such as the unemployment rate and inflation rate
- Analyze short-run fluctuations and long-run trends of the economy
- Build a simple model to study the impact of government policies and shocks on the economy
- Relate the theoretical classroom material to current news stories about the economy

Course Delivery

This course will be delivered online from January 17 to January 30, then is scheduled to move to in-person delivery. The on-line portion will be live, so you are expected to be on-line during scheduled class time. All the course material (textbook chapters, lecture notes, news articles and assignments) will be posted on Moodle. **Exams are tentatively scheduled to be in-person, but this may change as health requirements change over the semester.**

Scheduled Class Times

Please verify whether you are registered for Section 21 (ECON 102:21) or Section 22 (ECON 102:22), as you must attend classes for your scheduled section and write exams for your section. Class times are scheduled as follows:

Section 21: (W4/W5) Monday 12:45 – 2:00PM and Wednesday 11:15 – 12:30PM [SCHW 110]

Section 22: (W1/W2) Monday 9:45 – 11:00AM and Wednesday 8:15 – 9:30AM [MULH 2070]



Course Materials

Textbook:

Greenlaw, S.A. and D. Shapiro (2019) *Principles of Economics*, 2nd Edition, Openstax.

This is a FREE e-book that can be downloaded from the following site:

<https://openstax.org/details/books/principles-economics-2e>

This textbook has the advantage of being free while also being relatively thorough; however, it has the disadvantage of being written for a U.S. audience. Consequently, the online lecture notes that I will post will not only simplify the material, but also “Canadianize” it.

News Articles:

A recent news article will occasionally be assigned, as this helps you understand the current relevance of the classroom material being covered. Questions related to the articles may appear on the assignments and exams. Articles are typically published following releases of major macroeconomic indicators, such as GDP, the inflation rate and the unemployment rate. Articles will only be selected from FREE online sources, such as *CBC*, *CTV News* and *CNN*, and posted on Moodle the week that the relevant topic will be covered.

Calculators:

Students are expected to do some simple calculations, so they should have a calculator at their disposal. It does not need to be a fancy Scientific or Business calculator – any \$5 calculator that can perform the basic functions of addition, subtraction, division and multiplication will suffice.

Grading

Eight Assignments @ 2.5% each: 20%

Assigned / due dates:

Assignment #1: Wed Jan 26 / Mon Jan 31

Assignment #2: Wed Feb 2 / Mon Feb 7

Assignment #3: Wed Feb 9 / Mon Feb 14

Assignment #4: Wed Mar 2 / Mon Mar 7

Assignment #5: Wed Mar 9 / Mon Mar 14

Assignment #6: Wed Mar 16 / Mon Mar 21

Assignment #7: Wed Apr 6 / Mon Apr 11

Assignment #8: Mon Apr 11 / Wed Apr 13

Mid-Term Exam #1 (Wed Feb 16): 20%

Mid-Term Exam #2 (Mon Mar 28): 20%

Final Exam (April): 40%



Course Schedule

Part I: Introduction

- January 17: Review Syllabus & course overview

Part II: Macroeconomic Data

- January 19, 24, 26: Topic 1: The Macroeconomic Perspective (Chapter 19)
- January 26, 31 & Feb 2: Topic 2: Unemployment (Chapter 21)
- February 2, 7, 9: Topic 3: Inflation (Chapter 22)
- February 14: Review Topics 1-3, including assignments

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 16: MID-TERM EXAM #1 (Covers Topics 1, 2 & 3 ONLY) – 20%

February 21 & 23: READING WEEK (no classes)

Part III: Macroeconomic Theory

- February 28, March 2 & 7: Topic 4: Economic Growth (Chapter 20)
- March 7, 9, 14: Topic 5: The AS/AD Model (Chapter 24)
- March 14, 16, 21: Topic 6: The Keynesian Perspective (Chapter 25)
- March 23: Review Topics 4-6, including assignments

MONDAY MARCH 28: MID-TERM EXAM #2 (Covers Topics 4, 5 & 6 ONLY) – 20%

- March 30, April 4, 6: Topic 7: The Neoclassical Perspective (Chapter 26)
- April 11: Topic 8: Exchange Rates (Chapter 29)
- April 13: Review entire course

**LATE APRIL (Exact date to be set by the Examinations Office): FINAL EXAM
(Covers Topics 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8) – 40%**



Getting Ready

Accommodations

If you are a registered Tramble Room student, please send me an email (gtkacz@stfx.ca) advising me of this **before January 31**, and copy this email to the Tramble Rooms (tramble@stfx.ca). Be sure to say in your email whether you receive time-and-half or double-time for exams, and specify any other accommodations you may require during the course. If you do not provide sufficient notice that you are a Tramble Room student, you may not get the extra time or other accommodations you need.

Where to Go for Help

Accessibility

If you require accommodations but have not yet registered with the Tramble Room (tramble@stfx.ca), please contact them right away. [Click here for more information](#). Once you are registered with them, see the Getting Ready section above for additional steps you must take to ensure you get the accommodations you need.

Course-Related Questions

If you have a question about any aspect of the course that is not covered by this document, please contact me by e-mail, or login to Moodle when I'm live on-line during the scheduled course days and times.

We may also have Teaching Assistants (TAs) assigned to this course who may be able to answer some course-related questions. I will let you know by the second week of the term whether we in fact have some TAs, and how to contact them for assistance.

Office Hours

It is unclear at this time whether I will be able to have in-person office hours due to health restrictions. If I can, you can make an appointment by e-mail 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE to meet in my office (MULH 3075) during the following days & times. If in-person hours are not possible, we can meet online instead.

Mondays: 11:15AM to 12:30PM

Fridays: 10:00AM to 2:00PM



Course Evaluation

The table below shows the weighting of each assessment component of the course.

Assessment Component	Description	Weighting (%)
Eight Assignments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On-line; will have up to 5 days to complete each assignment (but should normally take no more than 1 hour each)• One assignment per Topic	8 x 2.5% = 20%
Mid-Term Exam #1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In-person (but may have to move on-line on short notice)• 1 hour and 15 min time limit• Will cover Topics 1, 2 & 3	20%
Mid-Term Exam #2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In-person (but may have to move on-line on short notice)• 1 hour and 15 min time limit• Will cover Topics 4, 5 & 6	20%
Final Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In-person (but may have to move on-line on short notice)• 2 hours and 30 min time limit• Will cover Topics 1 through 8	40%



Course Policies

Academic Integrity

The highest standard of academic integrity is expected. All students must understand the meaning and consequences of academic offences such as plagiarism, cheating, tampering, and falsification. For more information, please see “Academic Integrity Policies and Procedures” (St. Francis Xavier University, 2006). [Click here to view this document.](#)

Exam and Quiz Dates

Every exam must be written on the date, and within the time frame, that is stipulated in the Schedule. A grade of zero will be given for any exam that is missed without just cause (such as medical emergency).

Mid-Term Exams #1 and #2

An alternative date or time frame will be considered only in cases where there are documented medical or compassionate grounds.

Final exams

Changes to Final Exam dates must be requested and approved through the Dean’s Office.

Withdrawal

There are deadlines for withdrawing from this course, and possible academic consequences for doing so. [Click here for more information on “Course Drop and Tuition Refund Dates”.](#)