

University of Lethbridge
Economics 1012A
Introduction to Macroeconomics
Fall 2007

| | <u>Lectures</u> | <u>Laboratories</u> |
|----------------------|--|---|
| Instructor: | Dr. Richard Mueller | Mr. Michael Lanyi |
| Class Times: | MWF 9:00-9:50 | Th 9:25-10:15 (Lab 1); Th 10:50-11:40 (Lab 2) |
| Place: | D-634 | AH-117 |
| Phone: | 329-2510 | 332-4590 |
| Office: | D-552 | C-574 |
| E-mail: | richard.mueller@uleth.ca | michael.lanyi@uleth.ca |
| Webpage: | people.uleth.ca/~richard.mueller | |
| Office Hours: | MWF 14:0-15:00 & by appointment. | TBA |

Required Materials:

Colander, David C., Duane W. Rockerbie, and Charlene Richter. 2006. *Macroeconomics*, 3rd Canadian Ed. Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson, & *Study Guide* to accompany the text.

Course Objectives:

The purpose of this course is to provide you with a background in macroeconomic theory and to prepare you to take upper level courses in theoretical and applied economics. The course will begin with a review of economic concepts necessary for an understanding of all subsequent material, and follow with the major themes in macroeconomics.

Course Outline:

Students are strongly encouraged to read the course materials before attending lectures. Unless otherwise stated in class, students should read the entire chapter corresponding to the various topics outlined (appendices can be eliminated unless otherwise stated in class). The course material with chapter references is as follows:

| <u>No.</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Reading</u> |
|------------|--|----------------|
| 1. | Introduction to Economics/Review of Basic Concepts | Chs. 1-2 |
| 2. | Demand and Supply | Ch. 4 |
| 3. | Key Macroeconomic Concepts: Economic Growth, , Business Cycles, Unemployment and Inflation; National Income Accounting | Chs. 5-6 |
| 4. | Aggregate Expenditure Model | Ch. 8 |
| 5. | Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply (AD-AS) Model | Ch. 9 |
| 6. | Fiscal Policy | Ch. 10 |
| 7. | Fiscal Surpluses, Deficits and Debt | Ch. 11 |
| 8. | The AD-AS Model, the Banking System and Monetary Policy | Chs. 12-14 |
| 9. | Unemployment, Inflation, and the Unemployment-Inflation Trade-Off | Ch. 15 |
| 10. | Canada in the International Economy (if time permits) | Chs. 16-17 |

Lectures

Attendance in class is not mandatory and absences will not factor into the final course grade. Since not all materials are covered in the textbook, however, students are strongly encouraged to attend class. Lectures notes will be posted to the class web page. Go to people.uleth.ca/~richard.mueller and follow the links. These are made available to assist you in note taking during class. These are not a substitute for attending lectures. You are responsible for printing these (if required) and bringing them to class. Out of respect for all students in the class, unnecessary disruptions will not be tolerated. Missing lectures is not a valid excuse for inability to answer any exam question.

Laboratories

Laboratories are an important component of the course. Mr. Michael Lanyi is the academic assistant for this course. All questions relating to labs and assignments should be directed towards him. You should be registered in one of Lab 1 or Lab 2. Labs are an informal forum in which to ask for assistance on materials from the textbook, the lectures, and the study guide and to assist you in preparation for the examinations. Mr. Lanyi will also cover a series of practice questions (PQs) in class. All questions relating to labs should be directed to Mr. Lanyi in the labs, during office hours, or via e-mail. Class lectures will not be used for lab questions.

Examinations, Absence Policy, and Grade Determination

There will be three midterms (worth 20 per cent each), and a final exam (worth 40 per cent). All midterms will be held in the classroom, on September 28th, October 19th and November 16th. The final exam will be comprehensive and held during the final examination period on Friday, December 14th from 9:00-11:00. All exams will consist exclusively of multiple-choice questions. If the student performs better on the final exam than on any midterm exam, the lowest midterm grade will be dropped and the final exam will count as 60 per cent of the final grade. You must write all exams for this policy to hold. Absolutely no calculators or electronic foreign language translators are permitted during exams. Printed foreign language dictionaries may be used with the prior approval of the professor.

If a student is absent from any examination, he/she will have the option of writing a make-up exam, or having the remaining exam weights increased accordingly. All make-up exams will consist exclusively of essay questions. Except under extremely unusual circumstances, if an exam is to be missed for any valid reason (and this does happen), you must give notification before the scheduled time of the exam by calling my office. This is then to be followed up with appropriate documentation (e.g., a medical certificate) within 48 hours of the missed exam. Failure to do one or both of these will result in a failing grade on the examination. According to the University calendar, except under extraordinary circumstances, no requests will be entertained for rescheduled exams.

Letter grades will be based on numerical final grades as follows:

| | | | |
|------|-----------|----|-----------|
| A/A+ | 83.4+ | C | 63.4-66.6 |
| A- | 80.0-83.3 | C- | 60.0-63.3 |
| B+ | 76.7-79.9 | D+ | 56.7-59.9 |
| B | 73.4-76.6 | D | 50.0-56.6 |
| B- | 70.0-73.3 | F | <50.0 |
| C+ | 66.7-69.9 | | |

Students who seek a reappraisal of any exam must do so within one week of the exam being returned to the class, otherwise such requests will not be entertained.

Students should keep all graded assignments and exams. In case of disagreement between your recorded mark and the mark on your assignment or exam, the latter will be taken to be correct.

Students are reminded that academic offences are a serious matter and carry severe penalties. It is the responsibility of the student to familiarize him/herself with the various academic offences (see p. 70 of the 2007/08 University of Lethbridge Calendar).