

# INTERMEDIATE MACROECONOMIC THEORY AND POLICY I ECONOMICS 2152A-002

Department of Economics  
Western University

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**Class times and location:** Tue 3:30 – 4:30 PM, UCC 56; Thu 3:30 – 5:30 PM, UCC 56  
**Office Hours:** Tue/Thu 2:30 – 3:30 PM  
**Course website:** <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>  
**Undergraduate inquiries:** 519-661-3507 SSC Room 4075 or [econugrd@uwo.ca](mailto:econugrd@uwo.ca)

## Registration

You are responsible for ensuring you are registered in the correct courses. If you are not registered in a course, the Department will not release any of your marks until your registration is corrected. You may check your timetable by using the Login on the Student Services website at <https://student.uwo.ca>. If you notice a problem, please contact your home Faculty Academic Counsellor immediately.

## Prerequisite Note

The prerequisites for this course are **Economics 1021A/B** and **1022A/B**, or **Economics 2001A/B**, and one of **MCV4U**, **Mathematics 0110A/B**, **Calculus 1000A/B**, **Calculus 1500A/B**, **Mathematics 1225A/B** or the former Calculus 1100A/B.

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have not taken an anti-requisite course. Lack of pre-requisites may not be used as a basis for appeal. If you are found to be ineligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. This decision cannot be appealed.

If you find that you do not have the course prerequisites, it is in your best interest to drop the course well before the end of the add/drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help protect your academic record, but will ensure that spaces become available for students who require the course in question for graduation.

## Course Objective:

This is a course in macroeconomic theory in the intermediate level. It uses a modern approach to macroeconomics by building macroeconomic models from microeconomic principles. As such, it is consistent with the way that macroeconomic research is conducted today. The course is primarily concerned with developing basic workable models used for macroeconomic analysis. The determination of the aggregate output, aggregate consumption and investment, economic growth and business cycles will be discussed. Some policy issues – the real-world applications of our basic models – will be also addressed.

## **Learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will:

- Be able to identify the various phases of the business cycle and explain how key macroeconomic variables behave in these phases.
- Be able to distinguish between the differences and similarities of the three methods of national income accounting and will be able to calculate GDP using these three methods.
- Be able to define and calculate various labour market and price level measurements, while discussing the limitations of these measurements.
- Be able to develop both graphically and numerically the one-period and two-period models which represent the micro foundations of our macro model.
- Be able to critically compare and explain the causes and effects of changes in these models and apply this knowledge to new examples.
- Be able to define and explain the income and substitution effects on the representative consumer's choices.
- Be able to derive algebraically and graphically the labour supply curve.
- Be able to analyze and explain the determinants and their effects on the labour, goods and money markets.
- Be able to distinguish between the sources of growth and solve graphically and algebraically for equilibrium.

## **Textbook(s):\***

Textbook: Williamson, Stephen D., *Macroeconomics*, 5th Canadian Edition, 2013.

## **Evaluation:**

The course grade will be based on two midterm exams and a final exam. All exams will be in multiple choice format. The material for all tests and exams consists of the topic covered in the textbook, and covered in the lectures. The distribution of the marks and tentative date for the exams are:

<b>Midterm 1</b>	(30%) (First week of October)
<b>Midterm 2</b>	(30%) (First week of November)
<b>Final (Cumulative)</b>	(40%) (TBA by registrar's office)

The midterm exams dates are tentative and subject to change.

## **Policy Regarding Missed Exams**

Accommodation for a missed midterm will be granted with approved documentation only.

If you have a conflict with one of the exam dates, it is your responsibility to discuss it with me within

one week of the announcement of the midterm dates and provide documentation of the conflict. If your documentation is approved, you will be allowed to write a make-up exam. Make-up midterms may or may not be the same format as the regularly scheduled midterm.

If you miss an exam due to illness or other unforeseen reason, you must email me **within 24 hours** of the regularly scheduled exam and provide documentation of the reason for missing the exam to your Academic Counsellor. If you miss an exam due to illness, I strongly urge you to visit a doctor on the 3 day of the missed exam to obtain documentation of your illness. If your Academic Counsellor and I agree that your reason for missing the exam is legitimate and supported by your documentation, the weight of the missed midterm will be reallocated to the exam(s) taking place later in the term. Students who miss both midterms may be required to complete an additional assessment.

Students who miss the Final Exam will be required to write a make-up final exam. Students who miss the Final Exam should follow the notification and documentation rules that apply to missed midterms. See above. Additional documentation or notification procedures for missed final exams may be required by your Academic Counsellor. Therefore, please contact your Academic Counsellor as soon as possible regarding a missed Final Exam.

Additional important details on the Department's policy regarding make-up exams are provided on the last page of the syllabus.

### **Course Outline:**

#### 1. Introduction

This section will cover basic definitions and the calculation of national income/output. As well, the major variables and attributes of the business cycle are examined.

Chapters 1, 2, 3

#### 2. Consumer and firm behavior

In this section the representative consumer and the representative firm is introduced. This topic forms the starting point of our model.

Chapter 4

#### 3. One period model of the economy

In this section the government sector is added to the consumer's and the firm's decisions and equilibrium is obtained.

Chapter 5

#### 4. Two period model – consumption and saving

In this section the model extends the consumer to two periods and studies consumption allocation across time.

Chapters 9, 10

#### 5. Two period model -- with investment

Here the individual parts of the model are brought together and the basic model renders a macroeconomic equilibrium.

Chapter 11

## 6. Economic growth

This section deals with the long run growth of the economy.

### Chapter 7

## **Other Course and Classroom Policies**

### Attendance:

Students are expected to attend lectures and tutorials regularly, and will be held responsible for all material and all announcements provided in class. Important announcements, such as times and locations of exams, will also be provided under the Announcements section of the course website (OWL).

### Participation:

I encourage you to participate and ask questions in class. Class discussion is a very useful component of learning, keeps class lively and interesting for all of us, and helps me identify topics that I should go over in more detail (at that time or as we prepare for exams).

### Laptops:

You may use a laptop in class to take notes until the first time you are found to be doing something other than taking notes on it.

### Cell Phones:

Please turn off your cell phones and other communication devices before entering the classroom.

### Video/Photography:

Video recording and photography during class is not permitted, as it may violate the privacy of others in the classroom.

### Emails:

According to FIPPA, I am not allowed to respond to non-UWO email addresses. So please use your UWO email address in all communications. Also, please enter the course number in the subject heading of your email.

**Please Note**  
Department Policies for 2017 – 2018

Remember that the University expects all students to take responsibility for their own academic Programs. Also remember to check your registration to make sure you are enrolled in the correct courses.

1. Guidelines and policies for the Faculty of Social Science and the Department of Economics are posted online in the current Western Academic Calendar at <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca>.
2. Students must familiarize themselves with the “Rules of Conduct for Examinations” <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg136.html>.
3. **Cheating as an academic offence:** Students are responsible for understanding what it means to “cheat”. The Department of Economics treats cheating incidents very seriously and will investigate any suspect behavior. Students found guilty will incur penalties that could include a failing grade or being barred from future registration in other economics courses or programs. The University may impose further penalties such as a notation on your official academic transcript, suspension or expulsion.
4. **Plagiarism:** Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge it by using quotation marks where appropriate and referencing with footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the current UWO Academic Calendar at <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg113.html>).

The University of Western Ontario uses software to check for plagiarism and students may be required to submit their written work in electronic form. Those found guilty will have penalties imposed as noted in point 3.

5. It is Department of Economics policy that **NO** assignments be dated, stamped or accepted by staff. Students are responsible for submitting assignments in class or to the instructor during office hours.
6. When appealing a mark, students should refer to the University’s Procedures in the current UWO Academic Calendar (<http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg112.html>). Please note the relevant deadlines.

The Department will not consider any appeal unless an attempt has been made to settle the matter first with your instructor. If after this discussion you remain dissatisfied with a grade or other decision, you may proceed with a written appeal (e-mails are not acceptable) to the Undergraduate Director in Economics, stating the reasons for your appeal. A useful form and checklist is provided at ([http://economics.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program\\_counselling/responsibilities\\_policies.html#appeals](http://economics.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program_counselling/responsibilities_policies.html#appeals)).

7. Systematic adjustments of a class grade distribution (either up or down) can occur in Economics courses. The fact that grades have been adjusted is **not** grounds for an appeal.
8. Note the following add and drop deadlines:

Last day to **add** a **1<sup>st</sup>** term half course:  
**Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

Last day to **drop** **1<sup>st</sup>** term half course without  
academic penalty:  
**Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

Last day to **add** a **2<sup>nd</sup>** term half course:  
**Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Last day to **drop** **2<sup>nd</sup>** term half course  
without academic penalty:  
**Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

9. Faculty of Social Science policy states that oversleeping or misreading an exam schedule is not an excuse for a make-up. This rule applies to all mid-term tests and final exams in the Department of Economics.

### **Policy Regarding Makeup Tests and Final Examinations**

*Academic accommodation will **not** be granted automatically on request. You **must** demonstrate by documentation that there are **compelling** medical or compassionate grounds before academic accommodation will be considered.*

If you decide to write a test or an examination, you must be prepared to accept the mark you earn. Rewriting tests or examinations, or having the value of the test or examination reweighted on a retroactive basis, is **not** permitted. Book airline flights after you know the dates of your final examinations. Airline flights must not conflict with test or final exams.

If you are requesting a makeup test for a midterm or a final examination, unless medically incapable, notify your instructor by email or phone, preferably prior to the scheduled date of the test, but definitely within **24 hours** of the date of the test or exam. Failure to follow this procedure may result in denial of a request for academic accommodation or result in a grade of zero. Set up an appointment as soon as possible to meet personally with your instructor. If the instructor is not available, you may send an email message, copying the Undergraduate Coordinator at [econugrd@uwo.ca](mailto:econugrd@uwo.ca) (Social Science Room 4075). **Notifying your instructor of a missed test or exam does not automatically entitle you to a makeup test.**

Students who seek a makeup test or examination must provide medical or other relevant verification that their absence from a regularly scheduled test or examination is beyond their control. Documentation must support your reasons. Medical documentation should be given to the Academic Counselling Office of your *home* Faculty **as soon as possible (preferably within 24 hours of the test)** if you know you may not be able to write your final examination on the scheduled day and time. Failure to follow this procedure, or to provide supporting documentation, may result in denial of a request for academic accommodation or result in a grade of zero. If your documentation is not acceptable, you will be given a zero for the missed test.

For personal illness, if you consult Student Health Services regarding your illness or personal problem, you should request a Student Medical Certificate from the physician. If you were seen by an off-campus doctor, obtain a certificate from his/her office at the time of your visit. The off-campus medical certificate form must be used and can be found at: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf). Notes stating "For Medical Reasons" are not considered sufficient.

For any other circumstances, if you are not sure what documentation to provide, ask your Academic Counsellor. If your documentation is judged sufficient, the Academic Counsellor will issue a Recommendation for a Special Examination (a single form for midterms or a triple color form for final examinations). Once you have this form, contact your instructor as soon as possible to make arrangements. Even if approved from your home faculty Academic Counsellor, there is no guarantee that you will be allowed to write the makeup test and exam.

For final examinations, you need permission from your *home* Faculty Counsellor, your instructor, and the Department Undergraduate Director. Failure to follow this procedure may result in an examination grade of zero. You must ensure that the Special Examination form has been signed by the instructor and Department Undergraduate Director and that the form is returned to the Academic Counselling Office for approval without delay. Make-up final examinations, if permitted, will be written within one month of the end of the exam period.

### **Policies Regarding Academic Accommodation**

Information about the Faculty of Social Science's policies regarding academic accommodation is found on its website at <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/havingproblems.asp> or in Social Science Room 2105. Your "Academic Rights and Responsibilities" are also outlined in the current UWO Calendar at <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg111.html>. Claiming that "you didn't know what to do" is not an acceptable excuse for not following the stated procedures.

### **Policy Regarding Class Attendance**

If your instructor views your class attendance as unsatisfactory, you can be prohibited from writing the final examination. If there is intent to make use of this University policy, you will be notified in writing.

### **Statement on Mental Health and Support Services**

If you or someone you know is experiencing emotional/mental distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for more information and a complete list of resources, as well as how to obtain help.