

Intermediate Macroeconomics I

ECON 202:21, Winter 2021

Mondays 2:15-3:30pm and Thursdays 3:45-5pm, SCHW156

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Class Webpage (Moodle): [Moodle.stfx.ca](https://moodle.stfx.ca)

Office hours (Collaborate)

Mondays	12:45-1:45pm; 3:45-4:45pm
Tuesdays	11:15am-12:15pm
Thursdays	9:45-11:45am; 2:15-3:15pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is the first of two half-courses on intermediate macroeconomics. The main objective of the course is to introduce students to the language and analytical framework used by economists to analyze economic events. The course will cover Keynesian and classical models explaining what determines national income, unemployment and prices. Then, attention will turn towards exchange rates and the macroeconomic effects of trade wars. Finally, we will discuss business cycles and the role of policymakers in stabilizing the economy.

OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

- (1) To introduce students to basic macroeconomic models that can help them understand current macroeconomic issues.
- (2) To understand how time horizons can affect macroeconomic outcomes and policy decisions.
- (3) To prepare students for further study of macroeconomics at an advanced level.

PREREQUISITES ECON 101 and 102

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

- **Lecture notes:** I will post lecture notes on a weekly basis on Moodle. Please print them and bring them to class.
- **iClicker:**
I will be using the i>clicker student response system in class this semester. i>clicker helps me set the pace of lectures and gives everyone a chance to participate in class. You will need to

use **the application "REEF Polling" on your smartphone, tablet or laptop, and pay the subscription fee (\$20)**. A summary of what you need to know about i>clicker is posted on Moodle (see "iClicker Reef instruction"). You will need to have your device set up and bring it to class with you each day starting **January 25**.

RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS

- **Textbook**

"Macroeconomics: Canadian edition" by Mankiw and Scarth, Macmillan

Note that Econ 302 uses the same textbook. I will follow the sixth edition of the textbook, but you can also use the fourth or fifth edition. However, in this case, it's your responsibility to check that the order of chapters/topics is the same. There are several options available: you can rent the e-book or the hardcover for 4 months from the [Macmillan website](#), or purchase the print edition from the Macmillan website/ university bookstore, or buy a used copy from the bookstore/other sellers.

FINAL GRADES

	WEIGHT
Assignments (best 3 out of 4)	10%
Midterm	35%
Final exam	50%
iClicker score	5%

- **Assignments:** Deadlines will be posted on Moodle. Assignments will become available on Moodle 7-10 days before the deadline. The best 3 assignments will count towards your final grade. Since solutions become available immediately after the deadline, deadline extensions cannot be provided even if you experience technical problems. If you encounter technical problems related to Moodle, please come to my office hours before the deadline and I will help you solve the problem.
- **Midterm test** in class on **February 25th**.
In the event of a winter closure on a midterm exam day, the exam will be moved to the NEXT scheduled lecture. Students should be prepared for this eventuality. Should you miss the midterm exam due to a serious and unpredictable circumstance, you can either write a make-up exam or transfer the weight of the midterm exam to the final exam. Please note that requests to alter the midterm date for travel plans will not be accommodated.

- **Cumulative final exam:** The examination schedule will be available within 4 weeks after the beginning of classes each term. If you are unable to attend the final exam due to illness or due to a serious unexpected circumstance you must notify the appropriate Dean (i.e. Dean of Business if you are enrolled in a Business program, Dean of Arts if you are enrolled in an Arts program, etc.).
- **iClicker:** During lectures, there will be questions to answer with your i>clicker remote or device (smartphone, tablet or laptop). You must register your device/remote to get credit, see the instructions posted on Moodle or talk to me. It is your responsibility to bring your clicker or your device to the classroom. If you forget your clicker, or you are late and miss a clicker question, or you miss the entire class, you miss those points for the day regardless of the excuse. To calculate your final grade, I will drop your three lowest clicker scores (that is, three lectures). Thus, you can miss three clicker sessions without penalty.

OTHER POLICIES:

- **Classroom conduct:**

I need your cooperation to ensure orderly conduct of lectures.

- Please arrive on time. If you have to leave early on a particular day for a valid reason, please let me know in advance and try to find a seat near the aisle to minimize class disruption. You may not come and go as you please.
- Discussions among students are very disruptive. If you have a question, please share it with all of us.

- **Taking pictures or videos during lectures is not allowed.** Please note that the materials in this course are the property of the instructor. Online posting or selling this material to third parties for distribution without permission is subject to Canadian Copyright law and is strictly prohibited.

- **Accommodations through the center for accessible learning:**

Students who would like to request accommodations are asked to contact the Tramble Centre for Accessible Learning:

Phone 902.867.5349

Email: tramble@stfx.ca

<http://www2.mystfx.ca/accessible-learning/>

The Tramble Center welcomes students with documented permanent disabilities and offers them a student-centered program of support. Located in Room 108 of the Angus L MacDonald Library, new and returning students meet with program staff to discuss options for support.

Deadline for registering with the Center is two weeks prior to the end of classes each semester and 3 business days' notice is required for booking all accommodated tests and exams. To book an appointment please use the following link: <https://stfxcal.mywconline.com/>

- **Equitable learning:**

Everyone learns more effectively in a respectful, safe and equitable learning environment, free from discrimination and harassment. I invite you to work with me to create a classroom space – both real and virtual – that fosters and promotes values of human dignity, equity, non-discrimination and respect for diversity.

- **Academic Integrity Policy:** <http://www2.mystfx.ca/registrars-office/academic-integrity>

Please note that simply having an unauthorized device (cell phone or smart watch for example) with you during an exam (even if not used during the exam) is a violation of the academic integrity policy.

- **Important dates:**

March 19th is the last day to drop the course. If you decide to drop the course, you must do so online through Banner. Permission to drop or change a course after the deadline can only be granted by the Dean's office.

Following the Academic Calendar, no classes will be held on **February 15th-16th and April 1st**.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Ch. 2 The Data of Macroeconomics

Ch. 3 National Income

Ch. 6 The Open Economy (if time permits)

Ch. 4-5 Money and Inflation

Ch. 7 Unemployment

Ch. 10 Introduction to Economic Fluctuations

Ch. 11 Aggregate Demand I: Building the IS-LM Model

Ch. 12 Aggregate Demand II: Applying the IS-LM Model