

# ECO102H1S (LEC0101 & LEC5101)

## Principles of Macroeconomics

### 2022 Summer

Michael Ho (michaelhc.ho@utoronto.ca)

Office Hours: 30 Minutes before class in SS 2102

Course website: <https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/263110>

Sections	Lectures & Tutorials on Monday & Wednesday in SS 2102
LEC0101	Lecture 3 – 5 pm & Tutorial 5 – 6 pm
LEC5101	Lecture 6 – 8 pm & Tutorial 8 – 9 pm

\*TA Office Hours: TBA

#### Course Overview:

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This course (ECO102) covers macroeconomics, which looks at a nation's economy-wide phenomena such as the total size of an economy, unemployment in action and the interaction between national economies. The emphasis of this course is on developing the ability to use economics to ask and answer questions. Using your knowledge to solve problems and the ability to ask and answer questions in new situations is valuable both in life and in the workforce. Employers may not ask you to solve problems you've seen before.

#### Learning Objectives:

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If you successfully complete this course, you will be able to:

- Provide guidance as you continue down the path towards thinking like an economist.
- Introduce you to and help you understand some of the canonical models of modern macroeconomics. (This also entails understanding the limits of these models.)
- Assist you in gaining sufficient proficiency with these models so that you can apply them to novel situations and appreciate their implications vis-a-vis individual decision making and current public policy issues.
- Critically analyze economic arguments, focusing on the link between assumptions and predictions.
- Apply course concepts to a real-world situation. We want you to be able to use your education to problem solve and ask/answer questions in new situations.

Memorization will not help you develop these important job skills and it is the easiest way to do badly in this course. Skill development requires regular, deliberate practice. I've structured the course to give you plenty of practice opportunities.

Learning takes place best in an inclusive, welcoming, safe environment. I hope you will all join me in creating such a space this semester. When communicating or participating in discussions, remember that there are real people with feelings on the receiving end. Be kind and treat people the way you would like to be treated.

### **Recommended Preparation & Exclusions:**

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Recommended Preparation: MCV4U (Calculus & Vectors) and MHF4U (Advanced Functions), or equivalent secondary school mathematics credits.

### **Course Materials:**

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Required: Macroeconomics (Fourth Canadian Edition) by P. Krugman, R. Wells, I. Au, and J. Parkinson. Worth (2021).

Optional: Piazza. Free and accessed through Quercus.

### **Evaluation and Grading:**

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Quercus Quizzes (15%) – There are weekly timed, machine marked quizzes. The purpose is to keep you on track and give you regular practice opportunities with feedback. You should study the week's material well before attempting each quiz. Due dates are on the quiz. You will have a 24-hour window of time (Thursday 9 pm to Friday 9 pm) within which you will need to complete them. Once you start a quiz, you must complete it in one sitting, before the timer runs out. There are 6 quizzes distributed over the course, of which, the best 4 will be used to calculate your course grade.

Tutorial Assessments (7%) – This will be completed during tutorials. You will be working on the assigned question(s). As a group, you will discuss the question, and come up with an answer. After discussion, a group will submit an answer to the question. This is to encourage you collaborating with peers, getting involved in discussions, and actively participate in tutorials. These assessments are paper-base and not necessarily scheduled in every tutorial. Hence, you must attend tutorials in order to participate. Two lowest scores will be dropped when calculating your course grade.

Details on the Mid-term (30% on July 22 Friday at 9 am) and Final Exam (38% with date and time to be announced by the Registrar Office of the Faculty of Arts & Science in early August), including format and coverage will be posted on Quercus. The numerical grades in this course have and will correspond to Faculty of Arts & Science interpretation of scores. Historically, median student performance and thus marks have been in the C+ range. *We do not offer extra credit assignments for individual students.* This is a required class and all students have the same opportunities to earn grades. Request to petition assessment results (except Final Exam) must be submitted in writing with specificity.

Writing Assignment (10% on August 12) – You will be asked to submit a written assignment, with a topic that is distributed later. This writing assignment serves two purposes. First, to give you practice that helps you build the skills you need for producing a good written work. Second, to apply the concepts learned in this course to examine current events and real-life issues. Your Writing Assignment must be submitted to both Crowdmark and Quercus by August 12, 2022 (Friday) at 11:59 pm. The submission links will be posted on Quercus. Late submissions will result in a 5-mark deduction per day from then on, until Sunday, August 14, 2022 at 11:59 pm. Late submissions beyond that will receive a zero. No exceptions apply. You are required to submit your work to the university's plagiarism detection tool. The University's policy on this is: "Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to the University's plagiarism detection tool for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the tool's reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of this tool are described on the Centre for Teaching Support & Innovation web site <https://teaching.utoronto.ca/resources/plagiarism-detection/>."

## **Policy on Missed Assessments:**

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Missed Weekly Work – To accommodate any variation across weeks during the semester, for reasons like illness, technology/internet or personal problems, internet issues, religious or extracurricular conflicts, accidental submissions, or other reasons, we will use the best 4 of 6 scores of Quercus Quizzes, and drop the lowest 2 scores in Tutorial Assessments to calculate your course grade. No other accommodations for missed work will be provided. As this is a six-week course, deadline extensions will only create additional work in the following week which is counterproductive when you are already struggling to keep up. We do not accept any late submissions or provide deadline extensions for weekly work for any reason.

Missed Mid-term & Final Exam – This test is important not only because it is an assessment of your knowledge, but also because it serves as feedback for you on your grasp of course knowledge. Any missed test automatically gets a grade of zero. If you miss a test, you need to (1) submit a request to take a make-up via the MS forms on Quercus and (2) provide a copy of your absence declaration form (<https://www.acorn.utoronto.ca/>). We do not need a doctor's note or other documentation. There is a make-up test held on July 29 (Friday). As per university policy, there is no make-up for the make-up test. You will get zero if you miss the make-up. You will get your grades for the make-up test after the drop deadline. The format may be different from the missed test and could include an oral test component. Final Exam is administered by the Faculty of Arts & Science Registrar Office, see [http://calendar.artsci.utoronto.ca/Rules\\_&\\_Regulations.html](http://calendar.artsci.utoronto.ca/Rules_&_Regulations.html) if you missed it.

If a health, personal or family situation necessitates missing multiple assessments (e.g., lasts longer than 5 days), I strongly encourage you to discuss your situation with an academic advisor at your College Registrar's Office. Exceptions to the missed-assessment policy have only resulted from instructor consultation with a student's advisor.

## **Communications:**

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These two sections have more than 220 students. Although I would like to correspond with each of you individually, that can get out of hand quite quickly. To make this process efficient, please follow the guidelines below, which will allow all your questions to be answered in a timely fashion and leaves me with enough time to work on making the course better.

Piazza – This is an online discussion board. If you have questions on course material or of general interest, check here to see if it has been answered and if not, ask it here. This way all students can benefit from the answer. If you know the answer to someone else's questions, please respond. Piazza can help you all learn together. The TAs and I will monitor it for appropriate behaviour and administration questions, but it is primarily for student-to-student interaction like an online study group and not a substitute for our office hours. If you want a personal answer to your question from us, show up during office hours.

Prof. Ho's email – [michaelhc.ho@utoronto.ca](mailto:michaelhc.ho@utoronto.ca). According to University email protocol, I will only respond to messages sent from your UofT email or via Quercus as any other email addresses (e.g., gmail or hotmail, etc.) will be ignored. You must include ECO102 in the subject line and your student number at the end of every email. It helps me find correspondence with you efficiently. If I can answer your email briefly, I will try to respond within 3 business days. Students typically will not get response if the answers to their questions are already in the Course Outline or announcements on Quercus. Questions in any email should not require more than two sentences to answer. For any question that involves more than two sentences to answer, or requires equation or graph, should be discussed in person during office hours. Students should not take email as a means to receive private tutorials or review material that was covered in lecture or tutorial that they missed.

## **Academic Integrity:**

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Academic Integrity is central to an UofT education. We will do our best to maintain the integrity of the learning experience. Sometimes you may feel like taking shortcuts because you don't understand the material, are stressed or overworked, don't have time, not doing well, etc. Please don't do it. Come see us during Office Hours instead, or go your registrar. We report all suspected cases of academic dishonesty to the Department of Economics and Student Academic Integrity (Faculty of Arts & Science). The consequences can be very severe. It is simply not worth it.

- Do your own work. We design course work to develop and assess skills useful in upper-level courses and the job market. You lose a valuable opportunity to develop these skills and lower the value of the UofT brand when you cheat.
- Properly acknowledge other people's ideas. You'd want the same for your ideas.
- Unless explicitly told otherwise, assume that all work is individual work. Ask if you're unsure. Unless explicitly allowed, you CANNOT discuss ANY graded work with ANYONE before the deadline—this includes classmates, students in other sections, friends, family, tutors (paid or unpaid), neighbours, literally anyone.

For assessments with a longer submission window (e.g., Weekly Quizzes) you are not allowed to discuss/share details of the assessment with ANYONE while the submission window is open. Checking websites for answers, posting your work for others to use, collaborating, soliciting/receiving answers, stating false or misleading information related to assessments, etc., are examples of actions violate Academic Integrity. Unintentional mistakes or confusion is not a defence.

- Report any suspected violations by other students to the professor immediately. Students who cheat, hurt others who work hard and honestly. Maintaining the Academic Integrity of the course is a shared responsibility; do your part.
- Read the University of Toronto's Code of Behavior on Academic Matters. This is especially important if you're new to the UofT. See: <http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/osai>.

## **Accommodations:**

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Accessibility Accommodations – If you require accommodations, please register with Accessibility Services (AS). If you need testing accommodations (e.g., extra time on a timed quiz) please register with ATS (formerly TES) and they will send us the testing accommodations directly. Contact your accessibility advisor if you have any questions about how to do this. Every student is different and we are not experts. We rely on AS and ATS to determine what is appropriate for you and then we work hard to ensure your needs are met.

Religious Accommodations – The University of Toronto arranges reasonable accommodation of the needs of students who observe religious holy days other than those already accommodated by ordinary scheduling and statutory holidays. You have a responsibility to alert us in a timely fashion to upcoming religious observances and anticipated absences. We will make every reasonable effort to avoid scheduling compulsory activities at these times.

## **Privacy and Copyrights:**

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We expect you to respect university privacy and copyright restrictions in this course. Course materials belong to your instructor, the University, and/or other sources depending on the specific facts of each situation, and are protected by copyright. You DO NOT have permission to share any course material. You may not record lectures, tutorials and office hours. Disability accommodation requires permission.

## **Need Help:**

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While it may feel like you're the only one struggling, it is not true. Trust me. Instead of trying to figure out things yourself, reach out right away. Help is available. Don't wait till things get to a crisis point.

Office hours – If you're struggling with the material, we (me and our TAs) can help. As you work through the course material, you should have questions (if not, you're not working through the material carefully enough). Write them all down. You can post them on Piazza or if you want an in-person answer bring them to office hours. You're welcome to show up even if you don't have questions. You can learn from the questions asked, make connections with your classmates or just say hello. The best part of teaching is getting to know you better and with large classes, office hours is a good way of making individual connections (if you need reference letter later on). Please check Quercus for the latest schedule.

Your Registrar – For issues that last more than a few days or affect your performance across many courses, your registrar can help. They can also advise you on course selections, university regulations and connect you with university resources in case you are having trouble. They are important partners in ECO102 and we rely on their expertise a lot. We strongly recommend you get to know your advisor.

Other help – Mental Health Resources at the UofT. Please don't wait until you are in a crisis. Transitioning to university is difficult and sometimes we all need a little help. Please reach out and talk to someone. The MySSP app is linked in Quercus as well (left-hand tab).

A common thing I hear from students is that they are spending a lot of time on the material, but it is not translating into higher grades. In most cases, it is because they are using ineffective study habits or bad time management. I strongly urge you to reach out to learning strategists in the Academic Success Center (or in the Rotman Commerce Office) at the start of the semester. They can help you make the time you spend on ECO102 more productive.

## **Important:**

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This course is constructed around the textbook (Fourth Canadian Edition) and the responsibility of the instructor is to specify the best source of information for the students to prepare for this course. This is a demanding course and there is a considerable amount of preliminary reading that should be done before each lecture and tutorial. It would be difficult to do well if one falls behind in covering the required reading materials. Hence, students are expected to (i) read the relevant chapter(s) in the textbook before each lecture in order to follow the lecture discussion; and (ii) attend every lecture and tutorial because a significant portion of Mid-term and Final Exam will be comprised of lecture and tutorial discussion.

A simple rule-of-thumb for an undergraduate course is that students are expected to use an average of 10 hours each week on reading, attending lectures and tutorials, and studying during a 12-week semester. Since this course is delivered in only 6 weeks, you are expected to use 20 hours each week. If you are not willing or unable to devote this much time on a weekly basis, then you should not expect to do well. Successful outcomes always require students to “do the right thing, at the right time, in the right place, and with the right people” consistently and persistently. Remember, *grades are assigned based on performance rather than what students need or wish to get.*

**Topics (Tentative – Subject to Change Due to Actual Progress and Reasons Beyond Our Control):**

Important Dates	Topic(s)	Assessments
Lecture #1 July 4 (Monday)	GDP & Unemployment (Chapters 6, 7, & 8)	
Lecture #2 July 6 (Wednesday)	CPI & Inflation (Chapters 7 & 8)	Tutorial
<b>Quercus Quiz #1 Due July 8 (9 pm)</b>	<b>Lectures #1 &amp; #2</b>	<b>Quercus Quiz</b>
Lecture #3 July 11 (Monday)	Long-run Economic Growth (Chapter 9)	Tutorial
Lecture #4 July 13 (Wednesday)	Savings & Investment (Chapter 10)	Tutorial
<b>Quercus Quiz #2 Due July 15 (9 pm)</b>	<b>Lectures #3 &amp; #4</b>	<b>Quercus Quiz</b>
Lecture #5 July 18 (Monday)	Income & Expenditure (Chapter 11 & Appendix, & Chapter 13 Appendix)	Tutorial
<b>Quercus Quiz #3 Due July 20 (9 pm)</b>	<b>Lecture #5</b>	<b>Quercus Quiz</b>
Lecture #6 July 20 (Wednesday)	Aggregate Demand & Aggregate Supply (Chapter 12)	Tutorial
<b>Mid-term July 22 at 9 am (Friday)</b>	<b>Lectures #1 to #5</b>	<b>Mid-term Exam (30%)</b>
Lecture #7 July 25 (Wednesday)	Fiscal Policy (Chapter 13)	Tutorial
Lecture #8 July 27 (Monday)	Money & Banking (Chapter 14)	Tutorial
<b>Quercus Quiz #4 Due July 29 (9 pm)</b>	<b>Lectures #6 &amp; #7</b>	<b>Quercus Quiz</b>
Lecture #9 August 3 (Wednesday)	Monetary Policy (Chapter 15)	Tutorial
<b>Quercus Quiz #5 Due August 5 (9 pm)</b>	<b>Lectures #8 &amp; #9</b>	<b>Quercus Quiz</b>
Lecture #10 August 8 (Monday)	Inflation, Disinflation, Deflation (Chapter 16)	Tutorial
Lecture #11 August 10 (Wednesday)	Exchange Rate (Chapter 18)	Tutorial
<b>Quercus Quiz #6 Due August 12 (9 pm)</b>	<b>Lectures #10 &amp; #11</b>	<b>Quercus Quiz</b>
<b>Writing Assignment August 12 (11:59 pm)</b>	<b>To be Determined</b>	<b>Writing Assignment (10%)</b>
Lecture #12 August 15 (Monday)	Crisis Economics: Covid & Recovery	Tutorial
<b>Final Exam Between August 17 &amp; 25</b>	<b>Lectures #1 to #12</b>	<b>Final Exam (38%)</b>