



# ECO 102

## Principles of Macroeconomics

### Instructor Info —



Jordi Mondria



Office Hours: TBD



TBD



<https://q.utoronto.ca/>



eco102@utoronto.ca

### Course Info —



Mondays



L0201 from 1-3pm



L0301 from 3-5pm



OI G162

### Overview

Macroeconomics is the study of how the economy works as a whole, focusing on key indicators such as national income, unemployment, and inflation. In this course, you will explore two main areas of macroeconomics. First, we will examine long-term growth, addressing questions about why some countries are richer than others and what drives economic growth. Next, we will study short-term economic fluctuations, including recessions and recoveries, to understand the business cycle. You will learn to measure key economic indicators, analyze government policies, and explore issues like exchange rates and international trade. This foundation will help you apply macroeconomic concepts to real-world issues, current events, and policy debates.

### Expectations

You are expected to watch videos before class, attend lectures and tutorials, participate in discussions, complete the readings, and submit homework and assessments by their due dates. You will have an opportunity to ask questions during office hours with the professor or in tutorials with the TAs.

### Course Delivery

This course will be taught fully in person at the St. George campus. We will meet weekly for a two-hour lecture and a one-hour tutorial. Section L0201 meets Mondays from 1-3pm in OI G162, and section L0301 meets Mondays from 3-5pm in OI G162. Tutorials are spread throughout the week – please see the information posted to Quercus regarding tutorial times and locations.

During lectures I will present core course material from the textbook and other sources, as well as work through practice problems with you. Lectures will be recorded and posted online to Quercus to help you review while studying. All exams will be in person, while other forms of assessment will be delivered online through Quercus and/or Crowdmark.

TAs will lead tutorials by reviewing lecture material, solving new practice problems step-by-step, and answering any questions you may have. Students who actively participate in tutorials tend to perform significantly better than students who do not.

### Grading Scheme

10%	Homework Assignments
40%	Midterm
50%	Final Exam

### Important Dates

There will be two midterm exams during the semester, each worth 20%, and one final exam worth 50% during the final exam period. Midterm 1 will be held on January 31st from 4-6pm. Midterm 2 will be held on March 13th from 4-6pm. Please see Quercus for details on which room you should attend. The final exam will be cumulative and thus longer than the midterm exams. All exams will be closed book.

## Course Materials

### Required Textbook

Kevin Milligan; Philip Oreopoulos; Betsey Stevenson; Justin Wolfers, "Principles of Macroeconomics", 2023, 1st Canadian edition. The text is available through the U of T bookstore in both physical and digital form. We will be using the book extensively so ensure you have access to a copy. You can purchase the digital form (with Achieve) from the UofT bookstore here:

<https://www.uoftbookstore.com/adoption-search-results?ccid=5903419&itemid=399687>

Purchasing the digital textbook or certain versions of the physical textbook will provide access to Achieve, which is an online learning platform with additional practice problems and guided exercises. These optional problems are easier than what you will see on tests, but they are a useful source of extra practice.

### Required Readings

Any required article posted on Quercus under Required Readings.

## Office Hours

I will hold in-person office hours on Monday morning, room and time TBD. You are welcome to stop by even if you do not have questions. You can learn from your classmates' questions, get to know other students and find study group partners. If no student is present in the first 15 minutes of office hours, then I will leave the session. The TAs will hold in-person and virtual office hours on a rotating schedule. Please see the schedule posted to Quercus for exact times, dates, locations and Zoom links.

## Communication

I will use Quercus to post all course communication and content. I will send all email communication to your UofT email linked to Quercus. Make sure your notification settings allow announcements to be forwarded to your email. You are responsible for reading all announcements. All course material will be posted to Quercus.

All questions regarding course logistics should be directed to the course email account: [eco102@utoronto.ca](mailto:eco102@utoronto.ca). This inbox will be monitored by Economics department staff who can answer any queries regarding scheduling, assignment due dates, accommodations, etc. If they are unable to help you they will forward your request directly to me. Please do not send direct emails to the professor or the TAs.

Questions relating to course content are best answered during class, tutorials, or in office hours. We will use Piazza for online discussion about course material. If you have a content related question, use topic discussion boards to ask them first. Piazza allows you to post questions (anonymously if you prefer). Many students have similar questions. Discussion boards allow you to ask and answer questions on course material and discuss economics. They are a platform for you to engage with your classmates, practice skills, test your knowledge, and learn with your classmates. I will monitor it, but it is primarily for student-to-student interaction like an online study group and not a substitute for our office hours. You can access Piazza through a link in the sidebar on Quercus.

## Homework

Each week, I will post a homework assignment on Quercus due on Sunday at 11:59pm. Homework assignments will be graded for participation only. If you make an honest attempt to answer all questions, you will receive full credit. However, no credit will be given if: a) you fail to submit the homework on time, or b) you do not make a genuine effort to solve the questions.

There will be 11 homework assignments in total, each worth 1% of your overall grade. Your lowest score will be automatically dropped, so forgetting one homework won't affect your grade. Submitting all 11 assignments will not earn extra points, and no extensions will be granted. Late submissions will receive zero credit.

These homework assignments serve two key purposes: first, they encourage you to engage with course material outside of class, making it easier to retain knowledge and prepare for exams. Second, they offer a low-pressure way to practice and identify gaps in your understanding. Focus on learning rather than perfection—honest effort is all that's required to earn full marks.

## Time Zone

All times posted will be in local Toronto time. If you are in a different time zone, please make sure you are aware of Toronto time in relation to your timezone. Errors in calculations are not an acceptable reason to miss deadlines.

## Missing Midterms Due to Unforeseeable Events

Under normal circumstances, the failure to take a midterm during the designated time will result in a zero for that exam. On rare occasions we will grant special accommodations due to illness, injury, legal issues, personal/family problems, extracurricular conflicts, religious practices, accessibility concerns, or other unusual and serious situations. Missing a midterm due to, for example, sleeping through your alarm or working late at a job will not receive special accommodations. In order to be considered for a potential make-up exam you must alert me as soon as you know you will be unable to attend class. In most cases this must be before the exam. I will only consider granting a make-up exam for students who contact me after missing an exam if their situation would reasonably prevent them from contacting me sooner.

To request a make-up test for an excused absence, please complete these steps:

1. Obtain one of the following pieces of documentation to verify your absence:
  - (a) Absence Declaration ACORN. Please send the verification email to the course inbox: [eco102@utoronto.ca](mailto:eco102@utoronto.ca)
  - (b) U of T Verification of Illness or Injury Form (VOI)
  - (c) College Registrar's letter
  - (d) Letter of Academic Accommodation from Accessibility Services
2. Complete the Missed Term Test form on Quercus and attach your documentation from the previous step. The date at which this is submitted will be used when considering your request. When explaining your absence, you may provide as much detail as you feel comfortable, but you are not required to reveal anything personal. If your absence involves a deeply private issue, please seek guidance from your College Registrar first about how to communicate with me.
3. One week after submitting the Missed Term Test form you will receive an email from me that will either: approve your request for a make-up exam; ask for more information; or deny your request. If you feel you I have not treated your request fairly you may contact your College Registrar to mediate.

The above steps must be followed to receive consideration. Additionally, you are welcome to contact me via email or in office hours to further discuss your absence, but this is not required. You should also review the Arts and Sciences specific policy details here: <https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/academics/student-absences>

Please be aware that the Absence Declaration form can only be used once per academic term for up to seven consecutive days. If other subsequent issues arise, then you will need to provide other forms of recognized documentation (e.g., Verification of Illness Form, College Registrar's Letter, or a Letter of Academic Accommodation from Accessibility Services).

There will be one make-up midterm exam scheduled for March 21st. This exam will cover material from both midterms 1 and 2. There will be no other make-up exams scheduled, and no transferring of weights to the final exam. If you miss two midterms throughout the year you will only be able to make-up one. If you anticipate that may happen please contact your College Registrar as soon as possible to discuss your academic plans. Missing the final exam will require a petition to the Faculty of Arts & Sciences. If you are facing significant difficulties in attending class or completing assignments that continue for longer than a week you should contact your College Registrar immediately for assistance.

## Regrade Requests for Midterms

Regrade requests must be submitted online through the MS Form provided on Quercus. The form will be posted one week after the exam has been returned. You have one week once the form is posted to submit a regrade request. After this time we will not honour any regrade requests. On the form you must identify the specific question(s) you believe you deserve more marks for and explain in detail why you deserve more marks. Requests with no explanation or insufficient detail will be denied.

## Technology Requirements

This course requires the use of internet and computers, and of course, sometimes things can go wrong when using them. You are responsible for ensuring that you maintain regular backup copies of your files, use antivirus software (if using your own computer), and schedule enough time when completing an assessment to allow for delays due to technical difficulties. Computer viruses, crashed hard drives, broken printers, lost or corrupted files, incompatible file formats, faulty internet, and similar mishaps are common issues when using technology, and are not acceptable grounds for a deadline extension.

## Diversity and Inclusivity Statement

I consider this classroom to be a place where you will be treated with respect, and I welcome individuals of all ages, backgrounds, beliefs, ethnicities, genders, gender identities, gender expressions, national origins, religious affiliations, sexual orientations, ability - and other visible and non-visible differences. All members of this class are expected to contribute to a respectful, welcoming and inclusive environment for every other member of the class. When sending any communication 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.

Additionally, the university provides a variety of support services for students:

- For course catalog questions including prerequisites, please contact the Department of Economics undergraduate administrator.
- If you require accommodations for a disability or health concern please visit the Accessibility Services Office. You can register your needs with Accessibility Services. For resources to promote your academic success, visit the Academic Success Centre.
- The university provides all students with free 24-hour access to the U of T Telus Health Student Support line. You can confidentially speak with a counsellor about any mental health or life issues affecting you, or set-up an appointment for ongoing support. This is a fantastic resource; I suggest using it early, before the stress of the semester piles up, so that you will be more confident to face future challenges.
- For long-term issues that are impacting your academics, contact your College Registrar.

## Crowdmark

This course will use Crowdmark, a collaborative online grading tool for marking and providing feedback on graded term assessments. Crowdmark provides efficiencies with grading, data recording, returning term assessments and handling regrade requests. Copies of student work marked in Crowdmark, including grading and feedback, will be available online to students for at least one year. Digital (i.e., online) copies will serve as the authoritative record for course administrative purposes, and paper copies of assessments scanned and uploaded to Crowdmark will be destroyed after the term has ended and final grades are approved. If you have questions about how your information is stored on Crowdmark, please contact the course inbox.

## Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/ppjun011995.pdf>) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If students have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, they are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from their instructors or from other institutional resources.

## Notice of Lecture Recording

This course, including your participation, will be recorded on video and will be available to students in the course for viewing remotely and after each session. Course videos and materials belong to myself, the University, and/or other sources depending on the specific facts of each situation and are protected by copyright. Do not download, copy, or share any course or student materials or videos without my explicit permission. For questions about the recording and use of videos in which you appear, please contact me via email.

## Acknowledgements

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