



University
of Victoria

Economics

ECON 100 A01

The Canadian Economy – Problems and Policies

Winter Session: 202601 – Second Term, Spring 2026

CRN 20986

Unit Value: 1.5

Contact hours: 3 per week

Schedule: T/W/F 1:30–2:20

UVic Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge and respect the Ləkʷəŋən (Songhees and Xʷsepsəm/Esquimalt) Peoples on whose territory the university stands, and the Ləkʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ Peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

Instructor: Dr Graham Voss

Office: BEC 370

Email: gvoss@uvic.ca

Office Hours: M/W 3:00-4:00

Teaching and assessment modality statement

This course is face to face and all exams are held in person.

Course Content

Calendar entry and pre-requisites

A discussion of some of the important issues in economic decision making in both private and public sectors of the Canadian economy with an introduction to the basic concepts of economic analysis.

Pre-requisites: none

Course Description

This is not an economic principles course. An economic principles course emphasizes general principles and then develops them within the context of examples. In contrast, our course starts with understanding what the Canadian economy is, the key actors involved, and the important institutions; or, as per the calendar entry, the private and public sectors of the Canadian economy and how they interact. We then build on this understanding to consider various problems facing the Canadian economy today and examine the policies in place or that might be needed.

Along the way, we will draw on the principles of economics as we need them. We will also draw on the vast amount of socio-economic and environmental data that is available and used to examine economic problems and policies in Canada.

This is a course about Canada and the Canadian economy. Of course, the Canadian economy does not exist in isolation, so we will also be examining Canada's role in the global economy.

Textbook

There is no required textbook to purchase for this course. Material for the course will draw on various texts, articles, and public policy documents. The readings will be identified as we proceed and will be available through Brightspace.

Brightspace

Brightspace is used extensively for the course. All students are expected to be fully functional with the system. All course material will be provided through Brightspace.

All announcements will be posted in Brightspace. Students are advised to check it frequently and ensure that they are getting alerts.

Learning Outcomes

1. An understanding of the Canadian economy
 - Structure and measurement of the Canadian economy
 - Canadian policy environment
2. Application of economic principles to policy analysis
3. Understanding the role of data and data-based analysis in economic policy-making

Course Structure, Assessments, and Grading

Statement about learning components

All content for the course is available on the course *Brightspace*, including lecture slides and readings.

Lectures are not recorded.

Course Outline

Part 1 – The Canadian Economy

1. Canada's Economy – an overview
2. Bank of Canada
3. Government budgets, deficits, and debts
4. Canada and the global economy

Part 2 – Problems and Policies

Specific topics will be determined during the term. The following list are possible topics, depending upon time and interest.

1. Cost of living and affordability
2. Housing
3. International trade diversification
4. Productivity, employment – the future of work
5. Income and wealth inequality

Use of AI

You are fully responsible for the material you submit for assignments. Poor quality material, whether generated by AI or not, will be graded accordingly. Nonsensical material (slop), as AI often generates, will be graded harshly.

Grading Scheme

The course grade is determined as follows:

Assessment	Weight	Due Date
Assignments	30%	See below
Mid-term Exam	20%	Tuesday 24 February in class
Final Exam	50%	Final Examination Period 7-22 April

The mid-term exam is in person during scheduled class time.

The final exam is in person during the scheduled April examination period.

Students are advised not to make work or travel plans until after the examination timetable has been finalized. Students who wish to finalize their travel plans at an earlier date should book flights that depart after the end of the examination period. Students do not qualify for an academic concession if travel plans conflict with the examination.

Mandatory Course Components

The assignments, mid-term, and the final exam are required and deferrable. Failure to submit all assignments will result in an N grade. Failure to take either the mid-term or the final examination will result in an N grade.

Assignments

There are two assignments for the course. Assignments are to be done individually. Failure to submit both assignments will result in an N grade.

Details of the assignments will be provided in the first week of term.

Due dates:

Assignment 1	Tuesday 4pm 10 February
Assignment 2	Tuesday 4pm 24 March

Assignments are to be submitted through Brightspace.

Grading Scale

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D	F or N
90-100%	85-89%	80-84%	77-79%	73-76%	70-72%	65-69%	60-64%	50-59%	0-49%

Students should review the University's more detailed [summary of grading](#).

Missing Assessments

Should students encounter a situation where they are unable submit an assignment on the assigned due date, or they are unable to write the mid-term exam, or they are unable to write the final exam, they may qualify for an academic concession.

Students are required to indicate the specific grounds on which they are requesting an academic concession and provide a justification outlining the impact of the circumstances on their ability to complete course requirements.

For in-course extensions, please [fill in the form and follow the instructions on the form](#). In case you miss the final exam, fill in a [request for a deferral](#). **I will not respond to informal requests for academic concession.**

Waitlist Policies

- Instructors have no discretion to admit waitlisted students or raise the cap on the course.
- Students on the waitlist should discuss with the instructor how to ensure they are not behind with coursework in the event they are admitted.
- Registered students who do not participate as specified in this outline during the first 7 calendar days from the start of the course may be dropped from the course.
- Registered students who decide not to take the course are responsible for dropping the course and are urged to do so promptly out of courtesy toward waitlisted students.
- Waitlist offers cease after the last date for adding courses irrespective of published waitlists.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity requires commitment to the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students are expected to observe the same standards of scholarly integrity as their academic and professional counterparts. A student who is found to have engaged in unethical academic behaviour, including the practices described in the Policy on Academic Integrity in the University Calendar, is subject to penalty by the University.

The University reserves the right to use a plagiarism software to detect violations of academic integrity.

Appeals

Depending on the nature of your concern, the order in which you should normally try to resolve the matter is:

1. the course instructor
2. the Associate Chair: econassoc@uvic.ca
3. the Associate Dean of Academic Advising
4. the Senate.

If you're seeking a formal review of an assigned grade, you should also consult the regulations in the academic calendar regarding [review of an assigned grade](#).

Please note that I only respond to grading inquiries in writing. You must file your question within one week of issuance of your grade and the release of the answer key. Please do not approach me after class to discuss grading concerns.

University Policies and Statements

Please note that this course is executed in a manner consistent with these University statements and policies.

- University Calendar - Section "[Information for all students](#)"
- [Creating a respectful, inclusive and productive learning environment](#)
- [Academic Integrity](#)
- [Academic Concession Regulations, Academic Concession and Accommodation](#), Academic Accommodation – [Policy AC1205](#)
- [Accommodation of Religious Observance](#)
- [Student Conduct](#)
- [Non-academic Student Misconduct](#)
- [Accessibility](#)
- [Diversity / EDI](#)
- [Equity statement](#)
- [Sexualized Violence Prevention and Response](#)
- Discrimination and Harassment [Policy](#)

Resources for students

- [Student wellness](#)
- [Centre for Accessible Learning](#)
- [UVic Learn Anywhere](#). UVic Learn Anywhere is the primary learning resource for students that offers many learning workshops and resources to help students with academics and learning strategies.
- [Library](#) resources
- Centre for Academic Communication ([CAC](#))
- Learning Strategies Program ([LSP](#))
- [Academic Advising](#)
- Economics Undergraduate Advising: ecadvice@uvic.ca
- [Student Awards and Financial Aid](#)
- [International Student Advising](#)
- Indigenous student services ([ISS](#))
- [Student groups and resources](#) including UVic [Ombudsperson](#)

Student Experience of Learning (SEL) Survey

I value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of term, you will have the opportunity to complete a confidential SEL survey regarding your learning experience. The survey is vital to providing feedback to me regarding the course and my teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future.

E-mail Correspondence

Emails should be limited to critical matters, such as inability to attend class, an exam, or prolonged illness, and should include the course name and number in the subject line. Questions on course material should be asked during office hours or in class. The standard format for writing a letter must be used. This means it should begin with a salutation (e.g. Dear...), include full sentences and it must conclude with a signature that includes your **full name and V#**. Text message lingo should not be used.

Electronic Devices

Please ensure that you do not distract your fellow students or me with electronic devices.