



University of Victoria

Course Syllabus

Department of Economics
ECONOMICS 204: A01 (CRN: 31212)
Intermediate Macroeconomics
Summer Session 2024-2025, Term 2 (May-June 2024)

Instructor Name: Omar Saleh

Delivery mode: Face-to-face

Lectures A01: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 2:30pm–4:20pm

Location A01: Cornett Building (Room: B108)

Office Hours (Via Zoom): Thursdays, 3:00 pm–3:50pm

UVic Land Acknowledgement

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

Course Description

The course covers modern theories of aggregate economic behaviour, the determination of national income and employment, consumption, investment, inflation, and growth. The course includes some applications of economic policy problems related to unemployment, aggregate fluctuations, taxation and balance of payments disequilibria.

Note: Credit will be granted for only one of ECON 204, 301, 303, 304B.

Prerequisites: ECON 103, 103C or 180; ECON 104; MATH 100, 102 or 109.

Texts/Materials

Required Textbook: The textbook for the course is *Macroeconomics* (9th Canadian edition; alternatively, the 8th edition will work as well) by Abel, Bernanke, Croushore and Kneebone (Toronto: Pearson, 2021). There is a copy of the book at McPherson Library reserves; you can borrow it for 2 hours. It is available at the campus bookstore, for purchase of the digital version:

https://www.campusbookstore.com/integration/AccessCodes/default.aspx?bookseller_id=48

Repeating Course

Be aware of the policy regarding the repeating of courses; see [University Calendar](#).

In order to request permission to attempt this course for the third time, you must follow the instructions provided under the [Repeating Courses](#) policy on the Economics website.

Failure to obtain permission will result in deregistration from the course.

Course Content

Overview:

The goal of the course is to teach students how to take an “economic approach” to analyze complex policy issues and current events. This will involve using some maths to better understand how macroeconomic theories work, how they are applied, and their limitations. At times, this approach will require working with appropriate data sources, preparing graphs or tables, performing some calculations and interpreting the results. Ultimately, one of the skills we are trying to teach is the ability to understand how economic policy and shocks affect the economy, as reflected in macroeconomic variables such as GDP, interest rates, prices and employment. What defines macroeconomics is mainly a broader perspective on economic phenomena, and the types of questions that are posed. We will look at the economy as a whole, rather than its specific details (though, also the ‘micro’ aspects are important). We will address the following questions: Why are some Countries rich while others are poor? What determines interest rates? How does the Bank of Canada influence the economy? How should Governments intervene when the unemployment rate increases?

Some issues we consider in this course include:

- The decisions individuals face such as whether to save or consume, work or enjoy leisure.
- The decisions employers face either to hire more employees or fire some of them.
- The decisions government face such as how to best respond to economic shocks.

Lectures Outline (*Tentative Schedule, it might be subject to changes*)

Topic	Chapter	Week	Assessment
Defining Macroeconomics	1	1	
Measurement & Accounting	2	1	
Productivity & Employment	3	2	
Saving & Investment	4	2	
International Debt	5	3	Assignment 1
Economic Growth	6	4	Midterm
Money and Inflation	7	5	
IS-LM Model	9	5	
Exchange Rates & Macro Policy	10	6	Assignment 2
Business Cycles	8	7	
Econ 204 Final Exam – it will take place on the final day of the course: June 28 th , 2024			

Important Dates:

The last day for adding fall term courses is May 20th.

Minimum Grade Requirements

ECON 204 have a C as minimum program requirement.

Grading Scheme

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

Assignments:	30% (2 long assignments)
Midterm:	30% (In-person, Friday, June 7 th)
Final Exam:	40% (In-person, Friday, June 28 th)

Assignments: They are designed for the students to learn the material in depth and prepare for the long questions in the exams. They will be posted on Brightspace and must be submitted before the relevant deadline via Brightspace. You may discuss with other students how to answer them. However, you must submit your own work. There will be 2 long assignments in the term. They will count 15% each towards the final grade. *Note:* if caught copying other students' answers, the assignment will receive a grade of zero. In addition, the standard procedures pertaining Academic Integrity will also be initiated.

Assignments due dates (tentative): May 31st and June 21st. You have to submit the assignment via Brightspace before 10:00 pm. There may be some changes if necessary.

Note: it is the student's responsibility to submit assignments in a timely fashion. Late assignments will not be accepted.

Midterm: The in-person midterm exam is scheduled on June 7th. More specific details will be given in due time. If you miss the midterm test due to illness or family affliction, please contact me by email. Make-up exam for midterm will not be given. In the event that you miss the midterm due to illness or family affliction, the weight of the missed exam will be shifted to the final and assignments (20% to the final and 10% to the assignments). Should you miss an exam without approval of the instructor, you will receive a grade of zero for that exam. *Note:* whenever needed, it is the student's responsibility to provide medical and other documentation in a timely manner.

Final exam: It is scheduled on June 28th. It is not cumulative, namely it covers the material presented after the midterm. As per university policy, deferred final exams will be given only on the basis of documented family illness or family afflictions. In case you miss the final exam, fill in a [request for a deferral](#).

Grade concerns should be brought to the instructor as soon as possible. The grades of each assessment component are final after one week of being distributed.

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.

This course uses the standard Department of Economics 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](#).

Brightspace and Zoom

- Brightspace and Zoom are used extensively for the course. All students are expected to be fully functional with these systems.
- All course materials will be posted on Brightspace.
- All announcements will be posted on Brightspace. Students are advised to check it frequently.
- For support with technical issues, please get in touch with the Computer Help Desk: helpdesk@uvic.ca

E-mail: osaleh@uvic.ca

- You should contact me by email primarily on matters that relate to your personal participation, e.g. you have a medical condition that prevents you from taking an exam. General administrative matters, such as the arrangement and the format for the assignments or exams, will not be addressed via e-mail.
- E-mail is a terribly inefficient way of communicating regarding course material. Any clarifying questions about the syllabus and/or course content have to be asked in class or during office hours. E-mails to me should be limited to missed assessment and personal concerns.
- If you contact me at my UVic e-mail address, please include your legal name (the name in the university records), student number and course title in the subject of your e-mail. Without such information, it is sometimes hard for the instructor to understand the nature of your queries. Please avoid inappropriate nicknames, e-mail id's and signatures. Text message lingo should not be used.

Copyright

All course content and materials are made available by instructors for educational purposes and for the exclusive use of students registered in their class. The material is protected under copyright law, even if not marked with a ©. **Any further use or distribution of materials to others requires the written permission of the instructor**, except under fair dealing or another exception in the Copyright Act. Violations may result in disciplinary action under the Resolution of Non-Academic Misconduct Allegations policy (AC1300).

Course Experience Survey (CES)

I value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of term, you will have the opportunity to complete a confidential course experience survey (CES) 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. When it is time for you to complete the survey, you will receive an email inviting you to do so. If you do not receive an email invitation, you can go directly to <http://ces.uvic.ca>. You will need to use your UVic NetLink ID to access the survey, which can be done on your laptop, tablet or mobile device. I will remind you nearer the time, but please be thinking about this important activity, especially the following three questions, during the course.

1. What strengths did your instructor demonstrate that helped you learn in this course?
2. Please provide specific suggestions as to how the instructor could have helped you learn more effectively.
3. Please provide specific suggestions as to how this course could be improved.

Course Policies

This course adheres to the [Undergraduate Course Policies](#) of the Department of Economics that deal with the following issues:

- Academic concessions
- Academic integrity (plagiarism and cheating)
- Attendance
- Grading
- Inclusivity and diversity
- Late adds
- Late assignments
- Repeating courses
- Review of an assigned grade
- Students with a disability
- Term assignments and debarment from examinations
- Travel plans
- Waitlists

The following policies are explicitly included because of their importance.

Examinations

Attendance at all scheduled examinations is mandatory. Consideration for missed examinations will be given only on the basis of documented illness, accident or family affliction, and for no other reasons. In the event of a missed final examination, students are advised to follow the procedures outlined in the University Calendar.

Students are advised not to make travel plans until after the examination timetable is finalized. Students who wish to book their trips early should book flights that depart after the end of the examination period. There will be no special accommodation if travel plans conflict with the examination.

University Policy on Human Rights, Equity and Fairness

The University is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive, supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

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 show up in the first seven 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.

Classroom Etiquette

Behave politely and professionally. Do not create negative externalities. Do not disturb or distract your fellow students or the instructor.

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.

Review [What is Plagiarism](#) for the definition of plagiarism. No form of plagiarism will be tolerated in this course. *Note:* Submitted work may be checked using plagiarism detection software.

Review the **Student Code of Conduct**

<https://www.uvic.ca/services/advising/advice-support/academic-units/student-code-of-conduct/index.php>

Educational Technology involving storage outside Canada

To the best of my knowledge, Zoom might store some personal information outside of Canada. If you are not comfortable with your personal information being stored outside of Canada, please speak to me within the first week of class about using an alternative (such as using an alias or nickname). Otherwise, by continuing in this course, you agree to the use of the educational technology in the course and the storage of personal information outside of Canada.

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Accessibility & Health Resources

Centre for Accessible Learning

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, you are free to approach me. However, you must register with the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) for formal arrangements to be made. The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

[Health Services](#) - University Health Services (UHS) provides a full-service primary health clinic for students, and coordinates healthy student and campus initiatives.

[Counselling Services](#) - Counselling Services can help you make the most of your university experience. They offer free professional, confidential, inclusive support to currently registered UVic students.

[Elders' Voices](#) - The Office of Indigenous Academic and Community Engagement (IACE) has the privilege of assembling a group of Elders from local communities to guide students, staff, faculty and administration in Indigenous ways of knowing and being.

Sexualized Violence Prevention & Response

UVic takes sexualized violence seriously, and has raised the bar for what is considered acceptable behaviour. Students are encouraged to learn more about how the university defines sexualized violence and its overall approach by visiting www.uvic.ca/svp. If you or someone you know has been impacted by sexualized violence and needs information, advice, and/or support please contact the sexualized violence resource office in Equity and Human Rights (EQHR). Contact svpcoordinator@uvic.ca.