

ECON 321 – The Economic History of Canada

Fall 2022 Course Outline

All times below are in terms of Victoria, B.C. time.

- **Instructor:** Christopher Willmore (willmore@uvic.ca) [吴莫]
- **Lectures:** TWF 11:30 AM – 12:20 AM, Zoom
- **Office hours:** Tuesdays 1 PM – 3 PM (13:00 – 15:00), IRC
- **Course site:** <https://bright.uvic.ca>

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Territory Acknowledgment

“We acknowledge and respect the ləkʷəŋən peoples on whose traditional territory the university stands and the Songhees, Esquimalt and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.” -[UVic](#), in consultation with Indigenous groups.

For more information on the ləkʷəŋən people and their traditional territory, please see <https://www.songheesnation.ca/community/l-k-ng-n-traditional-territory>

The W̱SÁNEĆ Leadership Council has prepared a page of resources for settlers, which you may access here: <https://wsanec.com/learn-settlers/>

If you are not in Victoria, I encourage you to visit <https://native-land.ca/> to learn about traditional territories, languages and treaties in your area.

University Policy on Inclusivity and Diversity

“UVic is committed to upholding the values of equity, diversity, and inclusion in our living, learning and work environments. We know that diversity underpins excellence, and that we all share responsibility for creating an equitable, diverse and inclusive community. We recognize that many of the identities of members of groups with historical and/or current barriers to equity intersect and that therefore, equity, diversity and inclusion can be complex. We value the contributions that each person brings, and are committed to ensuring full and equal participation for all in our community.” [Uvic Equity and Diversity](#)

Instructor addendum: While I expect most of you will treat your peers with the traditional BC kindness and respect, I’d like to take a moment to remind you all in writing that this course and its associated web site and meeting space are intended to be a safe and comfortable place for everyone to learn in. Systematic disrespect or other ill treatment of a person or group of people will not be tolerated.

Course objectives and essential course rules

Economics studies the allocation of limited resources among unlimited needs and wants. This course will help you understand the history and development of Canada in terms of interesting choices made as a reaction to scarcity.

By the end of the course, you’ll be able to read history and historical materials confidently, understand what economic historians do, and research topics you find interesting using a variety of primary and secondary sources. To this end, the course will focus on Reading and Research.

Reading: you'll be expected to read at least one paper or article related to economic history every assignment, and each lecture will have a reading associated with it (often very short). In the assignments, you'll be trained to understand the content of those papers in the context of the allocation of scarce resources. What was the scarce resource in question? Why did the solution/allocation take that particular form? Why did it happen at that particular time? If things have changed since then, why did they change?

Research: ECON 321 is intended to have a strong focus on *doing* economic history. Economic historians have a TON of cool toys to play with. This course will show you where some of the toy boxes are, and how to break into them. In addition to the usual journal articles, lectures and assignments will make use of newspaper articles, videos, music, recipes, paintings and anything else that can help us understand what was going on in the time, place and situation we're looking at.

Essential Course Rules

- ***“Be excellent to each other.”*** –[Bill S. Preston, Esq.](#)
- Give credit where credit is due
- Give all course components an honest try
- Don't keep concerns bottled up
- Ask for help if you need it
- Adhere to the Student Code of Conduct:
- <https://www.uvic.ca/services/advising/advice-support/academic-units/student-code-of-conduct/index.php>

University Policy on Accessibility

Are you a student with a learning disability, ADHD, mental health issue or long-term recurring physical or sensory disability? Do you have chronic health issues? If you do, and you want to be part of our programs, or need academic accommodations to address barriers to your education, you need to [register with the Centre for Accessible Learning](#). After you [register](#), we'll work with you, your instructors and others to create learning environments that are equitable, inclusive and usable.

Instructor addendum: *I've had to deal with a number of disabilities myself. If you are a student who needs this sort of accommodation, don't hesitate to contact me personally. Once you do, I'll work with you one-on-one and do my best to come up with a custom plan that will hopefully let you get the most benefit possible from this course.*

Your mental and physical health are more important than any course. You are taking this course during a time of world crisis and great uncertainty, and having trouble with concepts and deadlines that in a “normal” year would be easy for you is understandable. If you need extra help, or just someone to talk to, don't hesitate to reach out and send me an e-mail at willmore@uvic.ca

Accessibility & Health Resources

The following is quoted from a list provided by the ECON department:

- [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.
- [Support Connect](#) - a 24/7 mental health support service for students
- Toll-free (calls from North America): 1-844-773-1427
- International collect calls: 1-250-999-7621
- [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.

Regarding Attendance (and what it means in an online course)

University Policy on Attendance

“Students are expected to attend all classes in which they are enrolled. An academic unit may require a student to withdraw from a course if the student is registered in another course that occurs at the same time. ...

An instructor may refuse a student admission to a lecture, laboratory, online course discussion or learning activity, tutorial or other learning activity set out in the course outline because of lateness, misconduct, inattention or failure to meet the responsibilities of the course set out in the course outline. Students who neglect their academic work may be assigned a final grade of N or debarred from final examinations.

Students who do not attend classes must not assume that they have been dropped from a course by an academic unit or an instructor. Courses that are not formally dropped will be given a failing grade, students may be required to withdraw and will be required to pay the tuition fee for the course.” ([UVic Calendar](#))

That’s the standard “boilerplate”. As for this course, this term:

- **Lectures** will be given live over Zoom on the scheduled dates and times. (If an exception needs to be made, say, due to instructor health, I’ll let the class know beforehand.) Each lecture will have its own unique Zoom link, which will be posted on Brightspace before the lecture starts.

During the lecture, I ask that students mute themselves and turn video off. Chat will also be turned off except for certain points during (and just after) the lecture, when it will be turned on to allow students to ask questions. This way of doing things has been developed in cooperation with students taking my online courses over the past year, and is a compromise between delivering the necessary content and responding to students who attend the live lecture.

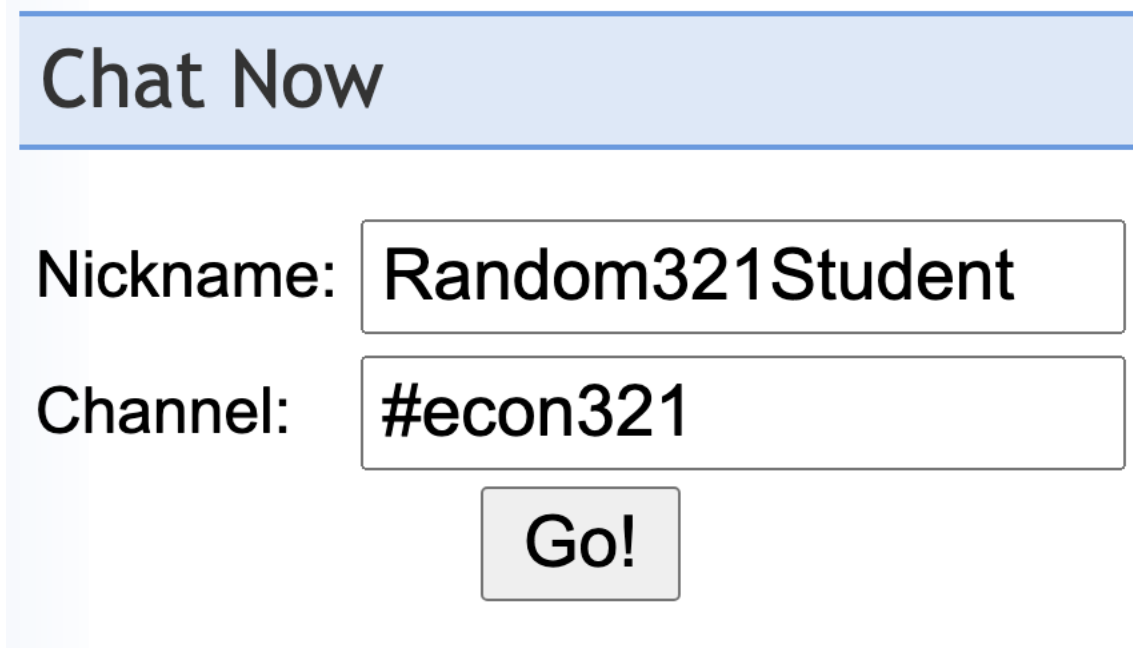
The live lectures will be recorded, and the video will be uploaded to Brightspace as soon as possible. That means **you do not need to attend the live lectures – it’s fine to keep up via the recordings**. Each lecture will have an associated bonus multiple choice quiz. The quiz will cover material from the lecture and the associated recommended reading. These questions are intended to be very basic, so that anyone who attended the lecture and did the reading can answer them correctly. These quizzes are optional, and are due one week after the relevant lecture.

Online Office Hours

In addition to official office hours, you're always free to send questions via e-mail to willmore@uvic.ca – if you're stuck, or frustrated, or need advice, or feel overwhelmed, remember that you're not alone. I'm here to help, and I want you to succeed in a way that helps you learn and grow without sacrificing your mental and physical health.

Online office hours will be held on Mondays, from 2:00 to 4:00 PM, in the #econ321 channel on dal.net. IRC, or Interactive Relay Chat, is a plaintext protocol created in 1988 and remains a popular 'chat room' protocol. It IS a plaintext protocol, which means it is **NOT encrypted**, so **do not reveal any private information**, and **do not use your real name as your nickname**. Pick a creative nickname to minimize the chances of its being in use.

There are many ways to connect. If you haven't used IRC before, the easiest is probably to point your browser to <https://www.dal.net> and on the 'Chat Now' box on the right, enter your preferred nickname and #econ321 as the chat room and click 'Go'. You do NOT need to create an account or log in. The image below shows an example of how to set up the session.



The image shows a 'Chat Now' interface. At the top, there is a light blue header with the text 'Chat Now'. Below the header, there are two input fields. The first field is labeled 'Nickname:' and contains the text 'Random321Student'. The second field is labeled 'Channel:' and contains the text '#econ321'. Below these fields is a button labeled 'Go!'.

If you HAVE used IRC before, or if you're feeling adventurous, or if you're having trouble with the browser interface, there are hundreds of free solutions that will connect you. (Make sure you connect to irc.dal.net on the default IRC port, 6667/TCP.)

Why IRC?

I've found students are often shy about asking questions when the instructor or their peers can identify them. IRC is anonymous, so students can feel free to ask questions without this source of anxiety. Being an entirely text-based medium, it's also very well suited to answering engineering economics questions in a group setting. I can post formulas, links, give step by step explanations, add incoming questions to the queue while answering other questions, etc. It's also trivial to save IRC logs for later use (since it's text, this can be done even by copy-pasting into a document editor).

I've used IRC for office hours many times in the past, and it's proven very popular with students. I expect that will also be the case this term, but if there is enough demand, I will consider holding at least some of the office hours via Zoom.

How Grading Works this Term

As detailed in later section, there are no midterms or finals in this course. All you have are optional multiple-choice quizzes, four assignments and four steps of a single research project. Multiple-choice questions will be marked in the usual fashion. To make it possible to mark your projects in a timely fashion, most assignment and project questions will be marked rather coarsely. Each "regular" project question will typically receive only one of the following grades: 0, 25, 45, 55, 65, 75. Challenge questions will provide an additional 15 marks, allowing for up to a 90. A 10-mark communication bonus brings this up to 100. See the marking scheme provided with each assessment for the exact marking details for that assessment.

Relationship between letter grades and number grades									
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

From the [UVic Undergraduate Grading Scale](#):

- 0, 25 or 45 (F): Unacceptable or missing work.
- 55 (D): Shows "minimal command of the course materials".
- 65 (C+): This is "earned by work that indicates an adequate comprehension of the course material and [...] indicates the student has met the basic requirements for completing assigned work."
- 75 (B): "earned by work that indicates a good comprehension of the course material, a good command of the skills needed to work with the course material, and the student's full engagement with the course requirements and activities," **The mark earned by 'good' work.**
- 85 (A): This is "earned by work which is technically superior [and] shows mastery of the subject matter".

- 100 (A+): For work that “offers original insight and/or goes beyond course expectations.” I expect very few students will get 100 on questions, due to the extra work involved relative to the benefit.

The typical question assignment or research project will have at least three components:

1. Regular questions, worth 75 marks. These are designed to test ‘good’ understanding with as little frustration as possible. They are NOT designed to test for mastery. In general, The only possible marks on the regular part of the question are 0,25,45,55,65,75.
2. Challenge questions, worth 15 marks. These ARE designed to test for mastery, and are appropriately challenging, and often quite a bit of (necessary) work. A good student is expected to *skip* these at least some of the time, if they find the additional work is not worth the additional marks.
3. A communication bonus, worth 10 marks. A theme of this course is that it is important to be able to communicate your ideas.

You will be assigned a **communication bonus** of between 0 to 10 marks for each assessment. 0 does not mean you failed at communication – it means you are communicating at the minimum acceptable level for a third-year university course (e.g. at a level that would let you pass ECON 225, but with a low mark). **Note that citing your sources is part of good communication.**

Students who communicate their ideas well should be able to get between 1 and 5 marks without any additional effort. Putting extra work specifically into communicating, and being successful at doing so, can earn you a 6,7 or 8. Per UVic’s policy regarding A+ marks, a communication bonus of 9 or 10 is reserved for exceptional work that displays mastery of communication and goes beyond course expectations (e.g. work that reads like a polished, published piece).

It is up to you to decide whether putting additional work into communication is worth it. Many students may find the additional marks are not worth the additional effort (especially if your normal level of communication is such that you can get a 5 without really trying).

It's very difficult to fail this course

I think this is important to point out, because we'll be covering some challenging material which can be overwhelming to students who aren't used to history, reading papers or writing up their own research.

It's tough to get an A+, but it's even more difficult to fail, as long as you give each part of the course an honest try. This is intentional.

The three lowest marks possible on the regular questions are 0, 25 and 45. Marks of 0 are reserved for blank or completely irrelevant answers. There's a huge difference between a 25 and a 45, so even an answer that is not very good is likely to get at least a 45. That puts you very, very close to passing. If you communicate at a pretty good level, that's a communication bonus of 3 or 4. Try ANYTHING relevant in the challenge part of the question? That's at least 1 mark out of 10. So, right away, even a rushed, not very good answer, will probably get a (barely) passing mark.

Put a LITTLE bit of effort in (don't forget to ask me for help if you need it!) and you're likely to get a 55 instead of a 45 on the regular question.

Like with most other activities, there are diminishing returns to effort. It's very easy to go from 0 to 25, not too hard to go from 25 to 45, a bit harder to go from 45 to 55, tougher to go from 55 to 65, and then from 65 to 75, and it's *a lot* of work, compared to the rest, to get from 75 to 90, or from 90 to 100.

It's up to you to decide how much work you wish to put into the course – but when making that decision, remember that you (probably) don't need to worry about *failing* the course. Hopefully that'll reduce your stress by at least a little bit.

Expectations

A good student in ECON 321 is expected to do the following:

- **Attend all lectures or keep up with the recordings.**
- **At least skim the recommended reading for each lecture** within a week of viewing the relevant lecture (live or via recording). Note that the bonus multiple choice questions 'self destruct' one week after the relevant lecture.
- **Work individually on assignments and projects** and become familiar with assignments or projects by at least skimming them within two days of their being posted.
- **Cite any sources you use in your assignments or projects in APA format.**
- **Complete optional readings** to obtain greater familiarity with the course material, **if necessary** (for example, if the required readings aren't enough to clear up a concept).

- **Ask questions during office hours and via e-mail** to clear up course material and concepts.
- **Ask the instructor for additional help** with course material and concepts, if the student encounters difficulties not cleared up via required and optional readings, practice problems or talking with fellow students.
- **Bring any constructive criticism and feedback to the instructor’s attention before the end of the course**, so that the course may be adjusted if necessary.

Evaluation and Assessment

Item	Weight	Due Date ¹
1 bonus question per lecture	0.1% each	1 week after lecture
Best 4 out of 5 Assignments	60%	Various
3 first Research Project Steps	30%	Various
Final Research Project Step	10%	December Exam Period

Mandatory Course Components

To complete the course, a student must submit at least 4 of the 5 assignments, and at least 3 of the Research Project steps. If you submit fewer than 4 assignments and 3 Project Steps, you will receive an “N” grade, no matter what your percentage in the course is. An “N” is a failing grade, and counts as a ‘0’ in GPA calculations.

Bonus Multiple Choice Quizzes (0.1% each)

There will be one multiple-choice quiz per lecture, with two questions: one question is about material covered in the lecture, and the second question is about material in the recommended reading for that lecture. These quizzes are **optional** and you can score 100% on the course without answering a single one. **The quizzes are only available for one week after the relevant lecture.**

These quizzes are intended to be extremely easy, as long as you’ve actually viewed the lecture and at least skimmed the reading. They’re here mostly to reward you for keeping up with course material in a timely fashion.

Please note that despite these bonus marks, the maximum course mark is 100%.

Preliminary Lecture, Assignment & Project Schedule

See following page. Subject (but not expected) to change.

¹ Preliminary and subject to change. See Brightspace for accurate due dates.

ECON 321 Syllabus (Course Outline) – SEPTEMBER 2022

Month	Day	Topic	Assignment	Project	Lecture
September	7	Introduction			1
	9	Early Black Immigration			2
	13	Slavery			3
	14	The Beothuk			4
	16	Newfoundland I			5
	20	Newfoundland II			6
	21	Banking & Money Scarcity	1		7
	23	Halifax and Doubloons			8
	27	The Fraser & The Cariboo			9
	28	Chinese Immigration		1	10
	30	Chinese servants			11
October	4	Eliza Ord & "Tagish Kate"			12
	5	Beaver Hats			13
	7	The HBC & NWC	2		14
	11	Indigenous Organization of the Fur Trade			15
	12	Pemmican Empires			16
	14	The Potlatch			17
	18	Treaties I		2	18
	19	Treaties II			19
	21	Residential Schools			20
	25	Kahnawá:ke, Land & "Civilization"	3		21
	26	The Canadian Pacific Railway			22
28	Swift Current			23	
November	1	The NW Land Company			24
	2	The Canadian Northern Railway			25
	4	The 1907 Riots			26
	8	B.C.'s Opium Industry			27
	15	Opiates & their Users	4		28
	16	Dr. Locke			29
	18	The American Invasion			30
	22	Wheat I			31
	23	Wheat II		3	32
	25	Prairie Women			33
	29	Women & the Household			34
30	Women & Paid Work			35	
December	2	Canada's Waitresses	5		36

Assignments (60%)

Your assignment mark is the average of the best four out of five of your assignments. **That means that if you're happy with your marks on the other four, you can skip one assignment completely with no penalty, and no need to ask for permission.**

Assignments are submitted via Brightspace, and your submissions **must be in PDF and/or Microsoft Office format (Excel, Word, Powerpoint)**. **Assignments in .pages format are not accepted, and will receive a mark of zero - no exceptions²**. **Missing or late assignments will receive a mark of zero³**. **Plan accordingly**. I recommend acting as if the due date is one or two days earlier than it actually is, to make sure everything is done on time, and submitting 'draft' versions every now and then (only the latest submission before the deadline will be marked, so this can only help you by acting as 'insurance' – even if you sleep through the deadline, at least the most recent, partially answered draft will be marked).

Each assignment consists of two main parts: a purposeful reading report, where you analyze the assigned reading, and general assignment questions that will usually have you 'do' economic history.

It is possible to score 100% on the reading report by providing everything asked for in a concise but thorough, professional and organized manner (APA citations, correct use of language, putting concepts in one's own words, etc.). It is expected that most students will do very well on this component.

Projects (40%)

The projects will ask you to study the economic history of a Canadian subject that is of interest to you. More details are available on Brightspace. These projects are submitted via Brightspace, and your submissions **must be in PDF and/or Microsoft Office format (Excel, Word, Powerpoint)**. **Submissions in .pages format are not accepted, and will receive a mark of zero - no exceptions**. The final stage of the project, a full report based and expanding on the first three projects will be due during the April exam period.

Though I've used the plural, 'Projects', this is really just one *big* project, which I've divided into steps to make it manageable.

² I mention this specifically because it's caused problems in the past. All course material is prepared on a Mac, and UVic provides *free* access to Microsoft 365 (including Word, etc.) for all students, so there's no reason a student using a Mac shouldn't be able to hand in assignments in the required format.

³ Except for assignments from students with approved accommodation, per UVic guidelines.

Late Assignments or Projects get zeros, period.

Late assignments or projects will receive a mark of zero, no exceptions. The part of my career I dislike the most is having to give zeros to students, so I'd appreciate it if you would keep the following in mind:

- **In the absence of a pre-approved extension, due dates will NOT be extended,** even by one minute. If you submit an assignment or project late, you'll get a zero for it, period, even if there was a blackout just before you were going to submit your assignment or project. Plan accordingly. Since assignments are due at 11:59 PM, Victoria B.C. time, I recommend uploading whatever you have at, say, 8 PM Victoria time, just to make sure.
- **Just to be clear: Extensions must be arranged *before* the assignment or project is due, except in the case of your 'mental health voucher' (see below).** If you ask for an extension five seconds after the assignment or project is due, your request will be declined.
- Brightspace keeps all the submissions you make. In the case of multiple exam submissions, **only the most recent submission before the deadline will be marked.** (That's why I think submitting whatever you have at 8 PM, or even earlier, is a good idea - even if you end up submitting the finished assignment or project late, your earlier 8 PM submission will still be on the record, and will be marked.)
- **Assignments or Projects will be marked exactly as submitted.** If you submit a blank file by mistake, or an assignment for another course, or an earlier draft of your projects, that's what will be marked. No exceptions. (But keep in mind that if you upload your grocery list at 8 PM, then catch your mistake at 11 PM and submit the correct file, the correct file will be marked, as it will be the most recent submission before the deadline.)
- **No, I will not accept a file with a 'last modified' time stamp before the due date as evidence that you completed the assignment or project in time.** Among other issues, it's trivial to edit this metadata. To receive a non-zero mark, you must submit the assignment on Brightspace before the deadline.

How to get an extension

Though assignments & projects get a mark of zero if submitted after the due date, it *is* possible to get an extension that changes the due date for you. There are three main types:

- **Mental health voucher.** Every student automatically starts the course with a 'mental health voucher' good for a 3-day (72-hour) extension. This is the *only* extension that can be granted after the due date, and you only have one, so make sure you use it when doing so is most valuable to you. If you find yourself having to submit an assignment or project late, if it's three days late or less,

submit your project or assignment, and write in the comment 'I'm using my mental health voucher' on Brightspace. You should also send me an e-mail at willmore@uvic.ca so that I can alert the TA to your submission. This is a one-use voucher, so if you use it when submitting an assignment that's one minute late, the entire voucher will be gone. Keep that in mind. This voucher CANNOT be used for Step 4 of the project, since that is scheduled as a final exam.

- **Extension due to excessive coursework.** It's not my intention to overburden you with work at the same time all your other courses are doing the same. If you have, say, three midterms and two projects due the same week as an ECON 321 assignment, send me an e-mail **ahead of time** requesting an extension. I'll work with you to find an extension that is appropriate for your case and fair to other students. Along with your e-mail, please send evidence of the due dates of the other projects, midterms, etc. (even Brightspace screenshots or forwarded announcements are enough). Please note that Step 4 of the project is scheduled like an exam, and its due date cannot be extended.
- **Extension due to illness or other personal issues.** If you have a personal issue that you believe is grounds for an extension (mental or physical health, varsity trip, etc.) then send me an e-mail requesting an extension before the deadline for the relevant assignment or project. I will do my best to find an extension that is appropriate for you and fair to other students, but depending on the exact circumstances I may not be able to do so. You do not need to share any private information when sending me an e-mail. If I need additional information, I will let you know, and I will do my best to keep it to the minimum details necessary to justify an extension. Step 4 of the project cannot be extended, as it is scheduled like a final exam.

Required Textbooks and Software

Course files will be distributed via Brightspace in **PDF and Microsoft Office/365** form (Excel, Powerpoint, Word). You will need to be able to open these files. These are also the file formats that you are required to submit your projects in. You are also encouraged to install Zoom to attend live lectures.

UVic students get access to Microsoft 365 for free:

<https://www.uvic.ca/systems/support/computerssoftware/microsoft365/index.php>

We will make use of a number of textbooks and sources, all of them *free* in digital form to UVic students. Links will be provided on Brightspace.

On Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

UVic Policy on Plagiarism

“A student commits plagiarism when he or she:

- submits the work of another person as original work
- gives inadequate attribution to an author or creator whose work is incorporated into the student's work, including failing to indicate clearly (through accepted practices within the discipline, such as footnotes, internal references and the crediting of all verbatim passages through indentations of longer passages or the use of quotation marks) the inclusion of another individual's work
- paraphrases material from a source without sufficient acknowledgement as described above

The University reserves the right to use plagiarism detection software programs to detect plagiarism in essays, term papers and other assignments.”

“Single or multiple instances of inadequate attribution of sources should result in a failing grade for the work. A largely or fully plagiarized piece of work should result in **a grade of F for the course**.” (Emphasis mine.)

(Source: [UVic Academic Calendar September 2022](#))

tl;dr: Cheating just once can get you a zero on the course, and this course has been designed to be hard to fail. It just isn't worth it.

For more details on what is acceptable, please refer to the Student Code of Conduct found [here](#):

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

All ECON 321 students are required to read and become familiar with the Policy on Academic Integrity detailed at the URL cited in the box above. A brief summary is at <http://www.uvic.ca/library/research/citation/plagiarism/index.php>.

A breach of academic integrity will result in a non-droppable mark of zero on the assignment, quiz or final exam in which it is detected. Additional penalties may also apply.

What about my classmates? Can I work with them on assignment questions?

To a degree, absolutely, but there are limits. All of you are here to learn, and as the instructor I'd like to avoid a situation where a small number of people do all the work and everyone else just 'adapts' it.

You can study together, or help each other out with assignments, but such collaboration should stop short of something that would absolutely require citation, such as a direct quote or a duplicate, non-obvious solution method.

Good idea:

You: "Hey, Sam. I'm stuck on Question 6. I tried using the method in the lecture notes, but my answer's too small and the sign is wrong."

Sam: "Did you convert all the costs to annual values? I got the same mistake until I did that."

You: (several minutes later) "You're right! That fixed it. Thanks, Sam."

Bad idea:

You: "Hey, Sam. I'm stuck on Question 6. I tried using the method in the lecture notes, but my answer's too small and the sign is wrong."

Sam: (hands over a paper) "Here, take a look at my answer. I had that mistake, too, but then I fixed it."

You: (after going over Sam's solution line by line, you cross out your old answer and write a new one using the same method) "Thanks, Sam. That worked. You can have your assignment back."

The Course Experience Survey

UVic Statement on the Course Experience Survey

“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.”

Instructor note: I much prefer to receive feedback *during* the course, so that I can change things that need changing in time to benefit you. Feel free to send your feedback via e-mail, to willmore@uvic.ca , or anonymously via IRC during office hours.

How can I get help?

I'm stressed and overloaded!

I'm always happy to engage with students regarding their concerns. **ECON 321 is just a course – your health, including mental health, comes first.** You may send me an e-mail at willmore@uvic.ca, pm me during office hours or schedule a private Zoom appointment by e-mail.

You don't have to go through this alone. I'm here to help, and I care about making sure that your course experience is healthy and productive. If you contact me, I'll listen carefully to what you have to say, and work with you to find a solution.

If you don't feel comfortable talking to the instructor about your situation, that's okay! The university has a number of resources available to help students who are stressed. You may find a list of them here:

<https://www.uvic.ca/mentalhealth/undergraduate/finding-help/index.php>

Many of these resources are available even if you are not currently in Victoria (or Canada).

If you're having difficulty with lecture materials, assignments or projects...

- Read recommended and optional readings cited in lecture notes
- Ask questions during online office hours
- E-mail the instructor (willmore@uvic.ca) with your questions. (I have a strong preference for answering questions via e-mail.)
- E-mail the instructor (willmore@uvic.ca) to schedule a private Zoom or IRC session.
- If you need help with your writing, the **Centre for Academic Communication** gives **free tutoring** and can even go over your assignment or project drafts with you: <https://www.uvic.ca/learningandteaching/cac/>

Passing ECON 321 is important for your degree, and probably for your plans for the future, but remember: **Your time is valuable. Your perspective is unique. No one else has lived your life. You matter more than any course.** I've kept that very much in mind while designing this course – since I *am* taking up some of that time, I want to make sure that it's well spent, and I've worked hard to make the course as relevant, useful and engaging as possible.

It is also, however, important for *students* to remember this. In my experience, it's all too easy when bogged down with projects and deadlines to lose track of other things that matter.