

Instructor: Dr. Andrew Davis, andrew.davis@acadiau.ca

Office Hours: 1:30-4pm, Monday and Friday, BAC 344, or by appointment.

Textbook and Materials:

- Parkin and Bade, *Microeconomics: Canada in the Global Environment*, 9th edition (recommended) - though a prior version should be completely fine.
- Departmental Workbook in Macroeconomics (optional) - available at department office.

Course Description: ‘The national accounts. The measurement of macroeconomic indicators. The determination of aggregate employment and output in the short-run, the long-run and the very-long-run. The monetary system and monetary policy. The balance of payments accounts and exchange rate determination. Stabilization policies and policies to promote economic growth.’

Course Contents: Basic measurement of the macroeconomy - incomes, production, jobs, prices. Economic growth and the division of national income. Financial markets, banking, and the Bank of Canada. Exchange rates and exchange rate dynamics. An introduction to the business cycle and what the monetary and fiscal authorities can do in the face of macroeconomic turbulence.

Grading:

- Assignments: 10% (two or three, depending on progress)
- Test 1: 15%
- Test 2: 15%
- Test 3: 15%
- Final: 45%
- Term Paper: 10% (optional, bonus, see below)

Missed midterms will have their weight added to the final exam. At the end of the course, if it is to your benefit, your lowest test will be dropped automatically. Further, if your final grade exceeds the weighted average, the final grade will be awarded directly.

Assignment: Details on the assignments will be posted on ACORN as the course progresses.

Disabilities and Access: If you are a student with a documented disability who anticipates needing accommodations in this course, please inform me after you meet with Kathy ORourke (902-585-1823) disability.access@acadiau.ca or Abu Kamara (902-585-1291) abu.kamara@acadiau.ca in Accessibility Services, Student Resource Centre, lower level of the Old SUB.

Academic Honesty: <http://registrar.acadiau.ca/studentinfoandresponsibilities.html>

Important Dates:

- Jan. 9 - Winter courses begin.
- Jan. 17 - Last day to drop without a W.
- Jan. 30 - Test 1.
- Feb. 20-24 - Winter study break. No classes.
- Feb. 27 - Test 2. (Please note this date. Sorry!)
- Mar. 3 - Last day to drop with a W.
- Mar. 24 - Test 3.
- Apr. 7 - Last class. Optional paper due.

Term Paper: Choose a book on economics written for a popular audience. Read, discuss, and ideally link the material in your text with coverage in this course. Some suggestions for an appropriate book include:

- A Random Walk Down Wall Street, Burton Malkiel
- The Midas Paradox, Scott Sumner
- Why Nations Fail, Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson
- The Great Escape, Angus Deaton
- Capital in the Twenty-First Century, Thomas Piketty
- The Road to Serfdom, Friedrich Hayek
- The Fatal Conceit, Friedrich Hayek
- Free to Choose, Milton Friedman
- The Worldly Philosophers, Robert Heilbronn
- The Rational Optimist, Matt Ridley
- The Courage to Act, Ben Bernanke
- House of Debt, Atif Mian and Amir Sufi

but you are encouraged to consider texts beyond this list. I encourage you to reach out to me before you commit to a selection. Maximum 2500 words. Please note that grading on bonus projects is aggressive compared to on regular evaluation.