Instructor

Eesha Sen Choudhury

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Office: LEA 531
Office hours: Monday - 5:35 PM to 7:00 PM
       Wednesday - 5:35 PM to 7:00 PM

Class schedule

MW – 4:05 PM to 5:25 PM
Room: LEA 219

Prerequisite

ECON 208 or Equivalent

Course objectives

➢ To cover the basics of economic theory and policy at the level of the whole economy - the macroeconomic level (e.g. national income, economic growth, employment/unemployment, prices & inflation, exchange rates, monetary and fiscal policy). It is aimed at students, not currently specializing in economics at the majors or honours level.

➢ To provide a critical assessment of the different economic policy measures and packages put forward nationally and internationally, in order to deal with such issues and problems.
Course evaluation

Midterm examination: 30% (Duration of the lecture)
Final examination: 70% (3 hours)

I anticipate that the exams will be multiple-choice, though I reserve the right to include some short-answer questions at my discretion. If your individual performance on the final is better than on the midterm the weights will be changed from 30% / 70% to 20% / 80%. They are closed book examinations - no texts, notes, cell phones or electronic memory devices allowed.

If you miss the mid-term, for justifiable reasons, (as determined by the instructor and subject to written confirmation acceptable to the instructor), there are two options. You can have the final count as 100% of the course, or you can sit for a deferred mid-term during the regular deferred exam period in McGill, in August 2019. Students missing the mid-term without justifiable reason approved by the instructor will get a mark of zero for that exam and will not be eligible for a deferred mid-term.

Critical dates

January 7th: beginning of the course
February 20th: midterm examination during regular class hours in the classroom.
March 4th – March 8th: Study Break
April 10th: end of course

Teaching assistants

- **Office Hours**
  Teaching assistants (TAs) will have regular office hours (room and time TBA) during which they will answer questions on the course material.

- **Conferences**
  T.A.s will hold weekly conferences (small-group seminars) to help you understand assigned questions on ‘conference sheets’. The
‘conference sheet’ questions and basic answer guides are posted each week on MyCourses. The conferences are voluntary – but you are strongly advised to attend. Conference times and locations, as well as your Conference Leader’s office hours, will be posted on myCourses shortly after the onset of semester.

Course material

Macroeconomics, 15th Canadian Edition
Christopher T.S. Ragan
Publisher: Pearson Education Canada
ISBN-10: 013391044X

Study Guide for Macroeconomics, 14th Canadian Edition
Christopher T.S. Ragan
Publisher: Pearson Education Canada
ISBN-10: 0321828399

These are available from Paragraphe bookstore on McGill College Avenue. (Please check MyCourses for a detailed pricelist.)

ECON 209 will also have additional readings will be posted on MyCourses.

- The text’s integrated Study Guide has summaries of each chapter, useful study tips, and practice questions along with correct answers (with explanations) for multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions and longer exercises to help you understand the material.

- The text’s MyEconLab site www.myeconlab.com has explanations for a selection of end-of-chapter exercises/questions, and some short practice quizzes. It is not a substitute for the Study Guide:

A very important learning tool is the Econ209-001 site on myCourses. You should check it regularly for course announcements, additional readings and non-text lecture content.
Conference sheets will be uploaded, to assist you in the course. Use the ‘Discussions’ section to ask questions of and receive answers from your fellow students.

**COURSE OUTLINE:**

Week numbers are estimates and may change. In addition to references below, associated topics and applications will be on Conference Sheets and made available through the course web site. Some analysis and applications will be covered in lectures for which there are no set readings.

1: **Start-Up** (Week 1)
Administrative & topical aspects

2. **An Introduction to Macroeconomics** (Week 2)
   * Context and concepts (Chap 1)
   * What Macroeconomics Is All About (Chap 19)
   * The Measurement of National Income (Chap 20)

3. **The Economy in the Short Run** (Weeks 3 & 4)
   * The simplest Short-Run Macro Model (Chap 21)
   * Adding government and trade (Chap 22 & Appendix 22)
   * Output and Prices in the short-run (Chap 23)

4. **The Economy in the Long Run** (Weeks 5, 6 & 7)
   * From the Short Run to the Long Run: The Adjustment of Factor Prices (Chap 24 pp.554-567)
   * Fiscal Stabilization policy (Chap 24 pp.567-577)
   * Long-Run Economic Growth (Chap 25 pp. 582-609)

   **Mid-Term Examination** (Week 7)

5. **Money, Banking and Monetary Policy** (Weeks 8 & 9)
   * Money and Banking (Chap 26)
   * The nature of money (Chap 26 pp.615-623)
   * The Canadian banking system (Chap 26 pp.623-630)
   * Money creation and the money supply (Chap 26 pp.630-637)
   * Links between monetary and Real Sector (Chap 27)
   * Monetary Policy In Canada (Chap 28 pp. 671-688)
   * Three decades of Canadian Monetary Policy (Read only) (Chap 28 pp. 688-696)

6. **Macroeconomic Problems & Policies** (Weeks 10 & 11)
Inflation and Disinflation (Chap 29)
* Unemployment Fluctuations and the NAIRU (Chap 30)
* Government debt and deficits (Chap 31)

7. Canada in the Global Economy (Weeks 12 & 13)
* Trade policy (Chap 33 pp.801-811)
* Exchange rates and the balance of payments (Chap 34)

In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University’s control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

➢ McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/ for more information.

➢ According to Senate regulations, instructors are not permitted to make special arrangements for final exams. Please consult the Calendar, section 4.7.2.1, General University Information and Regulations at www.mcgill.ca.

➢ In accord with McGill University’s Charter of Students’ Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded. (Note: Not applicable to multiple-choice exams)

➢ If you have a disability please contact the Office for Students with Disabilities at 514-398-6009.