



**ECONOMICS OF PANDEMICS
ECON 3201A
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS
CARLETON UNIVERSITY**

Professor [Hashmat Khan](#)

Fall 2021

Lectures: Thursday, 2:30pm - 5:25pm Eastern (KM Theatre, Southam Hall)

COURSE INFORMATION:

Prerequisite: First-year standing or higher; prior coursework in economics is not required

Note: All embedded weblinks on this document are highlighted in blue. You are expected to obtain the relevant information from these websites.

- **Course Delivery Mode:** IN-PERSON COURSE WITH FLEXIBLE ONLINE/ON CAMPUS ATTENDANCE ([HYFLEX](#)) under [Carleton's Classroom Teaching COVID-19 Guideline](#).
- Students attending remotely should ensure that they have: [Zoom](#), a good internet connection, a webcam, and a microphone.
- Lectures will not be recorded. To keep up with the course pace and assignment work it is strongly advised to attend lectures during the scheduled time
- **ONLINE OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesdays, 10:00 am - 11:00 am Eastern via Zoom or by appointment.

Course Website: [Brightspace](#) will be used for all the course announcements and emails; lecture-videos; assignments; online submission of the assignments and the Final Exam. Students are responsible for regularly checking the course website to ensure that they are up to date with any announcements and have access to the documents posted.

Course Content Copyright: Classroom teaching and learning activities, including lectures, discussions, presentations, etc., by both instructors and students, are copy protected and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). All course materials, including presentation slides, lecture notes, outlines, videos, assignments, exams, and other materials, are also protected by copyright and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). Students registered in the course may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational use only. Students are not permitted to reproduce or distribute lecture videos, lecture notes and any course materials publicly for commercial or non-commercial purposes without express written consent from the copyright holder(s). If you have questions about fair dealing and your other rights to use works for educational purposes, please contact copyright@carleton.ca.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Overview: The global impact of COVID-19 pandemic is unprecedented in living memory with millions of deaths and major economic disruptions in Canada and abroad. In this course you will learn about the relationship between pandemics and economic activity from different perspectives, applying economic concepts such as trade-offs, externalities, incentives, demand and supply, and welfare. The lectures will be organized around a variety of topics including the responses of households and firms to lockdowns and restrictions, impact on labour markets; mental health and financial vulnerabilities, the role and scope of fiscal and monetary policies; vaccine development, distribution, and the design of patents; advantages and risks of globalization in the face of pandemics; the role of international institutions, incentives for international pandemic monitoring and information sharing; and economic pathways towards building public health and economic resilience against future pandemics. The course will also present emerging insights from ongoing economic research including those based on new frameworks that combine epidemiological and economic models.

- There is no required textbook for this course. A course document titled **ECON 3201 Readings** will be provided on Brightspace. This document will have the LECTURE TOPIC and the associated readings for each week's lecture. The readings shall be categorized as (i) Required; (ii) Recommended; and (iii) Advanced. Students are expected to check this document frequently (at least once a week)
- Basic economics concepts and terminology will be introduced and explained in detail. Some examples include consumer behaviour, budget constraints, tradeoffs, demand and supply, opportunity cost, equilibrium, firm behaviour, resource and technology constraints, product and labour markets, externalities, asymmetric information, supply chains, fiscal and monetary policies, exchange rates, imports/exports, unemployment, GDP (and components) etc. Whenever needed, these concepts will be applied during the lectures throughout the course, often using figures and graphs as tools for illustrative purposes.
- A variety of health and economic data will be presented along with descriptive analysis. Any data file shared on will be in EXCEL (.xlsx) format

EVALUATION:

- FOUR assignments: 15% each \times 4 = 60%

Table 1: Tentative Schedule

	Posted	Due
Assignment 1	September 16th	September 22th
Assignment 2	October 7th	October 15th
Assignment 3	November 11th	November 19th
Assignment 4	November 25th	December 3rd

- Final Exam: 40%

Assignments: The assignments will consist of several short questions based on the LECTURES and readings. Each assignment must be submitted via brightspace before 11:59 pm Eastern on the due date shown in Table 1. Note that assignments will not be accepted by email. Late assignments will not be accepted and will receive a grade of zero. Students can submit only a single pdf for each assignment. To merge pdf files:

- On Mac: Open Preview, merge pdfs
- On PC: Many free online apps are available to merge pdf files. One such resource is [PDFsam](#)
- Please make sure that the overall file size is under the 2GB limit. This means any figures you include do not have to be very high resolution

Students may wish to work together on assignment material, but each student must write up their own assignments independently. Students working in groups cannot submit identical work. In this connection, please be sure to read Section 10 of the Academic Regulations of the University in the 2021-2022 [Undergraduate Calendar](#), especially with regard to plagiarism and unauthorized cooperation and collaboration. For further information on recognizing and avoiding plagiarism, see

- [Pammett on Plagiarism and Paraphrasing](#)
- [Avoid Plagiarism](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy 2021](#)

e-Proctored Final Exam: The final examination will be cumulative and will be scheduled by the university during the exam period. Please note that this course will use CoMaS, a remote e-proctoring software provided by Scheduling and Examination Services. Students should make sure that there is no issue in installing and running this software during the final exam. For details, please see the information provided at: [e-proctoring](#) and [CoMaS Student Instructions](#).

In the event that one or more assignments are not submitted, the weight of the missed assignment(s) will not be transferred to the final examination without a documented and compelling reason. In place of a doctor's note or medical certificate, students are advised to complete the self-declaration form, which is available on the [Registrar's Office website](#), in order to request academic accommodation.

Satisfactory Performance Criteria: Students must fulfill all of the preceding course requirements in order to achieve a passing grade (D- or higher). Failure to write the final examination when the student has achieved satisfactory performance during the term will result in a grade of 'F' until an appeal to write the deferred final exam, if granted by the Registrar's Office. A change of grade will be submitted when the deferred final exam has been written and the marks are available. See Academic Regulation document for the official meanings of the grades, and note that it stipulates that no course grades are final until approved by the Faculty Dean.

Students who do not write the final examination because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control may apply to write a deferred final examination. Application to write a deferred final

examination must be made at the Registrar's Office in writing no later than three working days after the original final examination was scheduled. In the event that a student writes a deferred examination, the deferred examination will carry the same weight as the final examination in determining the course grade.

Regrading: Students seeking reappraisal of their graded work (assignments) should contact the instructor within 1 week after they receive their grades. The request should contain a detailed explanation of why you feel you should receive a higher grade. Please note that the entire assignment not just the contentious question will be regraded. As a result, the revised grade may be higher than, lower than or the same as the original grade.

Special Information for Pandemic Measures

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow COVID-19 prevention measures and all mandatory public health requirements (e.g. wearing a mask, physical distancing, hand hygiene, respiratory and cough etiquette) and [mandatory self-screening](#) prior to coming to campus daily.

If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately, self-isolate, and complete the [mandatory symptom reporting tool](#). For purposes of contact tracing, attendance will be taken in all classes and labs. Participants can check in using posted QR codes through the cuScreen platform where provided. Students who do not have a smartphone will be required to complete a paper process as indicated on the [COVID-19 website](#).

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow guidelines regarding safe movement and seating on campus (e.g. directional arrows, designated entrances and exits, designated seats that maintain physical distancing). In order to avoid congestion, allow all previous occupants to fully vacate a classroom before entering. No food or drinks are permitted in any classrooms or labs.

For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and required measures, please see the University's [COVID-19 webpage](#) and review the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact covidinfo@carleton.ca.

Please note that failure to comply with University policies and mandatory public health requirements, and endangering the safety of others are considered misconduct under the [Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy](#). Failure to comply with Carleton's COVID-19 procedures may lead to supplementary action involving Campus Safety and/or Student Affairs.

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION:

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, I will follow the updated policies described on the webpage titled [Course Outline Information on Academic Accommodation](#) under the headings:

- Pregnancy obligation
- Religious obligation
- Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
- Survivors of sexual violence

- Accommodation for student activities

Please make sure that you read the information on this website prior to September 30th, 2021 to make any accommodation request.