

**Department of Economics
Carleton University**

ECON 3300 A – Public Policy Toward Business

Instructor: Dr. Xiaoyi Yan

2019 Fall

Email: cuLearn

Lectures: Mondays, 18:05–20:55

Office: B-850 Loeb

Classroom: Unicentre 182

Phone: 613-520-2600 x 1751

Office Hours: Mondays 5:30-6:00pm or by app't

Prerequisites

The prerequisite for this course is ECON 1000, 1001 or FYSM 1003 as outlined in the Undergraduate Courses. Students who believe they have taken a similar background course or courses from another university must provide appropriate documentation to the Department of Economics Undergraduate Administrator, Amanda Wright.

Students are expected to have some familiarity with Canadian government and government institutions.

Objectives

The course aims to provide an introductory overview of government policies towards business in major areas such as competition policy, regulation, international trade policy, environment and resource policies, the interaction of government and business in the Canadian economy and the reasons for government involvement. It enables students to better follow economic and business news, the political debates and private sector concerns and implications of government policies.

Evaluation

Each student's final grade in this course will be calculated as a weighted average of scores for an assignment (essay 15%), an in-class mid-term examination (35%), and a final examination (50%).

The instructor will cover the most important aspects of public policies directed at businesses in class. Students are responsible for *all materials* in the chapters covered in lectures and are encouraged to read more about the subjects.

Students are required to complete an assignment writing a short essay (800 words) about a selected public policy of interest relevant to the economy and businesses. The assignment will be given at the first class and must be submitted no later than the beginning of the third class. The assignment received after the due dates will be granted a grade of zero.

The mid-term exam (1.5 hours) will take place in class on October 14, 2019.

Students who can document a compelling reason for missing the mid-term examination will be excused and their final grade will be based on their performance in the rest of the course—i.e., the weight of each of the remaining evaluation instruments will rise by a factor of $100/(100-35)$ (e.g., the final examination weight will become $50\% \times 100/65 = 76.9\%$). Students *must* inform the instructor of such an absence in advance, if possible.

The final exam (3 hours) will take place during the December examination period at a time and place set by the University.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean. Application to write a deferred final examination must be made at the Registrar's Office.

Required Textbook

Government Policy Towards Business, 5th Edition, James A. Brander, John Wiley and Sons Canada Ltd, 2014. ISBN 978-0-470-15852-4

Course Outline: Topics and Readings

Week 1	Introduction to economic analysis of public policy	Chapters 1, 2
Week 2	Government policy: normative vs. positive approach	Chapters 3, 4, 5
Week 3	Firms, markets and market structure	Chapter 6
Week 4	Market structure and Canadian business environment	Chapter 7
Week 5	Macro policy, innovation, IP and corporate responsibility	Chapter 13, 14, 15
Week 6	Mid-term exam (1.5 hours)	
Week 7	Fall Break	
Week 8	Canadian competition policy: past, present and future	Chapter 11
Week 9	Economic analysis of antitrust practices	Chapter 11
Week 10	International trade: theory, policy and institutions	Chapters 8
Week 11	Price and entry regulations, public enterprise	Chapter 12
Week 12	Environmental regulation	Chapters 9
Week 13	Natural resource management	Chapter 10

Final exam (3 hours) scheduled by the University during December examination period

Academic Accommodation

Students needing special academic accommodations are required to contact a coordinator at the Paul Menton Centre (PMC) to complete the necessary letters of accommodation. The student must make an appointment to discuss their needs at least two weeks prior to the exams. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline of submitting completed forms to the PMC for University-scheduled examinations. For more information, please see students.carleton.ca/course-outline/.

For religious and special needs such as pregnancy, students should consult with the instructor and equity services (ext. 5622 or www.carleton.ca/equity).

Plagiarism

Please be aware that plagiarism is a serious offence at Carleton and should be recognized and avoided. For further information on how to do so, please see “Pammett on Plagiarism and Paraphrasing” at www.carleton.ca/economics/courses/writing-preliminaries.

Intellectual Property

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the

author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).