Objectives

The first objective of this course is to provide students with a broad survey of economics so that they can acquire the "economic literacy" that every educated person should have in order to understand the society in which they live. The second objective is to provide an introduction to economic principles that can serve as a foundation for further study in economics.

FYSM 1003 is an intensive version of ECON 1000 geared to students seeking a more in-depth and interactive introduction to economics. The core content of the two courses is the same, however, and they are equivalent as prerequisites for all relevant higher-level courses. In particular, a grade of C- or higher in either one is required to qualify for ECON/MATH 1402, ECON 2009, ECON 2020, ECON 2102, ECON 3001, and ECON 3706.

Tutorials

The weekly tutorials will begin on September 6 with a presentation of the course preliminaries by the instructor. All subsequent tutorials will be led by a teaching assistant assigned by the Department. The main purpose of these tutorials is to give students guidance and practice in working through particular problems and applications of the principles of economics covered in the seminars and in the textbook. The teaching assistant may also spend some time answering students’ questions about course material.

Required Texts


Evaluation

Each student’s grade in the course will be calculated as the simple average of their Fall and Winter term marks, each of which will be calculated as a weighted average of scores on twelve, in-class, formative assessments (one per seminar at 2½ % each), three summative tests (16% each), and two research and/or writing assignments (12% and 10%).

No course grades are final until approved by the Faculty Dean.

Students will be expected come to each seminar having read thoroughly the relevant parts of the required text as stated in the "Course Schedule and Reading List" below and/or communicated in advance via cuLearn. Chapters 1–11 and 13–17 of Principles of Microeconomics will be covered in sequence (except for Ch. 3,
which will be covered between Chs. 6 and 7, and Chs. 10 and 11, which will be deferred to the end) over the
twelve seminars of the Fall term; Chapters 5–12 and 14–17 of *Principles of Macroeconomics* will be covered in
sequence (except for Ch. 17, which will be covered in part between Chs. 15 and 16) over the thirteen seminars
of the Winter term (note that Chs. 1–4 are duplicated between the two *Principles* texts).

Homework exercises will be assigned each week via cuLearn at least five days in advance of their due date.
Students will be expected to attempt to write out *their own* solutions to as many as possible of these exercises
*prior to* the associated seminar. As most of the assigned exercises will be taken from the required text and
solutions to these exercises may be available from other sources, it is hoped that students "will have sufficient
willpower to avoid looking at the answer until they have put some effort into solving the problems for
aware in any event that plagiarism is serious offence at Carleton and should be recognized and avoided.

Formative assessments of student learning during a given seminar will be based on pertinent multiple-choice
questions delivered using Poll Everywhere and/or discussions/submissions of selected worked problems.
Students who can document a compelling reason for missing one of the three or four of these assessments in
a given module will be excused and half or a third of the associated weight will be added to that of each of the
other assessments in the same module (so that it becomes 2½ % + 2½ % / 2 = 3% % or 2½ % + 2½ % / 3 =
3¾ %). Students *must* inform the instructor of such an absence in advance, if possible.

The six summative tests will take place for 75 minutes apiece during the classes on the following dates:
September 27, November 1, November 22, January 24, February 28, and March 25. Note that the first five of
these dates are Thursdays (and therefore replace regular tutorial activities), whereas as the last is a Tuesday.
Note also that the first five tests will begin at 10:05 (half an hour before the tutorial start time) and end at 11:20.
Students who can document a compelling reason for missing one of the first or last three of the six tests will be
excused and half of the associated weight will be added to that of each of the other two tests in the same term
(so that it becomes 16% + 16% / 2 = 24%). Students *must* inform the instructor of such an absence in
advance, if possible.

The specifics of the four research and/or writing assignments will be communicated via cuLearn well in
advance of their due dates throughout the Fall and Winter terms. The first will be due around mid-October, the
second in early December, the third in early February, and the fourth in early April. They will cover,
respectively, interdependence and the gains from trade, market regulation and firm behaviour, macroeconomic
measurement and well-being, and debates over macroeconomic policy.

**Course Schedule and Reading List**

**Fall Term:**

- Sep. 6: Preliminaries

- Sep. 10: Ten Principles and Thinking Like an Economist (*Micro* Chs. 1–2)

- Sep. 17: Supply and Demand (*Micro* Ch. 4)

- Sep. 24: Supply, Demand, Elasticity and Government Policies (*Micro* Chs. 5–6)

- Sep. 27: Summative Test 1

- Oct. 1: Interdependence and the Gains from Trade (*Micro* Ch. 3)

- Oct. 4: Graded ST1 returned and taken up by T.A.

- Oct. 15: Market Efficiency Analysis (*Micro* Ch. 7)

- Oct. 29: Applications of Market Efficiency Analysis (*Micro* Chs. 8–9)

- Nov. 1: Summative Test 2

- Nov. 5: The Costs of Production (*Micro* Ch. 13)

- Nov. 12: Firms in Competitive Markets (*Micro* Ch. 14)

- Nov. 19: Monopoly (*Micro* Ch. 15)

- Nov. 22: Summative Test 3

- Nov. 26: Firms in Imperfectly Competitive Markets (*Micro* Chs. 16–17)
Dec. 3: Externalities (Micro Ch. 10)
Dec. 7: Public Goods and Common Resources (Micro Ch. 11)

Winter Term:
Jan. 7: Measuring a Nation’s Income (Macro Ch. 5)
Jan. 14: Measuring the Cost of Living (Macro Ch. 6)
Jan. 21: Production and Growth (Macro Ch. 7)
Jan. 24: Summative Test 4
Jan. 28: Saving, Investment, and the Financial System (Macro Ch. 8)
Feb. 4: Unemployment and Its Natural Rate (Macro Ch. 9)
Feb. 11: The Monetary System (Macro Ch. 10)
Feb. 25: Money Growth and Inflation (Macro Ch. 11)
Feb. 28: Summative Test 5
Mar. 4: Open-Economy Macroeconomics: Basic Concepts (Macro Ch. 12)
Mar. 11: Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply (Macro Ch. 14)
Mar. 18: The Influence of Monetary and Fiscal Policy on Aggregate Demand (Macro Ch. 15)
Mar. 25: Summative Test 6
Mar. 25: Five Debates over Macroeconomic Policy (Macro Ch. 17) Introduced
Apr. 1: The Short-Run Tradeoff between Inflation and Unemployment (Macro Ch. 16)
Apr. 8: Five Debates over Macroeconomic Policy (Macro Ch. 17) Revisited