

# ECON 1023 CIN4: Macroeconomic Principles

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## Syllabus

### Course Description

Welcome to ECON 1023: Macroeconomic Principles

This course deals with fundamental aspects of economics as they relate to the performance of the national and global economies. The course provides you with an introduction to the economic system and examines how economic agents such as consumers, firms, industries and governments interact in the thing known as the "economy". Using basic "real world" examples, the course is designed to provide structure and insight into the behavior of the economic agents (noted above) as it relates to economic performance and relevant government policies.

The course will challenge you to think about everyday news from an economic perspective. For example, what exactly is inflation and why is it always in the news? Why does the Canadian dollar fluctuate and how do these fluctuations impact the economy. How do government expenditures or interest rate changes influence economic activity?

I am confident you will find the material in the course interesting and informative. Keep in mind that it takes time and effort to learn the principles of economics. However if you read the text, do the assignments and review them after they are returned, you will master the concepts and be well prepared for the exam. It is my hope that the ability to reason accurately and objectively about relevant macroeconomic issues will be a valuable outcome from this course.

Best of luck!

Dr. Brian VanBlarcom

### Instructor

I have a Masters degree from Acadia University and a PhD from Clemson University (South Carolina). I started teaching economic at Acadia in 1988. My research interests are in the areas of financial markets, the economics of sport and recreation and the economics of tourism.



#### Contact Information:

Dr. Brian VanBlarcom  
Department of Economics  
Acadia University  
Wolfville, Nova Scotia  
CANADA B4P 2R6

Office: BAC 342

Phone: (902) 585- 1137

Fax: (902) 585- 1070

E-mail: <mailto:brian.vanblarcom@acadiau.ca>

## Course Overview

Economics is all around you. It is about how society deals with the problem of scarcity. We can't have everything we want, whether this refers to continuous holidays or perfectly clean air. Therefore we must make choices. Economics is about how we make such choices.

The underlying goal of economics is to use available resources such as land (natural resources), labor (human effort), and capital (machinery) to produce goods and services that can satisfy society's wants. This goal is accomplished via the mechanism known as the economic system.

The overall course objectives are: firstly, to familiarize you with the basic tools of economic analysis such as problem solving via diagrams, calculations, etc., and secondly, to illustrate how these tools can be used to provide a better understanding of key topics in macroeconomics such as gross domestic product, inflation, interest rates, exchange rates, government spending and taxes which are embedded in the often confusing world in which we live .

## Course Materials

Required text:

Michael Parkin and Robin Bade , [Macroeconomics: Canada in the Global Environment](#), 10th Edition, 2019, Pearson Canada, Inc., Toronto, Canada, ISBN: 978-0-13-468683-7 (softcover). Also available: looseleaf version ISBN: 978-0-13-482984-5 and digital ISBN: 978-0-13-482990-6 when in stock.

**Optional, Not Required:**

E-Book/ Study and Testing program: [www.coursesmart.com/access](http://www.coursesmart.com/access) card with new text

See the [student handbook](#) for ordering information.

**Please note that power point slides covering all relevant chapters are available.**

## Evaluation

Ten assignments	50%
Exam	50%
Total	100%

Note you need to pass the final exam to pass the course

## Assignments

The ten assignments are based on the text material and consist of multiple choice, short answers, calculations and diagrams.

The last assignment should be received at least 4 weeks prior to the date you wish to write the exam. This will allow adequate processing time for the request, and for setting the exam.

## Course Schedule

**Click to download the suggested schedule for this course: [ECON 1023 CIN4 - Suggested Schedule](#)**

Fill in your start date and use the recommended timeline to plan out when you will do readings and assignments. This is a tool to help you time manage this course. If you get off-track, make sure to revisit your schedule and re-evaluate the dates you've set for yourself. This course can be completed quicker or slower than the 20 weeks outlined in the schedule depending on your time commitment.

You have 6 months to complete this course. You may set your own schedule, but if you intend to complete the course in less than 3 months, you should let me know so that we can arrange a schedule.

Please do not leave all of your course work until a few weeks before your completion date. Although I will make every effort to accommodate your schedule within reason, I need time to grade assignments and mark exams.

### Recommended Schedule

Lesson 1 Week 1 - Week 2	<b>Topic</b>	Introduction
	<b>Textbook Reading</b>	Chapters 1 and 2
	<b>Assignment</b>	#1
Lesson 2 Week 3 - Week 4	<b>Topic</b>	Measuring GDP and Economic Growth
	<b>Textbook Reading</b>	Chapter 4
	<b>Assignment</b>	#2
Lesson 3  Week 5 - Week 6	<b>Topic</b>	Monitoring Jobs and Inflation, Economic Growth
	<b>Textbook Reading</b>	Chapter 5 and Chapter 6
	<b>Assignment</b>	#3
Lesson 4  Week 7 - Week 8	<b>Topic</b>	Finance, Saving and Investment
	<b>Textbook Reading</b>	Chapter 7
	<b>Assignment</b>	#4
Lesson 5  Week 9 - Week 10	<b>Topic</b>	Money, the Price Level and Inflation
	<b>Textbook Reading</b>	Chapter 8
	<b>Assignment</b>	#5
Lesson 6  Week 11- Week 12	<b>Topic</b>	Exchange Rates and Balance of Payments
	<b>Textbook Reading</b>	Chapter 9
	<b>Assignment</b>	#6
Lesson 7  Week 13- Week 14	<b>Topic</b>	Aggregate Demand and Supply, The Business Cycle
	<b>Textbook Reading</b>	Chapter 10 and Chapter 12
	<b>Assignment</b>	#7
Lesson 8	<b>Topic</b>	Fiscal policy
	<b>Textbook Reading</b>	Chapter 13

Week 15-		
Week 16	<b>Assignment</b>	#8
Lesson 9	<b>Topic</b>	Monetary Policy
Week 17-	<b>Textbook Reading</b>	Chapter 14
Week 18	<b>Assignment</b>	#9
Lesson 10	<b>Topic</b>	Exam Review
Week 19-	<b>Textbook Reading</b>	All Covered Chapters
Week 20	<b>Assignment</b>	#10
		<b>Final Exam</b>

## Exam

How to apply: Complete the Application for Examination (<https://openacadiaexams.acadiau.ca>)

### Proctored at Acadia

- The final exam in an online course must be passed to successfully pass the course unless otherwise stated in the assessment section of the course syllabus. There are no rewrites or supplemental examinations at Acadia University.
- Examination requests must be received one month prior to the date you wish to write your examination.
- Course requirements must be completed to the satisfaction of your instructor.
- Graduating Students Note: If you are graduating in Spring Convocation you must write by April 15th. If you are graduating in the Fall you must write by September 15th.

### Proctored at Another Location

If it isn't practical to take your exam at Acadia, off-campus exams can be written at another university or college. Arrangements for an examination may be made through the Registrar's Office or the Continuing Education office of most universities and colleges. If it is not possible to write your exam at an approved institution, please contact us for assistance.

- All fees associated with examinations written at other locations are your responsibility.
- Some courses may require specific software or internet accessibility at the off-campus examination location.

## Student Handbook

You are responsible for becoming familiar with the contents of the Student Handbook. It contains important information about scheduling examinations (if applicable), applying for extensions, withdrawing from your course, ordering books, and computer and library services available to you. If you have questions about the policies outlined in the handbook (<https://courseware.acadiau.ca/openacadia/studenthandbook.html>), contact:

### Open Acadia

- 21 University Avenue (Rhodes Hall)
- Wolfville, NS B4P 2R6
- Phone: 1-800-565-6568

- Fax: 1-902-585-1068
- Email: [openacadia@acadiau.ca](mailto:openacadia@acadiau.ca)

## Academic Integrity

Academic integrity demands responsible use of the work of other scholars. It is compromised by academic dishonesty such as cheating and plagiarism. A student who is uncertain whether or not a course of action might constitute cheating or plagiarism should seek in advance the advice of the instructor involved.

- Cheating is copying or the use of unauthorized aids or the intentional falsification or invention of information in any academic exercise
- Plagiarism is the act of presenting the ideas or words of another as one's own. Students are required to acknowledge and document the sources of ideas that they use in their written work.
- Self plagiarism is also a form of plagiarism. It is the presentation of the same work in more than one course without the permission of the instructors involved.
- A student who knowingly helps another to commit an act of academic dishonesty is equally guilty.
- Penalties are levied in relation to the degree of the relevant infraction. They range from requiring the student to re-do the piece of work, through failure on that piece of work, to failure in the course, and to dismissal from the university.

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◀ [Course Introduction Video \(hidden\)](#)

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