

INTERMEDIATE MACROECONOMICS II  
ECONOMICS EC2221B-001/002  
Department of Economics  
Western University

January 2021

**General Information:**

**Instructor:** Sergio Ocampo  
**Office:** 4056 SSC  
**Phone:** 519-661-2111 ext. 85539  
**E-mail:** [socampod@uwo.ca](mailto:socampod@uwo.ca)  
**Office hours:** Monday 1:00-3:00pm, Wednesday 1:00-3:00pm  
**Course website:** <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>  
**Delivery mode:** Online asynchronous  
**Undergraduate inquiries:** 519-661-3507 or SSC Room 4075 or [econugrd@uwo.ca](mailto:econugrd@uwo.ca)

**Registration:**

You are responsible for ensuring that you are registered in the correct courses. If you are not registered in this course, the Department will not release any of your marks until your registration is corrected. You may check your timetable by using the Login on the Student Services website at <https://student.uwo.ca>. If you notice a problem, please contact your home Faculty Academic Counsellor immediately.

**Prerequisite Note:**

The prerequisite for this course is **Economics 2220A/B**  
The anti-requisite for this course is **Economics 2153A/B**

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have not taken any anti-requisite courses. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis for appeal. If you are found to be ineligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. This decision cannot be appealed.

If you find that you do not have the course prerequisites, it is in your best interest to drop the course well before the end of the add/drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help protect your academic record, but will ensure that spaces become available for students who require the course in question for graduation.

**Course Objectives:**

This course continues with the topics introduced in Intermediate Macroeconomics. The main objective is to improve the student's ability to interpret, solve and use formal macroeconomic models. To do this we will cover topics in economic policy, the question will always be how a certain policy tool affects the economy. The objective of going through these topics is to show

students how formal economic modeling is applied to the study of policy-relevant questions.

Special attention will be given to provide the students opportunities to improve their reading comprehension of academic economic papers. Additionally, the course will emphasize tasks such as defining the equilibrium of a model, deriving the first-order conditions of agents' problems, and graphically solving for the equilibrium. Differential calculus will be used heavily in this course.

### **Course Learning Outcomes:**

After taking this course a successful student should be able to:

1. Understand academic economic papers.
2. Explain to others the main concepts in a paper.
3. Formalize an economic environment by posing the problems of the relevant agents.
4. Derive intuition from the solution to an economic model.

### **Textbook(s):**

The textbook we will follow is Williamson, Stephen, Macroeconomics, 5th Canadian Edition, Pearson Addison Wesley.

We will also have readings assigned by the instructor.

### **Course Methodology:**

The course will be divided into 6 modules, each lasts 2 weeks. Each module covers a unified topic through readings, video lectures, and sample exercises. At the end of the two weeks on Monday there will be a one hour and thirty minutes test on the module that consists on up to three questions. Since the topics of the course build on one-another these questions are not limited to the specific topic of the current module. One of the questions will be drawn from the sample exercises provided to students. The logistics of these tests are described below.

Additionally, there will be one academic article associated to every module. Students must read the article and write a short document of up to one page where they describe 3 things they learned from the reading, 2 things they found interesting and that them would like to learn more about, and one question they have left after the reading. Submission of these documents is due on the first Wednesday of every module, except for the first reading. The first reading is due on the second Monday of classes.

### **Grading:**

Readings: 20% (6 equally weighted readings)

Module Tests: 80% (6 equally weighted tests)

**Modules:**

1. Review: 2 period general equilibrium model (based on Chapter 11 of the textbook)
2. The fiscal multiplier and price rigidities (based on academic papers)
3. Unemployment and search frictions (based on Chapter 6 of the textbook)
4. International trade and sovereign default (based on Chapter 15 of the textbook)
5. Monetary economics: Money neutrality (based on Chapter 12 of the textbook)
6. Money non-neutrality in the Cash-in-Advance model (based on Chapter 12 of the textbook)

**Readings:**

1. The macroeconomist as scientist and engineer JEP-V20-N4-2006
2. Who suffers during recessions? JEP-V26-N3-2012
3. Evolution of Modern Business Cycle Models
4. The European sovereign debt crisis JEP-V26-N3-2012
5. JEP issue on income and wealth inequality V34-N4
6. The economist as plumber – Ester Duflo

**Test Logistics:**

Tests will take place the first Monday after every module and will be available through the OWL portal. Tests will last for 1:30 hours (one hour and thirty minutes). After the end of the test students have thirty minutes to upload their answers to OWL. Answers will only be accepted in a single PDF file. The student is responsible for the file being legible. Typed answers are the best format and can be paired with scanned figures, if the student has access to a tablet a hand-written document from the tablet is also acceptable.

**Makeup Policy:**

There will be no makeups for any of the reading assignments of module tests. In case a student misses a module test, they must present an official document justifying the absence and the weight of the test will be distributed evenly among the other tests. If you can't provide justification for the absence, a mark of zero will be assigned to the test. Reading assignments received after the deadline will not be accepted and a grade of zero will be attributed. Please see the Policy Regarding Makeup Tests and Final Examinations on the last pages for more details.

**Copyright:**

Lectures and course materials, including power point presentations, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by copyright. Students may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational purposes. Students may not record lectures, reproduce (or allow others to reproduce), post or distribute lecture notes, wiki material, and other course materials publicly and/or for commercial purposes without written consent.

**Please Note**  
**Department & University Policies for 2020-2021**

The University expects all students to take responsibility for their own Academic Programs. Students should check their registration to ensure they are enrolled in the correct courses.

**Academic Rights and Responsibilities:** Students should be familiar with their “Academic Rights and Responsibilities” as outlined [here](#) in the Western Academic Calendar. Claiming that “you didn’t know what to do” is not an acceptable excuse for not following the stated procedures.

**Guidelines and Policies for Students** are posted online in the current Western Academic Calendar at <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca>. Undergraduate information for the Faculty of Social Science can be found at: <https://www.ssc.uwo.ca/undergraduate/index.html> and for the Department of Economics at: <https://economics.uwo.ca/undergraduate/index.html>.

**Rules of Conduct for Examinations:** Students are expected to know the university’s Rules of Conduct for Examinations, available [here](#).

**Cheating and Academic Offences:** Students are responsible for understanding what it means to “cheat.” The Department of Economics treats cheating and other academic offences very seriously and will investigate any suspect behavior. Students found guilty will incur penalties that could include a failing grade or being barred from future registration in Economics courses or programs. The University may impose further penalties such as suspension or expulsion.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is an academic offence. Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Ideas/passages taken from another author must be referenced with footnotes or citations and acknowledged with quotation marks where appropriate. Western University uses software to check for plagiarism and students may be required to electronically submit their work. Those found guilty will be penalized as noted in point 3. See Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students [here](#) in the Western Academic Calendar.

**Academic Appeals:** Students should refer to the Student Academic Appeals section [here](#) in the Western Academic Calendar. Please note the relevant deadlines.

**Department Appeals Procedures:** The Department will not consider an appeal unless an attempt has been made to settle the matter with the instructor first. Students who remain dissatisfied with the outcome may submit a written appeal to the Undergraduate Director in Economics, stating the reasons for their appeal. Information on the Department of Economics’ appeals procedure and the appeals form are available [here](#).

**Systematic Adjustments:** Systematic adjustments of class grade distributions (either up or down) can occur in Economics courses. The systematic adjustment of a class grade distribution is **not** grounds for an appeal.

**Add/drop deadlines:**

Deadline to add a second term half course:

**Tuesday January 19, 2021**

Deadline to drop a second term half course:

**Sunday March 14, 2021**

**Oversleeping or Misreading the Exam Schedule:** Faculty of Social Science policy states that oversleeping or misreading the exam schedule is NOT grounds for a makeup. This rule applies to all exams in the Department of Economics.

**End of Term Travel:** Students must book travel arrangements AFTER final exam dates have been posted; travel is not an acceptable excuse for absence from a final exam.

**Rewriting Exams and Retroactive Reweighting are NOT Permitted:** Students who proceed to write a test or examination must be prepared to accept the mark. Rewriting tests or examinations, or retroactive reweighting of marks, is **not** permitted.

**Accommodation Policies:** Students with disabilities should work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD), which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

**Academic Consideration for Missed Assessments/Exams due to Student Absence:** Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to receive academic consideration if they self-report a missed assessment using the online portal, provided the following conditions are met: the assessment is missed due to an absence of no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted otherwise on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) if the absence is medical or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office for more information about the relevant documentation. It is strongly recommended that students notify the instructor as soon as possible, ideally before the assessment, when they become aware of an absence. University policy is that students must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the SMC or immediately upon their return from their documented absence. Failure to follow University policy and procedures may result in denial of academic accommodation and a grade of zero.

Individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds or for other reasons. **All required documentation for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see:  
[Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs.](#)

For the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:  
[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

**Religious Accommodation:** Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

**Policy Regarding Class Attendance and Engagement:** If the instructor deems a student's attendance or engagement in the class to be unsatisfactory, that student may be prohibited from writing the final examination. Examples of unsatisfactory class engagement include frequent absences from an in-person or synchronous online class, lack of assignment submissions, and inadequate use of online course materials. Instructors who intend to make use of this policy will notify the student in advance.

**Statement on Mental Health and Support Services:** Students under emotional/mental distress should visit [http://uwo.ca/health/mental\\_wellbeing/](http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/) for more information and a complete list of resources on how to obtain help.