



Department of Economics Course Outline

		Term:	Spring 2008
Course:	Economics 311 [Computer Applications In Economics]	Section:	20
Time:	Lecture: MW 13:00-15:50 Lab: MW 16:00-16:50	Place:	SS020
Instructor:	D. Crisan		
Office:	SS 407	Telephone:	220-3255
Office Hours:	M 16:00-16:50 or by appointment	E-mail:	idcrisan@ucalgary.ca

Textbook(s):

Walkenbach, John, *Excel 2002 Formulas*, M & T Books, 2002 (**Recommended**)

Book(s) on Reserve:

- Blank, L., and A. Tarquin, *Engineering Economy*, McGraw Hill, 5th edition, 2002
- Cornelis van de Panne, *Introductory Financial Economics with Spreadsheets*. Harwood Academic Publishers, 1999
- Walkenbach, John, *Microsoft Excel 2000 Formulas*. M & T Books, 1999

Blackboard:

This course will make use of Blackboard - students who are registered in the course can log on at <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/webapps/login>

Course Outline:

The main goal of this blended learning course is to provide proficiency in practical applications of economics using computers. Students will learn about the elementary and advanced features of spreadsheets using Excel. Examples will be drawn from Engineering Economics and Financial Economics.

The following topics (some additional ones may be added; some of these may be deleted) will be discussed in the course:

1. Introduction to Spreadsheets with Graphs and Charts

.../2

2. Basic Concepts of Financial Economics

- Interest Rates
- Mortgage Loans
- Present Worth Analysis

3. Project Evaluation

- Cash Flow Analysis
- Sensitivity Analysis

4. Database Management Applications

- Database Tools
- Statistical Functions
- Statistical Functions for Databases
- Pivot Tables

5. Advanced Topics

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

Assignment	25%	Due at the <i>beginning</i> of class on the due date
Midterm	30%	June 11, 2008
Final Exam	45%	Set by Registrar's Office

The format of these exams will be discussed during the first week of classes. These exams will be open book and computer based.

Tests and final exams are marked on a numerical (percentage) basis, and then converted to letter grades. The course grade is then calculated using the weights indicated above. As a guide to determining standing, these letter grade equivalences will generally apply:

A+	95 - 100	B+	80 - 84	C+	65 - 69	D+	50 - 54
A	90 - 94	B	75 - 79	C	60 - 64	D	45 - 49
A-	85 - 89	B-	70 - 74	C-	55 - 59	F	0 - 44

If, for some reason, the distribution of grades determined using the aforementioned conversion chart appears to be abnormal the instructor reserves the right to change the grade conversion chart if the instructor, *at the instructor's discretion*, feels it is necessary to more fairly represent student achievement.

A passing grade on any particular component of the course is not required for a student to pass the course as a whole.

Calculators WILL NOT be allowed during the writing of tests or final examinations.

There will be a Registrar scheduled final examination. It will last for 2 hours; will be open book; will be computer based; and, will be held in a computer lab.

Tests and exams WILL NOT involve multiple choice questions.

Notes:

- Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work (assignments, midterm) should discuss their work with the Instructor *within one week* of the work being returned to the class. However, the earliest that grades will be discussed is two days after the return of a graded piece of work.
- Make-up midterm exams and deferred midterm exams will not be given. Deferred final examinations do not have to cover the same material or have the same format as the regular final examination.
- Students must pass the final examination in order to pass the course.
- It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. In the Department of Economics, we recommend that all students enrolled in the Spring/Summer session, should discuss their needs with the instructor of the course no later than seven (7) days after the start of this course.

Students' Union Vice-President Academic:

Pamela Weatherbee

Phone: 220-3911

E-mail suvpaca@ucalgary.ca

Students' Union Faculty Representative (Social Sciences)

Teale Phelps Bondaroff

Phone: 220-3913 Office: MSC 251

E-mail socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Society of Undergraduates in Economics (S.U.E.):

www.ucalgary.ca/sue/

Safewalk / Campus Security: 220-5333

DC/mi

2008-04-02