



Department of Economics Course Outline

		Term:	Winter 2013
Course:	Economics 483 [History of Economic Thought]	Section:	01
Time:	TR 09:30 – 10:45	Place:	SH 210
Instructor:	Dr. Jim Gaisford		
Office:	SS 538 and SS 102	Telephone:	403-220-3157
Office Hours:	TR 15:45 – 16:45 (subject to change) and by appointment	E-mail:	gaisford@ucalgary.ca

Textbooks:

Robert L. Heilbroner, *The Worldly Philosophers*, 7th Edition, Touchstone, 1999 (Originally published in 1953). ["Required."]

Todd Buchholtz, *New Ideas from Dead Economists*, 2nd Revised Edition, Plume 2007 (Originally published in 1990). ["Required."]

Mark Blaug, *Economic Theory in Retrospect*, 5th Edition, Cambridge University Press, 1997 (Originally published in 1962). [Not "Required"; Special Order.]

Robert L. Heilbroner, *Teachings from the Worldly Philosophy*, Norton, 1996. [Not "Required"; Special Order.]

Heilbroner and Buchholtz provide highly-readable introduction to the lives, times and ideas of major economic thinkers. Required readings will be drawn from these sources. (Blaug provides a more detailed and comprehensive treatment of economic ideas *per se* and Heilbroner's *Teachings* provides a compendium of key passages from famous economists.)

Book(s) on Reserve and Course Resources:

While there are no books on reserve for this course, the McMaster University Archive for the History of Economic Thought is a very comprehensive collection of primary sources:

<http://socserv.mcmaster.ca/econ/ugcm/3ll3/>.

This is a public-access archive for noncommercial, educational purposes such as our course. The Department of Economics at McMaster University and the creator of the Archive, the late Dr. Rod Hay, are thanked for making the site available.

There will be a significant number of required readings drawn from the following two pivotal treatises in economic thought, which are available online through the McMaster Archive:

Adam Smith, *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*, 1776.

John Maynard Keynes, *The General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money*, 1936.

Blackboard:

Registered students can log on at <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/webapps/login>.

Course Outline:

This course examines the lives, times and especially the ideas of important economic thinkers up to the mid 20th Century. The emphasis will be on: the great classical economists such as Adam Smith, Thomas Malthus, David Ricardo, John Stuart Mill and Karl Marx; the early neoclassical economists including Alfred Marshall; and the birth of what we now know as macroeconomics with John Maynard Keynes. The course will build an understanding the contributions of these economists both in terms of their historical context and their relationship to present day theories and controversies. The course will also involve a first-hand study of segments of the *Wealth of Nations* by Smith and the *General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money* by Keynes.

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

All students must comply with the regulations published in the University Calendar concerning "Intellectual Honesty," "Examinations," etc. **STUDENTS MUST WRITE AND PASS THE FINAL EXAMINATION IN ORDER TO PASS THE COURSE.** Students who pass the final examination will normally be evaluated according to the following marking scheme:

Final Examination (2.5 Hours)	35
Midterm Examination	15
Preparation and Participation	15
Project — Web Presentation and Research Report	<u>35</u>
	100%

Exams, term papers, etc. will be 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, the following letter grade equivalences will generally apply:

A+	95-100	B	73-77	C-	60-63
A	85-95	B-	70-73	D+	55-59
A-	80-85	C+	67-70	D	50-55
B+	77-80	C	63-67	F	0-50

1. The final examination will be scheduled by the registrar and held in a classroom. The final will be designed to be written in two hours, but students will be permitted two and one half hours. The FULL COURSE will be covered. Final examinations and deferred final examinations will only be held at the time, date and location set by the registrar. Deferred final examinations will not be given except in situations of extreme personal emergency.
2. The midterm examination will be held during a regular class session. Students will be given at least two weeks notice of the date for the midterm. Deferred midterm tests will not normally be given. Students who are unable to write the midterm because of a illness, family emergency or religious observance will have the midterm weight shifted to the final examination. Documentation MUST be provided.

3. The “Preparation and Participation” component of the grading scheme involves online and in-class discussions of the readings. There will be approximately 15 such discussions with active participation in all discussions expected for full marks..
4. Students will be required to complete a project consisting of a 15-page web presentation and a 2500-word research report (i.e., 7-9 double-spaced pages). The web presentation will be due by 17:00 on Friday March 22, 2013 and the research report will be due by 17:00 on Friday March 29, 2013. Both the content and the written presentation will enter into the evaluation of both facets of this project. Late web presentations and research reports will not normally be accepted. Web presentations and research reports that do not meet university standards for documentation and/or effective writing will receive a grade of zero. Further information on both parts of the project will be circulated early in the term.

The midterm and final examinations may include various types of short answer questions, short essays, and/or problems. Some multiple-choice questions may also be included. **Calculators and other electronic devices WILL NOT be allowed.**

At the instructor’s prerogative, a remedial assignment for partial credit may be requested of students who have attempted a piece of term work without achieving a passing mark. There will be no remedial assignment in relation to the final examination. Good attendance is crucial due to the cumulative nature of the course material and the participation requirement. The course material is cumulative and the readings and lectures are complements rather than substitutes.

Important Contacts:

Students’ Union Vice-President Academic:

Kenya-Jade Pinto

Phone: 220-3911

E-mail suypaca@ucalgary.ca

Students’ Union Faculty Representative (Arts)

Phone: 220-3913 Office: MSC 251

E-mail arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca,
arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

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

www.ucalgary.ca/sue

Society of Undergraduates in Economics is a student run organization whose main purpose is to assist undergraduate economics students succeed both academically and socially at the University of Calgary. Services include access to the exam bank, career partnerships with the Career Centre through hosting industry nights and information sessions, recognizing achievements in teaching, and organizing social events for members. Join now by contacting sue@ucalgary.ca.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.
- Online writing resources are available at <http://ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support/online-writing-resources>.

Notes:

- 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. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.
- Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work should discuss their work with the instructor *within fifteen days* of work being returned to class. However, the earliest that grades will be discussed will be two days after the return of an assignment or examination.

Safewalk / Campus Security: 220-5333
Emergency Assembly Point: Education Block - Food Court
