

SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS & TECHNOLOGY

SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Outline: INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMICS
Code No.: ECN 115
Program: SECRETARIAL AND OFFICE PROCEDURES/RETAIL SALES
Semester:
Date: 1985 06 01
Author: JOE LUCCHETTI

New: _____ X _____ Revision: _____

APPROVED: *J. Montali*
Chairperson

85-12-24
Date

INTRO. TO ECONOMICS

ECN 115

Course Name

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GENERAL:

This course is designed to introduce students to the basic economic principles and the fundamentals of the market system. It will provide students with an appreciation of the major contemporary economic issues such as inflation, unemployment, and national debt and factors affecting them. In addition, the students will have an understanding of such matters as monetary policy, fiscal policy, price system, wage and price controls, competition, The Canadian Banking System, etc.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To introduce students to some basic economic concepts and terms.
2. To examine the role of economic institutions such as businesses, corporations, labour unions and governments.
3. To make students aware of monetary and fiscal policies and their effect on our economic system.
4. To help students understand that no country is economically isolated from the rest of the world.
5. To help students develop a better ability to observe economic phenomenon and draw their own conclusions.

METHODOLOGY:

A variety of methods will be employed to cover the course content. These will include lecture, discussions and study groups. Students will be required to read and understand the relevant chapters of the text book and other assigned readings. Student projects will also be assigned.

EVALUATION AND MARKING SCHEME:

Students will be evaluated on the following basis:

- three tests - 80%
- projects, assignments, quizzes and class participation - 20%

Dates of the tests will be announced approximately one week in advance. Quizzes may or may not be announced in advance.

If a student is not able to write a test because of illness, or a legitimate emergency, that student must contact the instructor prior to the test and provide an explanation which is acceptable to the instructor. (Medical certificates or other appropriate proof may be required.) In cases where the student has not contacted the instructor, the student will receive a mark of zero on that test and must repeat the course. There will be no rewrites of individual tests.

Final Grade:

The final grade will be based on the following scale:

- 85% and over - 'A'
- 70% to 84% - 'B'
- 60% to 69% - 'C'
- 59% or less - 'R'

Each student must meet the following requirements in order to complete this course successfully:

1. Must complete, in a fashion acceptable to the instructor, all projects and other assignments.
2. Must write all tests and successfully complete at least two of the three tests. This means a minimum mark of 60% on each test.
3. Must have an overall mark of 60%. This mark includes all work in the semester.

Students who are not successful in achieving the minimum overall mark of 60% may be allowed to write a supplemental test, in limited circumstances

A student with a final mark of 50 to 59% may apply to the instructor for permission to write a supplemental test which will be based on the work from the entire semester. The instructor may allow the student to write the supplemental test based on the student's attitude, participation in class and provided that the student has attempted all semester tests and given some indication of potential success on a supplemental test.

It is the responsibility of any student in this category to apply to write the supplemental test immediately when the final grades are posted.

A final grade of "C" will be assigned to any student who obtains 60% or more on the supplemental test.

In all other instances, students with a final grade of less than 60% will have to repeat the course.

RESOURCE MATERIAL:

Principal Text: - Working with Economics: A Canadian Framework;
by H. Richard Hird, Collier MacMillan, 1983

Support Material:

- 1) Canadian Macroeconomic Problems and Policies;
Brian Lyons; Prentice-Hall Canada, Inc., 1983
- 2) Canadian Microeconomic Problems and Policies;
Brian Lyons; Prentice-Hall Canada, Inc., 1983
- 3) Financial Post, other current newspapers,
periodicals, and other appropriate material

ECONOMICS 115

COURSE OUTLINE - WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Subject to change, the following is the proposed weekly schedule of subjects to be included in this introductory economics course. They are not necessarily the only subjects to be taught, but rather the major areas to be covered and are presented to indicate the overall, general direction of the course.

<u>WEEK</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>REQUIRED READINGS</u>
1	<u>Introductory Concepts</u> -definition of economics -scarcity & opportunity costs -production possibilities -Law of Diminishing Returns -different economic systems -introduction to graphs	Chapter 1
2	<u>Operation of a Market</u> -definition of a market -demand and quantity demanded -factors affecting demand -supply and quantity supplied -factors affecting supply -supply & demand schedules & graphs -supply and demand and prices -elasticity	Chapter 2
3	<u>Role of Government in a Market Economy</u> -Adam Smith's philosophy -Free Market faults -government involvement in -unmet needs -income distribution -stabilizing the economy -setting prices and wages -J.K. Galbraith & M. Friedman	Chapter 3
4	<u>Government in Canada</u> -federal system -fiscal policy -use of government spending and taxation -theory of taxation	Chapter 4

	-government borrowing	
5	<u>Economic Indicators</u>	Chapter 5
	-macroeconomics definition	
	-unemployment & inflation	
	-types of unemployment	
	-consumer price index	
	-causes of inflation	
	-Gross National Product (GNP)	
6	<u>Determination of National Income</u>	Chapter 6
	-consumption, savings and investment	
	-marginal propensity to consume and save	
	-paradox of thrift	
	-the multiplier	
	-automatic stabilizers	
7	<u>Money & The Canadian Banking System</u>	Chapter 7
	-barter system	
	-demand & supply of money	
	-money in Canada	
	-banks & other financial institutions	
	-types of deposits	
	-deposit insurance	
	-the Bank Act	
	-creation of money	
	-Bank of Canada	
	-Monetary Policy	
8	<u>Stabilization Policy</u>	Chapter 8
	-unemployment vs inflation	
	-Phillip's curve	
	-fiscal policy	
	-automatic stabilizers	
	-national debt	
	-monetary policy	
	-wage and price controls	
	-manpower policies	
9	<u>International Economics</u>	Chapter 9
	-Canada's trading partners	
	-comparative advantage	
	-absolute advantage	
	-barriers to trade	
	-EEC and GATT	
	-Canada and U.S. trade	
	-balance of payments	
	-foreign exchange rates	
10	<u>Industrial Organization in Canada</u>	Chapter 10

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Microeconomics definition -types of business enterprises -types of competition -corporate concentration -foreign ownership in Canada 	
11	<u>Production Costs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -profits -diminishing returns -productivity -short & long run costs 	Chapter 11
12	<u>Perfect Competition: Theory & Practice</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -maximize profits -shut down decision -perfect competition in Canada -price supports -marketing boards 	Chapter 12
13	<u>How Imperfect Competition Functions</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -barriers to entry -maximizing profits -oligopolies -kinked demand curve -Combines Investigation Act -monopolistic competition -advertising -function of profits 	Chapter 13
14	<u>Pricing of Resources</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -labour in a free market -labour unions & wage rates -types of unions 	Chapter 14

NOTE: Additional readings will be assigned as the course progresses.

The above schedule is subject to change.