

## General Course Information

**Instructor:** Stephen Kosempel  
*Email* [kosempel@uoguelph.ca](mailto:kosempel@uoguelph.ca)  
*Office Location* MacKinnon 746  
*Office Hours* Wednesday 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM or by appointment  
*Department* Department of Economics and Finance

**Class Schedule:** Tuesday & Thursday 1:00 – 2:20 PM in MACS 129

## Course Description

A first graduate course in macroeconomics, presenting a rigorous introduction to the tools and basic models of dynamic (stochastic) general equilibrium theory (DSGE). The topics covered include economic growth and development, economic fluctuations, and monetary and fiscal policies.

The objective of this graduate course is to equip students with working knowledge of the main topics of current macroeconomic theory. The course also focuses on how we use models to understand real-world economic problems. Course content focuses on theory and involves the computation, calibration and simulation of various macroeconomic models.

## Course Learning Outcomes

The Department of Economics and Finance Learning Outcomes for this course are:

**Knowledge of Macroeconomics Theory** – this course is intended to equip students with working knowledge of the main topics of current macroeconomic theory.

**Mathematical and Statistical Literacy** – students will learn and apply mathematical techniques to solve dynamic stochastic general equilibrium (DSGE) models. Course assignments provide an opportunity for students to demonstrate skills in downloading and processing data, as well as in performing graduate-level statistical analysis using statistical packages.

**Critical thinking skills** – students will develop an ability to critically select models and information and apply them appropriately to solve problems in macroeconomics and to explain economic phenomena, such as economic growth and business cycles, and the effects of economic policy.

**Professional and Ethical Behaviour** – students will learn and adopt formal professional skills and behaviours expected of a practicing academic economist.

**Communication: Written** – all assignments and exams have written components. **Oral** – students are expected to attend every class and participate by asking and/or answering questions relevant to the lecture topics.

## Course Assessment

Assignments	20% (There will be 4-5 equally weighted assignments)
Midterm Exam	40% (Thursday October 24 <sup>th</sup> , 1:00-2:30pm)
Final Exam	40% (Date, Time, Location – TBA during the first week of class)

**Assignments:** Late assignments will not be accepted and will receive a grade of zero. If the midterm exam is missed then you must contact the instructor immediately.

**Exams:** Exams will be invigilated in person on campus. The format of the exams will be long and short answer type questions.

### Graduate program grading policies:

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/genreg-as-gradeint.shtml>

## Course Readings and Materials

A list of readings will be given throughout the semester. There is no required textbook for this course. However, you will require software to complete the assignments. There are two options, but before selecting wait until after the first lecture:

1. MATLAB & Simulink Student Suite. This software can be purchased online from the MathWorks store @ <http://www.mathworks.com/store> . Be sure to select the student version. The cost is USD \$99. This program is recommended for PhD students.
2. Octave —a Matlab clone with the advantage that it is open source software and free. Octave syntax is largely compatible with Matlab and will run Matlab formatted (dot m) files. You can download for Windows/Linux/Mac here: <https://octave.org/>

## University Policies

### Academic Consideration

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration:

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/>

### Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community, faculty, staff, and students to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring.

University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection. Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Graduate Calendar:

<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/graduate-calendar/general-regulations/academic-misconduct/>

## **Accessibility**

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact Student Accessibility Services as soon as possible.

For more information, contact SAS at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208 or email [sas@uoguelph.ca](mailto:sas@uoguelph.ca) or see the website: <https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/accessibility/>

## **Course Evaluation Information**

Please refer to the [Blue by Explorance system](#).

## **Recording of Materials**

Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

## **Drop date**

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is **Friday, November 29, 2024**. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Academic Calendar:

<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/graduate-calendar/general-regulations/>