

# ECON 1BA3/1BB3: INTRODUCTORY MACROECONOMICS

**McMaster University**  
**Section C01, C02, C03**  
**Winter 2021**

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**Course Materials:** **Macroeconomics, 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Ed.** – Hubbard, et al – required.  
**MyLab** – Online homework website – required.

**Course Website:** A2L, or “Avenue” (terms will be used interchangeably)  
<http://avenue.mcmaster.ca/>

**Office Hours:** Office hours will be held via Zoom on Tuesdays from 11 am to 12 pm.  
Click the link from the Avenue home page. For content questions, feel free to reach out to Ms. Gajic or Prof. O'Shaughnessy.

## **Intended Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of the course you will learn:

- why key economic variables are important and how they are measured.
- how models work in economics (especially diagrams) and how they are used to analyze “shocks”.
- economics is about people.

## **Evaluation:**

Online Quizzes – Avenue	78%
MyLab Assignments – Publisher's website	7%
Participation – Avenue	8%
Critical Reflection Questionnaires and Report - Avenue	7%

## **Course Structure:**

This course is being taught fully online. Course content will be delivered by reading the textbook and watching online videos. Each week you will use a “weekly schedule” to keep you on task as you read the textbook, watch instructor videos, and complete online homework/assignments. A (\*) next to a video title in the weekly schedule means that the content in the video is **not** in the textbook. Any content in the textbook that you will not be tested on is noted in the weekly schedules. It is your responsibility to check Avenue daily for class announcements (see the section “Communication” on page 4 of this document).

### Online Quizzes – Avenue:

There are six quizzes, beginning in Week 3 (see the schedule on page 8).

Quiz #1 – Ch. 1, 2, 3

Quiz #2 – Ch. 4, 5

Quiz #3 – Ch. 6, 7

Quiz #4 – Ch. 8, 9

Quiz #5 – Ch. 10, 11

Quiz #6 – Ch. 12, “diagram connections”

I will drop your lowest quiz score. Of the remaining quizzes, the one with the highest score will be worth 18% of your final grade. The remaining four quizzes will each be worth 15% of your final grade. The quizzes will consist of 18 multiple choice questions (worth one point each) and one calculation question, where you will manually enter a numerical answer (worth two points). There is a 30-minute time limit for each quiz. You may or may not see a “countdown clock” during the quiz, depending on your browser choice and/or computer settings. Because you are taking the quiz on your own, we cannot invigilate the same way that we invigilate in-person tests. So you can use your notes and textbook during the quiz. You are expected to complete this quiz without the aid of other students. Quizzes will be held on Wednesdays and will be available from 2 pm until 11:59 pm EST.

- Use the latest version of either Chrome or Firefox.
- Close all other apps/programs/browser windows.
- Carefully read all instructions before beginning the quiz. The assigned time limit does not begin until you click “start quiz”.
- You will see one question at a time and you cannot move back and forth between questions.
- Once you have chosen your answer click “next question”. Do **\*not\*** click “next question” more than once. Clicking more than once may result in the pop-up getting stuck and impeding your ability to read future questions. You will not be given any consideration should you make this mistake.
- When you have answered all questions, click “submit quiz”. You must submit the quiz for it to be graded. Do **\*not\*** click “submit quiz” until you have answered all questions.
- If you miss the quiz, complete the online MSAF form. The rewrite will be Thursday during the following week from 2 pm to 11:59 pm EST (8 days after the original quiz date).
- In the rare event that you should experience a technical problem, exit the quiz and relaunch it. The clock will continue to run. If you begin a quiz, you cannot submit MSAF.
- The “drop lowest score” policy is meant to be insurance against (1) computer technical problems (2) internet service provider issues (3) you mistakenly submit the entire quiz after completing only a few questions. If you miss a quiz completely, your first course of action should be to submit MSAF and take the rewrite. If you rely on this “drop lowest score” policy for a missed quiz, and then later in the course you experience technical difficulties, or submission mistakes, you will **\*not\*** be given any special consideration.
- Quiz 6 includes some questions that cover diagram analysis from more than one chapter. This is not a cumulative quiz, and it is not a final exam.

**Quiz Access:**

A “course outline” quiz will be made available on Avenue beginning on the first day of classes (January 11). It is due at 11:59 pm EST on Tuesday, January 26. You cannot access the first content quiz until you achieve a score of 10/10 on the course outline quiz. If you miss the deadline for the course outline quiz and cannot access Quiz #1 (Chapters 1-3), you must submit MSAF for Quiz #1.

**MyLab Homework:**

- Online homework will be submitted using the publisher’s website. You can purchase from the campus store or from the publisher during the registration process. Do not attempt to create a MyLab account until after classes begin and you can access MyLab from within Avenue. Do not purchase directly from the publisher’s website, or another website, as your access may not be guaranteed.
- The first two homework assignments are due on Friday, January 22, at 11:59 pm. One is a review of some basic math concepts called “MyLab Math Review,” the other is an introduction to the online platform called “How to Use MyLab”. Each of these homework assignments is worth 1% of your final grade. If you miss either of these homework assignments, you may submit an MSAF. The new due date will be the following Thursday, January 28, at 11:59 pm.
- There are 12 graded homework assignments, each associated with a chapter in the textbook. Homework is due on Tuesday night at 11:59pm. *Make sure that your computer is set to the correct time zone (Eastern Standard Time) so that the due dates show up as 11:59pm.* Due to the timing of the drop/add period, the homework for chapters 1, 2, and 3 are all due during week 3.
- You have two “free passes” for missed homework. You may use your free passes if you are ill, forget a due date, or have computer problems. You do not need a doctor’s note or need to contact anyone to use a free pass. Given the “free pass” policy, I will grade only your top 10 (each is worth 0.5% of your final grade). **MSAF will not be accepted for the regular MyLab chapter homework.** Please note that a free pass may \*not\* be used if you miss the math review or the “how-to” assignment – see the second bullet point above.
- You can only review homework that you have opened. Even if you cannot complete the homework one week, it is a good idea to open it and submit one answer. Then that homework will be available for you to review as you prepare for quizzes.

**Participation:**

During Week 2 of the course you will be asked to introduce yourself to some peers via the discussion board on Avenue. During the remainder of the course you are expected to actively participate in online discussion forums. An assignment sheet which will outline instructions, submission details and guidelines, will be provided. Each “Discussion Post Response Set” includes a “Personal Response” to a question, which will be due on Tuesdays and a “Peer Response” to the same question, which will be due on Thursdays. The “Peer Response” must be in the form of a reply to another student’s post. Failure to follow the naming conventions for discussion posts will result in a grade of zero for that post. If you miss a discussion post, you can submit MSAF. The new due date is the Thursday of the week following the missed post.

**Critical Reflection:**

You will complete a brief questionnaire during weeks 5, 8, and 12, and then use those to write and submit a final critical reflection report of 400 to 500 words. The report is due Monday, April 12. The questionnaires will be available via Avenue quizzes. If you miss a questionnaire, you can submit MSAF. The new due date is the Thursday of the week following the missed questionnaire. The report will be submitted on Avenue through "Assessments">"Assignments". An assignment sheet for the report, which will outline instructions, submission details and guidelines, will be provided. If you miss the deadline for the report you can submit MSAF. The new due date is Monday, April 19.

**MSAF:**

Please see the University policy on page 6. The McMaster Student Absence Reporting Form, MSAF is available for this course. It may be used once per term to report an absence for pieces of work worth 24% or less of your total grade. You may use MSAF for any piece of term work **\*except\*** the MyLab weekly homework (see the section about MyLab above). Submission of MSAF will result in a rewrite for a quiz and an extension for a questionnaire, discussion post, or the report. **No assessments will be re-weighted based on submission of MSAF.** All work for which MSAF has been submitted will be due (or completed on) the Thursday of the week following the missed work. For example, if you miss the Personal Response discussion post due on Tuesday, Feb. 1, the new due date for that post is Thursday, Feb. 10.

**Communication:**

The primary way for me to communicate with you in an online course is via the Announcements section of the Avenue homepage. It is your responsibility to check the Announcements on Avenue daily. If you click your name in the top right corner of the Avenue page and choose "Notifications", you will see a list of items that you can receive notifications for. Choose "Announcements" – any time there is a new or updated announcement, you will receive an email or SMS on your phone."

**The Golden Rule of Netiquette:**

Do not do or say online what you would not do or say offline.

**The Core Rules of Netiquette:**

- 1. Be Friendly, Positive and Self- Reflective**
  - Think before you write and edit before you post
- 2. Use Proper Language and Titles**
  - Do not use caps lock as this insinuates yelling
  - Do not use profanity or slang
  - Address your instructor and fellow students respectfully
- 3. Use Effective Communication**
  - Say what you mean to say clearly and thoughtfully
- 4. Professionalism**
  - Leave instant messaging abbreviations and characters (☺) out
- 5. Ask for Clarification**
  - If you are unsure of what was said, ask again (I did not understand...)

## **OFFICIAL UNIVERSITY/FACULTY POLICIES**

### **Faculty of Social Sciences e-mail communication policy:**

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

### **Academic Integrity:**

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity. **It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty.**

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the [Academic Integrity Policy](https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-procedures-guidelines/), located at <https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-procedures-guidelines/>

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

- plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained.
- improper collaboration in group work.
- copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

### **Online Course Elements:**

This course will be delivered through Avenue to Learn. Students should be aware that when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation, may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

### **Conduct Expectations:**

As a McMaster student, you have the right to experience, and the responsibility to demonstrate, respectful and dignified interactions within all of our living, learning and working communities. These expectations are described in the [Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities](#) (the "Code"). All students share the responsibility of maintaining a positive environment for the academic and personal growth of all McMaster community members, **whether in person or online.**

It is essential that students be mindful of their interactions online, as the Code remains in effect in virtual learning environments. The Code applies to any interactions that adversely affect, disrupt, or interfere with reasonable participation in University activities. Student disruptions or behaviours that interfere with university functions on online platforms (e.g. use of Avenue 2

Learn, WebEx or Zoom for delivery), will be taken very seriously and will be investigated. Outcomes may include restriction or removal of the involved students' access to these platforms.

### **Academic Accommodations of Students with Disabilities:**

Students with disabilities who require academic accommodation must contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) (SAS) at 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or [sas@mcmaster.ca](mailto:sas@mcmaster.ca) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. For further information, consult McMaster University's [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#) policy.

If you have extra time for tests/exams, you will receive extra time on the quizzes automatically. For accommodations that are not related to tests or exams, you must communicate with me directly (in person, or by email) in order for your accommodations to be met.

### **Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work**

McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF): In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar "Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work".

### **Academic Accommodation for Religious, Indigenous and Spiritual Observances:**

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the [RISO](#) policy. Students should submit their request to their Faculty Office **normally within 10 working days** of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests.

### **Copyright and Recording:**

Students are advised that lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor include copyright protected works. The Copyright Act and copyright law protect every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work, **including lectures** by University instructors

The recording of lectures, tutorials, or other methods of instruction may occur during a course. Recording may be done by either the instructor for the purpose of authorized distribution, or by a student for the purpose of personal study. Students should be aware that their voice and/or image may be recorded by others during the class. Please speak with the instructor if this is a concern for you.

**The University reserves the right to change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances (e.g., severe weather, labour disruptions, etc.). Changes will be communicated through regular McMaster communication channels, such as McMaster Daily News, A2L and/or McMaster email**

*Due to the delayed start of classes provided by the University, some details and deadlines regarding course content and assessments in the published course outline may be changed. Please check Avenue to Learn for the most up-to-date information for this course. The course outline on Avenue to Learn will supersede previously published outlines until published course outlines are updated.*

### Course Schedule and Due Dates:

Week	Content Released	Assignments/Quizzes	Due Dates
1	Chapters 1, 2	<i>Nothing due until after drop/add</i>	
2	Chapter 3	Introduction Discussion Post	Thurs., Jan. 21
		Discussion Post Personal Response #1	Thurs., Jan. 21
		Discussion Post Peer Response #1	Fri., Jan. 22
		MyLab Math, How-to Assignments	Fri., Jan. 22
3	Chapter 4	MyLab HK (Chapters 1-3)	Tues., Jan. 26
		<b>Quiz #1 (Chapters 1-3)**</b>	<b>Wed., Jan. 27</b>
4	Chapter 5	MyLab HK (Ch. 4)	Tues., Feb. 2
		Discussion Post Personal Response #2	Tues., Feb. 2
		Discussion Post Peer Response #2	Thurs., Feb. 4
5	Chapter 6, 7	MyLab HK (Ch. 5)	Tues., Feb. 9
		Critical Reflection Questionnaire #1	Tues., Feb. 9
		<b>Quiz #2 (Chapters 4, 5)</b>	<b>Wed., Feb. 10</b>
<b>READING WEEK</b>			
6	Chapter 8	MyLab HK (Ch. 6,7)	Tues., Feb. 23
		<b>Quiz #3 (Chapters 6, 7)</b>	<b>Wed., Feb. 24</b>
7	Chapter 9	MyLab HK (Ch. 8)	Tues., Mar. 2
		Discussion Post Personal Response #3	Tues., Mar. 2
		Discussion Post Peer Response #3	Thurs., Mar. 4
8	Chapter 10	MyLab HK (Ch. 9)	Tues., Mar. 9
		Critical Reflection Questionnaire #2	Tues., Mar. 9
		<b>Quiz #4 (Chapters 8, 9)</b>	<b>Wed., Mar. 10</b>
9	Chapter 11	MyLab HK (Ch. 10)	Tues., Mar. 16
		Discussion Post Personal Response #4	Tues., Mar. 16
		Discussion Post Peer Response #4	Thurs., Mar. 18
10	Chapter 12	MyLab HK (Ch. 11)	Tues., Mar. 23
		<b>Quiz #5 (Chapters 10, 11)</b>	<b>Wed., Mar. 24</b>
11		MyLab HK (Ch. 12)	Tues., Mar. 30
		Discussion Post Personal Response #5	Tues., Mar. 30
		Discussion Post Peer Response #5	Thurs., Apr. 1
12		Critical Reflection Questionnaire #3	Tues., Apr. 6
		<b>Quiz #6 (Chapter 12, “Diagram Connections”)</b>	<b>Wed., Apr. 7</b>
13		Critical Reflection Report	Mon., Apr. 12

**\*\*To access Quiz #1 you must score 10/10 on the course outline quiz (see the section called "Quiz Access" on page 3)**