

Intermediate Macroeconomics Syllabus
Department of Economics
ECON 2201-Section 2 Winter 2026

Dalhousie University acknowledges that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People and pays respect to the Indigenous knowledges held by the Mi'kmaq People, and to the wisdom of their Elders past and present. The Mi'kmaq People signed Peace and Friendship Treaties with the Crown, and section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 recognizes and affirms Aboriginal and Treaty rights. We are all Treaty people.

Dalhousie University also acknowledges the histories, contributions, and legacies of African Nova Scotians, who have been here for over 400 years.

Course Instructors

Name	Email	Office Hours
James McNeil (professor)	mclinej@dal.ca	Tuesdays 10 – 11:30, room C23 Economics Department
Mingyue Li (teaching assistant)	mn905298@dal.ca	Mondays 1 – 3 room A15 Economics Department

Course Description

This course provides further insights into standard macroeconomic theories and associated applications. It provides a foundation upon which we can analyze past and current macroeconomic issues, and apply macroeconomic theories to real world events. First, we acquaint ourselves with some key economic principles that appear throughout the course. We then use these principles to study macroeconomic issues such as economic growth and living standards, inflation, recessions, fiscal and monetary policies, exchange rates, and unemployment. We take various approaches to the study of macroeconomics and explore a range of models showcasing the wide range of ways of thinking about macroeconomics. We will also emphasize the idea that macroeconomics is an empirical science, and present empirical evaluations of theories. To this end, we will link the theories we discuss in class to current macroeconomic events in the news.

Course Prerequisites

ECON 1102, with a minimum grade of C. Knowledge of basic algebra is also required.

Student Resources

Students are welcome to attend my office hours, as well as the office hours of the TA, the times and locations of which are noted above. We can also answer your questions by email.

Course Structure

Course Delivery

In person. Lectures will not be recorded.

Lectures

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:05 pm to 5:25 pm in Mona Campbell, room 1108.

Tutorials

Mondays from 10:35 am to 11:25 am in LSC-Common Area, room C338. (Beginning January 26th). *Please ensure that you register in the tutorial associated with this section of the course.*

Course Materials

The required textbook for this course, available through the Dalhousie University Bookstore, is:

Macroeconomics: 6th Canadian Edition, by N. Gregory Mankiw and William Scarth, New York: Worth Publishers, 2020.

Additional course materials may be posted to the course Brightspace page.

Assessment

Participation: 5%

Each week you'll complete a short Brightspace survey describing your work that week as well as any topics you found challenging. The idea of these is simply to keep you on track and give me an opportunity to see if there are any common areas of misunderstanding that we might benefit from reviewing in class. Each quiz is worth one half point up to a maximum of 5 points for your overall participation score. So, you can miss two of these quizzes without penalty, after that I'll deduct one half point for each week's missed quiz. Due date will be each Sunday at 11:59pm sharp.

Assignments: 5% each (best 4 of 5)

Short homeworks will be posted to the course Brightspace page. You may work in groups of 2 on these assignments. Assignments are to be submitted to Brightspace and are due by the

beginning of class. We will drop your lowest assignment grade, so the total weight is 20% of your final grade.

Homework #	Due Date
1	January 27
2	February 3
3	March 3
4	March 17
5	April 7

*Midterm exams: 20% each**

There will be two midterm exams, held in class on February 10th and March 24th. The content covered on each midterm will be discussed in class and posted to the Brightspace page.

**If your grade on the final exam exceeds your grade on either of the midterms, we will drop your lowest midterm grade and replace it with your final exam grade.*

Final exam

The final exam will be held during the scheduled exam period and is worth 35% of your final grade. Students must earn a passing grade on the final exam in order to pass the course.

Conversion of numerical grades to final letter grades follows the

[Dalhousie Grade Scale](#)

A+ (90-100)	B+ (77-79)	C+ (65-69)	D (50-54)
A (85-89)	B (73-76)	C (60-64)	F (0-49)
A- (80-84)	B- (70-72)	C- (55-59)	

Course Policies on Missed or Late Academic Requirements

Students who are unable to write the midterms or final exam because of illness must notify the instructor *prior* to the start of the exam. The weight of a missed midterm exam will be transferred to the final exam. Students who miss the final exam will write a make-up exam to be scheduled at a later date. Late assignments will not be accepted.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students will gain an understanding of the most widely used introductory macroeconomic models. Students should be able to use these models to analyze contemporary macroeconomic issues.

Course Content

Introduction to macroeconomics
Macroeconomic data
National income
The monetary system and inflation
Unemployment
Economic growth
Economic fluctuations
Aggregate demand and the IS-LM model
Aggregate supply, inflation, and unemployment
Stabilization policy and government debt
The open economy
The Mundell-Fleming model and exchange rates

University Policies and Statements

Recognition of Mi'kmaq Territory

Dalhousie University would like to acknowledge that the University is on Traditional Mi'kmaq Territory. The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel, and support. Visit or e-mail the Indigenous Student Centre at 1321 Edward St or elders@dal.ca. Additional information regarding the Indigenous Student Centre can be found at: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html

Internationalization

At Dalhousie, 'thinking and acting globally' enhances the quality and impact of education, supporting learning that is "interdisciplinary, cross-cultural, global in reach, and orientated toward solving problems that extend across national borders." Additional internationalization information can be found at: <https://www.dal.ca/about-dal/internationalization.html>

Academic Integrity

At Dalhousie University, we are guided in all our work by the values of academic integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, responsibility, and respect. As a student, you are required to demonstrate these values in all the work you do. The University provides policies and procedures that every member of the university community is required to follow to ensure academic integrity. Additional academic integrity information can be found at: https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity.html

Accessibility

The Student Accessibility Centre is Dalhousie's centre of expertise for matters related to student accessibility and accommodation. If there are aspects of the design, instruction, and/or experiences within this course (online or in-person) that result in barriers to your inclusion, please contact the Student Accessibility Centre (https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/accessibility.html) for all courses offered by Dalhousie with the exception of Truro. For courses offered by the Faculty of Agriculture, please contact the Student Success Centre in Truro (<https://www.dal.ca/about-dal/agricultural-campus/student-success-centre.html>)

Conduct in the Classroom – Culture of Respect

Substantial and constructive dialogue on challenging issues is an important part of academic inquiry and exchange. It requires willingness to listen and tolerance of opposing points of view.

Consideration of individual differences and alternative viewpoints is required of all class members, towards each other, towards instructors, and towards guest speakers. While expressions of differing perspectives are welcome and encouraged, the words and language used should remain within acceptable bounds of civility and respect.

Diversity and Inclusion – Culture of Respect

Every person at Dalhousie has a right to be respected and safe. We believe inclusiveness is fundamental to education. We stand for equality. Dalhousie is strengthened in our diversity. We are a respectful and inclusive community. We are committed to being a place where everyone feels welcome and supported, which is why our Strategic Direction prioritizes fostering a culture of diversity and inclusiveness (Strategic Priority 5.2). Additional diversity and inclusion information can be found at: <http://www.dal.ca/cultureofrespect.html>

Student Code of Conduct

Everyone at Dalhousie is expected to treat others with dignity and respect. The Code of Student Conduct allows Dalhousie to take disciplinary action if students don't follow this community expectation. When appropriate, violations of the code can be resolved in a reasonable and informal manner - perhaps through a restorative justice process. If an informal resolution can't be reached, or would be inappropriate, procedures exist for formal dispute resolution. The full Code of Student Conduct can be found at:

https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/student-life/code-of-student-conduct.html

Fair Dealing Policy

The Dalhousie University Fair Dealing Policy provides guidance for the limited use of copyright protected material without the risk of infringement and without having to seek the permission of copyright owners. It is intended to provide a balance between the rights of creators and the rights of users at Dalhousie. Additional information regarding the Fair Dealing Policy can be found at:

https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/fair-dealing-policy-.html

Originality Checking Software

The course instructor may use Dalhousie's approved originality checking software and Google to check the originality of any work submitted for credit, in accordance with the Student Submission of Assignments and Use of Originality Checking Software Policy. Students are free, without penalty of grade, to choose an alternative method of attesting to the authenticity of their work and must inform the instructor no later than the last day to add/drop classes of their intent to choose an alternate method. Additional information regarding Originality Checking Software

can be found at: https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/student-submission-of-assignments-and-use-of-originality-checking-software-policy-.html

Student Use of Course Materials

Course materials are designed for use as part of this course at Dalhousie University and are the property of the instructor unless otherwise stated. Third party copyrighted materials (such as books, journal articles, music, videos, etc.) have either been licensed for use in this course or fall under an exception or limitation in Canadian Copyright law. Copying this course material for distribution (e.g. uploading to a commercial third-party website) may lead to a violation of Copyright law.