

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY
UNIVERSITY OF REGINA
GSPP 821: Macroeconomics for Policy Analysis
Winter 2007

Instructor: **Dr. Stuart J. Wilson**
Course Time and Room: **MW 16:30-17:45 CL-232**

Calendar Description

This course introduces the major policy questions of macroeconomics and presents macroeconomic models to assist policy development. An emphasis will be placed on current policy issues including monetary policy, fiscal policy, currency regimes, productivity and growth, demographics patterns and fiscal sustainability. **Prerequisite:** GSPP 805 or Permission.

Contact Information

Office Hours: MWF 10:30-11:30, immediately after class, and by appointment
Office: CL-239
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Webpage: <http://www.econ.uregina.ca/wilson/GSPP821>

Students in this course who, because of a disability, may have a need for accommodations, are encouraged to come and discuss accommodations with the instructor, and to contact the Coordinator of Special Needs Services at 585-4631.

Students are reminded that they are responsible for understanding and following the academic regulations of the university, in particular, regulations regarding plagiarism, procedures and dates for dropping courses, correct procedures for exam deferment, and policies regarding harassment. Please visit http://www.uregina.ca/gradstudies/calendar/policy_univ.shtml for more information.

Course Materials

1. **AK** - Auerbach AJ, and Kotlikoff LJ (1998) *Macroeconomics: An Integrated Approach*, Second Edition. MIT Press, Cambridge. ISBN 0262011700 (hardcover - \$91 list price, \$60 at Amazon.ca). Available at the University of Regina Bookstore.

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2. **CF** – Champ B, Freeman S (2001) Modeling Monetary Economies, Second Edition. Cambridge University Press, New York. ISBN 0521789745 (paperback - \$38 list price, \$25 at Amazon.ca). Available at the University of Regina Bookstore.
3. Additional readings will be posted on the course website for students to download.

Topics

- I. Production and Growth (AK Chs. 1-4)
- II. Macroeconomic Policy (AK 6)
- III. Selected Topics (Readings)
 - a. Migration and investment
 - b. Savings and public policy
 - c. Aging and pension reform
- IV. Monetary Policy (CF 1, 3, 4, 13-16)

Students will be expected to have read the relevant material as assigned before the class in which it will be discussed. A more detailed course plan will be maintained on the course website.

Evaluation

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| 1. Assignments (four, dates TBA): | 60% |
| 2. Final Examination (April 25, 2007, 14:00-17:00): | 40% |

Model simulations will be demonstrated using MAPLE. Students will need to become familiar with the program. **The department will have MAPLE installed on a PC in CL-240 and on a PC in CL-255.** Licenses for MAPLE 10 Student Edition may be obtained from Maplesoft at www.maplesoft.com. A full license shipped with discs costs approximately \$149, a full download license costs approximately \$115, and a 12-month download license costs approximately \$95. The University Bookstore may also order copies on your behalf.