

YORK UNIVERSITY
Department of Economics
MA Development
ECON 5700
Fall 2017

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2017

Instructor: Nils-Petter (Nippe) Lagerlöf

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Office: Vari Hall 1056

Office hours: Mondays 2-3 pm.

Teaching Assistant: None that I know of for this course.

Teaching website: <http://www.nippelagerlof.com/teaching/teaching.htm>

Late enrollment: I never sign any papers to let students enroll late.

Lecture hours: Wednesdays 2.30-5.30 pm in VH 1152A.

Textbook: No textbook, but a reading list.

Grading scheme: There are three midterm tests all held in class. Preliminary dates for these are posted below. There is no final exam. Therefore, concepts like “deferred standing” have little meaning in this course, as explained below.

Let your mark on the first midterm be M_1 , the mark on the second be M_2 , and the mark on the third be M_3 . All these (M_1 , M_2 and M_3) are numbers between 0 and 1 (i.e., they lie on the interval $[0, 1]$).

The overall mark (which can be labelled the “numerical grade”) is denoted W and determined by this function:

$$W = 0.3M_1 + 0.5M_2 + 0.2M_3.$$

Then these overall marks are converted to letter grades, according to the scheme posted here (at the time this is written):

<http://gradstudies.yorku.ca/current-students/regulations/courses-grading/#grading>

Some remarks to note:

- Students who miss or do poorly on the first midterm should be aware that this is costly, since I am reluctant to deviate from the above grading scheme by giving higher “weight” to the other midterms. I advise that students who are absent from, or do poorly on, the first midterm drop the course.
- Exams in this course cannot be “deferred.” The Registrar’s Office states in writing that:¹ “When students do not or cannot write a mid-term examination (not held during the formal examination period), alternate arrangements to write the mid-term examination should be made within the duration of the course by the course director and individual student *at the discretion of the course director. The Deferred Standing Agreement does not apply.*” (Italics added.)
- The second and third midterm exams cover all material taught in the course up until then (i.e., not only what has been taught since the most recent midterm).

Assignments: There will be no formal assignments to hand in, but we may do problems in class. You should make sure you at least *try* to solve them: it’s very valuable training.

Dates for the midterm exams: The three midterm exams are all held in class on these preliminary dates:

- 11 October, 2017.
- 15 November, 2017.
- 29 November, 2017.

¹See the RO’s Web site:

<http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/exams/deferred/index.htm>

Length and format of midterms: The midterm tests are held in class and typically consist of three problems. They are about 2 hours and 15 minutes long.

Note on academic integrity: York University publishes information online about the consequences of cheating:

<http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/>

Tips on communicating by email

Below are some practical suggestions about how you can translate mathematical expressions into text that you can write in the body of a standard e-mail.

Math	Text
x^a	x^{a}
x_a	x_{a}
$\frac{a}{b}$	a/b
$\frac{a+b}{c+d}$	(a+b)/(c+d)
α	alpha
β	beta
γ	gamma
$\sum_{i=a}^b x_i$	sum from i=a to i=b of x_{i}
$\int_{i=a}^b x_i$	integral from i=a to i=b of x_{i}