

School of Accounting and Commercial Law

## **MMPA 508 ECONOMICS**

Trimester One 2012

### **COURSE OUTLINE**

---

<b>Names and Contact Details</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>Telephone</b>
<i>Course Coordinator &amp; Lecturer</i> Professor Morris Altman <a href="mailto:Morris.Altman@vuw.ac.nz">Morris.Altman@vuw.ac.nz</a> Office Hours: TBA	RH 305	463 6961
<i>Course Administrator</i> Pinky Shah <a href="mailto:Pinky.Shah@vuw.ac.nz">Pinky.Shah@vuw.ac.nz</a> Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8.30am-5pm	RH 728	463 6921

#### **Trimester Dates**

Teaching Period: Monday 5 March – Friday 15 June

Study Period: Monday 18 June – Friday 22 June

Examination Period (for MPA courses): Saturday 23 June – Wednesday 4 July (inclusive)

#### **Withdrawal from Course**

1. Your fees will be refunded if you withdraw from this course on or before Friday 16 March 2012.
2. The standard last date for withdrawal from this course is Friday 18 May 2012. After this date, students forced to withdraw by circumstances beyond their control must apply for permission on an '*Application for Associate Dean's Permission to Withdraw Late*' including supporting documentation.

The application form is available from either of the Faculty's Student Customer Service Desks.

#### **Class Times and Room Numbers**

**Thursday:** 1.40-4.30pm

**Venue:** Rutherford House Lecture Theatre 3 (RHLT3), Pipitea Campus

## **Course Content**

The course objective is to explain economic principles and their application to issues facing households, businesses and the government in the New Zealand economy in the context of the international economic environment. Special focus is placed on understanding the economics toolbox so that it can be used for general economic analysis.

**Lectures will be largely based on the Hubbard et al book.**

## **Course Learning Objectives**

Students who are successful in this course will be able to:

- (a) define, explain and apply economic concepts and terms;
- (b) identify and explain the economic implications of different economic systems;
- (c) apply economic principles, including supply and demand concepts, to evaluate policy with respect to certain current economic issues;
- (d) apply the economic theory of the firm (including marginal and transaction cost analysis) in different market settings;
- (e) explain the importance of international trade to economic performance, and analyse domestic and international trade policy as it pertains to economic issues;
- (f) analyse the determinants of economic growth and business cycles (changes in GDP);
- (g) explain key features of economic aggregates (macroeconomics), the linkages between macroeconomic variables, the trade and capital account balances, and business cycles in the New Zealand economy;
- (h) explain the determinants of government revenues and expenditure, and the effect of these and the government budget on the performance of the economy;
- (i) define measures of money and the price level and analyse the basis of monetary policy; and
- (j) explain the interaction between microeconomic policy and macroeconomic performance.

## **Course Delivery**

Lectures will comprise the delivery of the courses material plus discussion of theoretical and applied questions.

## **Expected Workload**

This course is a 15-point course. One point is equated to 10 hours of work, which means a total of 150 hours is expected for this course, spread over the 12 teaching weeks, mid-trimester break, study week and the examination period. This involves attending the lecturers and tutorials every week, assignments, and preparations for all exams.

## **Readings**

### *Set reading*

Hubbard/Garnett/Lewis/O'Brien, *Essentials of Economics*. Pearson, Australia, 2010.

### *Optional reading, but highly recommended*

Myeconlab supplement to *Essentials of Economics*.

## **Materials and Equipment**

Students will be permitted to use electronic calculators during exams and assignments. These calculators must not contain memory capabilities and must be non-programmable.

## **Assessment Requirements**

- 2 Mid-Trimester Tests worth 22.5 percent each of the final grade:
  - **Test #1** March 29 (covers material covered prior to the mid-trimester test)  
*100 minutes, Closed Book*
  - **Test #2** May 24 (covers material covered from the first mid-trimester test to this second mid-trimester test)  
*100 minutes, Closed book*
- An **Exam** worth 55 percent of the final grade (covers all material covered in the lectures and tutorials—this is a comprehensive exam) – date to be advised  
*2 hours, Closed Book*

## Quality Assurance Note

Your assessed work may also be used for quality assurance purposes, such as to assess the level of achievement of learning objectives as required for accreditation and audit purposes. The findings may be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of FCA programmes. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential, and the outcome will not affect your grade for the course.

## **Examinations**

Students who enrol in courses with examinations are obliged to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal examination period.

The final examination for this course will be scheduled at some time during the period from Saturday 23 June – Wednesday 4 July (inclusive).

## **Mandatory Course Requirements**

None.

## **Class Representative**

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details made available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

## **Communication of Additional Information**

Additional information will be available on blackboard.

## **Use of Turnitin**

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an on-line plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted materials on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions will not be made available to any other party.

**For the following important information follow the links provided:**

**Academic Integrity and Plagiarism**

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

**General University Policies and Statutes**

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at

[www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study)

Find out about academic progress and restricted enrolment at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress.aspx>

The University's statutes and policies are available at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy), except qualification statutes, which are available via the Calendar webpage at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx> (See Section C).

Further information about the University's academic processes can be found on the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at

[www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/avcacademic/default.aspx](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic/default.aspx)

**AVC (Academic) Website: information including: Conduct, Academic Grievances, Students with Impairments, Student Support**

[http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx)

**Faculty of Commerce and Administration Offices**

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fca/studenthelp/>

**Te Putahi Atawhai**

**Maori and Pacific Mentoring Programme**

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/tpa/>