YORK UNIVERSITY
Department of Economics
MA Development
ECON 5700
Fall 2021
Preliminary and continuously updated; this version is from September 13,
2021

Instructor: Nils-Petter (Nippe) Lagerlöf

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Office: Vari Hall 1056

Office hours: To be determined if/when I get access to an office.

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: Mondays 11:30 am–2:30 pm in ACW 009. (In person.)
Note: not Wednesdays, as it said before!

Textbook: No textbook, but a reading list. This may be subject to
updates during the semester but a preliminary version is available on the
course website; follow the link and above and click on 5700.

Grading scheme: There are three midterm tests all held in class. 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 advice 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 has stated in writing that:[1] "When students do not or cannot write a midterm 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 and problems: There will be no formal assignments to hand in, but we will do problems in class. You should make sure you at least *try* to solve them: it's very valuable training. The problems may be updated over the semester but a preliminary version is posted on the course website; follow the link and above and click on 5700.

Dates for the midterm exams: The tentative dates for the midterm exams are as follows:

- The first midterm will be held on **Monday October 18**, 2021.

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[1] This used to be posted on the RO's website:

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

- The second midterm will be held on **Monday November 22**, 2021.

- The third midterm will be held on **Monday December 6**, 2021.

Length and format of midterms: The midterm tests are held in class and typically consist of 3-4 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}