

Course Outline

1. COURSE INFORMATION

Session Offered	Winter 2024	
Course Name	Foundations of Business	
Course Code	GENTECH 1BZ3	
Date(s) and Time(s) of lectures	Section	Location
	<i>C01 (Lecture):</i> Thursday, 6:30pm – 8:20pm	LRW B1007
	<i>T01 – T06 (Tutorials):</i>	
	T01: Tuesday, 9:30am – 10:20am	BSB 121
	T02: Tuesday, 10:30am – 11:20am	BSB 138
	T03: Tuesday, 2:30pm – 3:20pm	ABB 165
	T04: Tuesday, 3:30pm – 4:20pm	ABB 162
	T05: Wednesday, 12:30pm – 1:20pm	BSB B156
	T06: Wednesday, 1:30pm – 2:20pm	BSB 120
Program Name	General Technology within the B. Tech program	
Calendar Description	Students are introduced the functional areas within business and an overview of the local and global business environments. The fundamentals of micro- and macro-economics are introduced, as well as sustainability in the environment of business.	
Instructor	Christine DiCarlo	Office Hours & Location: By Appointment
Instructional Assistant	Michelle Ragany	raganym@mcmaster.ca Office Hours & Location: By Appointment
Teaching Assistants		

2. COURSE SPECIFICS

Course Description			
Instruction Type	Code	Type	Hours per term
	C	Classroom instruction	2
	L	Laboratory, workshop or fieldwork	N/A
	T	Tutorial	1
	DE	Distance education	N/A
	Total Hours		3
Resources	ISBN	Textbook Title & Edition, Author & Publisher	
	ISBN: 9781264568901	Business Foundations – A Custom Courseware featuring chapters from: <i>Business: A Changing World, Seventh Canadian Edition, Ferrell, Hirt, Ferrell, Iskander, McGraw-Hill Canada</i> & <i>Understanding Economics: A Contemporary Perspective, Eighth Edition, Lovewell, McGraw-Hill Canada</i>	

Prerequisite(s)	Registration in Automation Engineering Technology, Automotive and Vehicle Engineering Technology, or Biotechnology
Corequisite(s)	N/A
Antirequisite(s)	N/A
Course Specific Policies	<p>Students are expected to attend weekly lecture and tutorial to get the most from content. If students are unable to attend, they are expected to get caught up on their own time.</p> <p>There will some online quizzes using the McGraw-Hill Connect platform. THIS MEANS STUDENTS MUST PURCHASE THE TEXT AND REGISTER FOR THE CONNECT PLATFORM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. The reading assignments are designed to ensure students are keeping up with content. Quizzes will make up 10% of the final grade.</p> <p>We will have a series of four mini case studies each worth 10% (40% total) and will be completed in the tutorials. Additionally, there will be a major cumulative case study worth 20%</p> <p>There is no mid term in this course, however there will be a final exam, to be scheduled during the exam period, which will test students' cumulative knowledge. This will be worth 30% of the final grade.</p> <p>Students should feel comfortable directing any questions or concerns to TA's, the instructional assistant or Instructor through email.</p>
Departmental Policies	<p>Students must maintain a GPA of 3.5/12 to continue in the program. Students in the Software Engineering Technology program are exempt from this requirement since that program follows the Residency model.</p> <p>In order to achieve the required learning objectives, on average, B.Tech. students can expect to do at least 3 hours of "out-of-class" work for every scheduled hour in class. "Out-of-class" work includes reading, research, assignments and preparation for tests and examinations.</p> <p>Where group work is indicated in the course outline, such collaborative work is mandatory.</p> <p>The use of cell phones, iPods, laptops and other personal electronic devices are prohibited from the classroom during the class time, unless the instructor makes an explicit exception.</p> <p>Announcements made in class or placed on Avenue are considered to have been communicated to all students including those individuals that are not in class.</p> <p>Instructor has the right to submit work to software to identify plagiarism.</p>

3. KEY DATES / COURSE OVERVIEW	LECTURE CONTENT	TUTORIAL CONTENT	READINGS
Week 1 (Jan 8-12)	Course Introduction and Introduction to Macroeconomics	No tutorial first week	Lovewell chapters 8-10
Week 2 (Jan 15-19)	Fiscal and Monetary Policy	Macroeconomics	Lovewell chapters 11,13
Week 3 (Jan 22-26)	Microeconomics – cost of production	Fiscal and Monetary Policy	Lovewell chapters 1-4
Week 4 (Jan 29 – Feb 2)	Business Structures	Microeconomics – cost of production	Lovewell chapters 5-7 Ferrell Chapter 4
Week 5 (Feb 5-9)	Entrepreneurship	Business Structures	Ferrell chapter 5
Week 6 (Feb 12 – 16)	Supply Chain	CASE STUDY -10% Entrepreneurship	Ferrell chapter 8
Week 7 (Feb 19 – 23)	<i>* Reading Week – No Classes *</i>		
Week 8 (Feb 26 – Mar 1)	Operations Management	Supply Chain	Ferrell chapter 7 and 8
Week 9 (Mar 4 – 8)	Accounting and Financial Statements	Operations Management	Ferrell chapter 13
Week 10 (Mar 11 – 15)	Human Resources	CASE STUDY 10% Accounting and Financial Statements	Ferrell chapters 9-10
Week 11 (Mar 18 – 22)	Marketing	CASE STUDY 10% Human Resources	Ferrell chapters 11-12
Week 12 (March 25 – 29)	The Big Picture	CASE STUDY 10% Marketing	
Week 13 (April 1 – 5)	Big Picture continued/ review for final exam	CASE STUDY 20% Big Picture	

	Midterm Recess: February 19 th – 23rd, Good Friday March 29 th -no classes 2024 Classes end: April 10 th , 2024 Final Examination Period: Friday, April 12 th to Saturday, April 25 th
	Tutorials
	There will be weekly tutorials beginning the week of Monday January 15th, with details to be posted on Avenue to Learn. Please ensure that you attend the tutorial that you're registered in. There will be a participation grade for tutorial work.
	Note that this structure represents a plan and is subject to adjustment term by term. The instructor and the University reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The University may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification

becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes.

4. ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING *including dates*	Weight
Quizzes	10%
Part Cases	40% (10% each)
Cumulative Case	20%
Final examination	30%
TOTAL	100%

Percentage grades will be converted to letter grades and grade points per the University calendar.

5. LEARNING OUTCOMES

L001: Recognize the fundamentals of starting and growing a business.

L002: Classify various foundational units of business including: Operations and Supply Chain, Human Resources, Marketing, Accounting and Financial Statements.

L003: Identify and explain economic indicators signalling the current phase of the economic cycle. Interpret world events, fiscal and monetary policy and predict economic trends.

L004: Apply the foundational knowledge of supply and demand to determine how prices of goods and services are established in various market structures.

6. COURSE OUTLINE – APPROVED ADVISORY STATEMENTS

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION

The Faculty of Engineering is concerned with ensuring an environment that is free of all discrimination. If there is a problem, individuals are reminded that they should contact the Department Chair, the Sexual Harassment Officer or the Human Rights Consultant, as soon as possible.

http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/General/HR/Discrimination_Harassment_Sexual_Harassment-Prevention&Response.pdf

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at <https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-procedures-guidelines/>

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty: The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

- plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained.
- improper collaboration in group work.
- copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

AUTHENTICITY / PLAGIARISM DETECTION

Some courses may use a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal authenticity and ownership of student submitted work. For courses using such software, students will be expected to submit their work electronically either directly

to Turnitin.com or via an online learning platform (e.g. A2L, etc.) using plagiarism detection (a service supported by Turnitin.com) so it can be checked for academic dishonesty.

Students who do not wish their work to be submitted through the plagiarism detection software must inform the Instructor before the assignment is due. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to the plagiarism detection software. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search, other software, etc.). For more details about McMaster's use of Turnitin.com, please go to www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

COURSES WITH AN ON-LINE ELEMENT

Some courses may use on-line elements (e.g. e-mail, Avenue to Learn (A2L), LearnLink, web pages, capa, Moodle, ThinkingCap, etc.). Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of a course using these elements, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in a course that uses on-line elements will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

ONLINE PROCTORING

Some courses may use online proctoring software for tests and exams. This software may require students to turn on their video camera, present identification, monitor and record their computer activities, and/or lock/restrict their browser or other applications/software during tests or exams. This software may be required to be installed before the test/exam begins.

COMMUNICATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to:

- Maintain current contact information with the University, including address, phone numbers, and emergency contact information.
- Use the University provided e-mail address or maintain a valid forwarding e-mail address.
- Regularly check the official University communications channels. Official University communications are considered received if sent by postal mail, by fax, or by e-mail to the student's designated primary e-mail account via their @mcmaster.ca alias.
- Accept that forwarded e-mails may be lost and that e-mail is considered received if sent via the student's @mcmaster.ca alias.
- Check the McMaster/Avenue email and course websites on a regular basis during the term.

CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

As a McMaster student, you have the right to experience, and the responsibility to demonstrate, respectful and dignified interactions within all of our living, learning and working communities. These expectations are described in the Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities (the "Code"). All students share the responsibility of maintaining a positive environment for the academic and personal growth of all McMaster community members, whether in person or online.

It is essential that students be mindful of their interactions online, as the Code remains in effect in virtual learning environments. The Code applies to any interactions that adversely affect, disrupt, or interfere with reasonable participation in University activities. Student disruptions or behaviours that interfere with university functions on online platforms (e.g. use of Avenue 2 Learn, WebEx or Zoom for delivery), will be taken very seriously and will be investigated. Outcomes may include restriction or removal of the involved students' access to these platforms.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) at 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or sas@mcmaster.ca to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. For further information, consult McMaster University's Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities policy.

REQUESTS FOR RELIEF FOR MISSED ACADEMIC TERM WORK

McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF): In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar "Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work".

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION FOR RELIGIOUS, INDIGENOUS OR SPIRITUAL OBSERVANCES (RISO)

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the RISO policy. Students should submit their request to their Faculty Office normally within 10 working days of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests. <http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/Studentcode.pdf>

COPYRIGHT AND RECORDING

Students are advised that lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor include copyright protected works. The Copyright Act and copyright law protect every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work, including lectures by University instructors

The recording of lectures, tutorials, or other methods of instruction may occur during a course. Recording may be done by either the instructor for the purpose of authorized distribution, or by a student for the purpose of personal study. Students should be aware that their voice and/or image may be recorded by others during the class. Please speak with the instructor if this is a concern for you.

EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCES

The University reserves the right to change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances (e.g., severe weather, labour disruptions, etc.). Changes will be communicated through regular McMaster communication channels, such as McMaster Daily News, A2L and/or McMaster email.