

## ECO 209 – L0301

# Macroeconomic Theory and Policy

### Term Paper: “The Likely Impact of Ontario’s Higher Minimum Wage”

Canada’s real minimum wages remained mostly stagnant between the early 1970s and 2014 but have started to increase in some regions more recently. Following the lead of some states and cities south of the border, both Alberta and Ontario have recently increased the provincial minimum wage to \$13.6 and \$14, respectively, and will soon raise it further to \$15 as early as this October in Alberta and next January in Ontario. The economic and social impact of higher minimum wages has become once again a hot topic of debate, some argue that it will cause unemployment to rise while others consider it essential for the continued growth of the economy.

**Write a short academic paper on the likely economic and social impact of Ontario’s higher minimum wage.** Your essay must have a clear thesis and include a brief introduction and conclusion. Your paper must be about 1500 words in length (5-6 double-space pages, without counting the references) and make reference to at least **five academic works** published on the topic.

A **first draft** of the paper will be due at the beginning of class on **March 14 (late penalty: 20 percentage points of the paper’s final mark without exceptions)**. The **final draft** of the paper will be due at the beginning of class on **March 21 (late penalty: 5 percentage points per day without exceptions)**. **An electronic copy of both the first and final drafts must ALSO be uploaded by those respective dates to Turnitin.com for the submission to be complete and no penalties to apply.**

When submitting your paper to Turnitin.com you must refer to Class ID: **17003674** and Enrollment Password: **eco209**.

The University requires that the following paragraph be included in the syllabus of all courses using Turnitin.com:

*Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University’s use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.*

Please note that you are not obligated to submit your assignment to Turnitin.com. If you object to submit your assignment to Turnitin.com, let me know by **February 28** and I will offer you a reasonable offline alternative.

Helpful instructions on how to complete this assignment are posted on the course website, as is the grading rubric to be used. Practical information on how to avoid unintended **plagiarism** is also posted on the course website. There are several Writing Centres at the University of Toronto where you can receive helpful information to guide you in completing any writing assignment. A list of these Writing Centres can be accessed at <http://writing.utoronto.ca/writing-centres/arts-and-science/>. More general advice on academic writing can also be electronically accessed at <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/general/general-advice>.