

The University of Texas at Tyler
ECON 1301.D001, 1301.D070, 1301.D090
Dual Credit Introduction to Economics
Spring 2024

Instructor: Meryem Saygili

Email: msaygili@uttyler.edu

Place and Time: Online (Asynchronous)

Office Hours: TuTh 11:00 am – 12:30 pm Online via Zoom (or by appointment)

[Zoom link](#)

Meeting ID: 865 2136 4418

Passcode: spring2024

Course Description: This course introduces students to the fundamental concepts of economics. The course has elements from both microeconomics and macroeconomics.

Course Objectives:

After completing this course, students will be able to

1. Describe basic economic concepts and principles.
2. Judge or interpret discussions, news, and articles involving economic concepts/principles.

Grading Policy: The components of final grades are:

Exams	40%
Econ Lowdown	25%
Quizzes	25%
Discussion Assignment	10%

The course consists of four non-cumulative exams. I will drop the lowest, and the remaining three will make up **40%** of your final grade. You will have a quiz every week except for exam weeks. Similarly, I will drop the lowest quiz score, and the rest will make up **25%** of your final grade. I will assign work from the Econ Lowdown website every week. These assignments will be **25%** of your final grade. Finally, you will have a **discussion assignment**, which will constitute **10%** of your final grade. For this writing assignment, you have to find a prompt that you will relate to the concepts covered in the course. The prompt could be a TED video talk, an article from a respected print or online publication, a political or economic cartoon, a movie, a TV show, a book, a song, a poem, or a commercial. You may find more details about the discussion assignment on Canvas. I also posted some example discussions. Even though this assignment is not due until **March 24** (the week after Spring Break), it will be open from the start so, you can submit it early. All due dates are available in the course schedule below.

Grading Scale:

- A 88% or higher
- B 87 – 78 %
- C 77 – 65%
- D 64 – 50%
- F below 50%

THERE IS NO MAKE-UP EXAM. The assignments in this course will be available for a whole week. Do not wait until the last minute to take tests. Unexpected things may happen. I recommend my students submit assignments a day or at least a couple of hours before they are due.

Textbook: There is no textbook. Econ Lowdown and my videos are the main sources of content.

Course Structure: We will rely on Canvas for communication. Check it regularly for announcements or any other updated materials. Make sure you receive emails sent through Canvas.

My videos (and slides), quizzes, and exams will be on Canvas under Modules. I will create weekly “Modules” where I include a list of the duties you must finish each week. The discussion assignment is available under Discussions if you want to submit it early. You will also find the discussion assignment in the weekly module when it will be due. For the Econ Lowdown assignments, you need to sign into their website. You will receive an email with your credentials to log into our Econ Lowdown course page.

Communication: Email is my preferred method of contact. I will make every effort to respond quickly to your emails. I check my emails several times a day during the week and less frequently on the weekend. When you send me an email, I will generally respond within 24 hours during the week and 48 hours on the weekend (excluding holidays). Note that I will be available via Zoom office hours regularly.

Extra Credit: I give a few extra credit opportunities throughout the semester. Take advantage of those opportunities as they become available. Students often ask for such chances towards the end of the semester when they realize their grades are low. I don’t provide on-demand extra credit assignments, so please don’t email me for this.

Online Proctoring: The tests on Canvas will be proctored using ProctorU. Beyond the cost of initial equipment needed (e.g. a camera for your computer), there will not be any additional cost for proctoring. Visit the [ProctorU Resources](#) page for additional information. To use ProctorU, you will need the following:

- High-speed Internet connection
- Webcam
- Windows, Mac, or Chrome Operating System
- Up-to-date Chrome or Firefox browser
- ProctorU Guardian Browser or Web Extension installed
- Valid photo ID
- Quiet environment to take your assessment

Create a ProctorU account and install the Guardian Browser or ProctorU extension before attempting any assessment. To create a ProctorU account, follow the ProctorU tool within Canvas. If you choose to download a web extension, please make sure you are using the current version of Chrome or Firefox.

[This video](#) explains how to take a test with ProctorU Auto.

Course Schedule

Week 1 (January 16-21)

What is economics?

Microeconomics vs. Macroeconomics

Concepts of scarcity and opportunity cost

Quiz 1 (Due on Sunday, January 21 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 2 (January 22 – 28)

Factors of Production

Economic Models:

- Circular Flow Diagram
- Production Possibilities Frontier

Quiz 2 (Due on Sunday, January 28 @ 11:59 pm)

Note: The Census date (last day to drop without W) is Monday, January 29th.

Week 3 (January 29 – February 4)

Absolute Advantage

Comparative Advantage

Specialization

Quiz 3 (Due on Sunday, February 4 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 4 (February 5 – 11)

Benefits of Trade

International Trade

Exam 1 (Due on Sunday, February 11 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 5 (February 12 – 18)

Demand

Supply

Quiz 4 (Due on Sunday, February 18 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 6 (February 19 – 25)

Market Equilibrium

Quiz 5 (Due on Sunday, February 25 @ 11: 59 pm)

Week 7 (February 26 – March 3)

Market Failures, Externalities, Public goods

Exam 2 (Due on Sunday, March 3 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 8 (March 4 – 10)

Gross Domestic Product (GDP), GDP Growth, GDP per capita

Quiz 6 (Due on Sunday, March 10 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 9 (March 11– 17) SPRING BREAK

Week 10 (March 18 - 24)

Economic Growth

Quiz 7 (Due on Sunday, March 24 @ 11:59 pm)

Discussion Assignment (Due on Sunday, March 24 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 11 (March 25 - 31)

Inflation

Quiz 8 (Due on Sunday, March 31 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 12 (April 1 - 7)

Unemployment

Exam 3 (Due on Sunday, April 7 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 13 (April 8 -14)

Business Cycles

The Structure of the Federal Reserve System

Quiz 9 (Due on Sunday, April 14 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 14 (April 15 - 21)

Monetary Policy and Fiscal Policy

Quiz 10 (Due on Sunday, April 21 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 15 (April 22 – 28)

Personal Finance

Exam 4 (Due on Sunday, April 28 @ 11:59 pm)

University Policies and Information

- **Withdrawing from Class** - Students, you are allowed to [withdraw](#) (drop) from this course through the [Withdrawal Portal](#). Withdrawing from classes can impact Financial Aid, Scholarships, Veteran Benefits, Exemptions, Waivers, International Student Status, housing, and degree progress. Please read this page, speak with your instructors, consider your options, and speak with your instructor. UT Tyler faculty and staff are here for our students and often can provide additional support options or student assistance. Please read the implications for withdrawing from a course and the instructions on using the Withdrawal portal on the [Registrar's Withdrawal page](#). Texas law prohibits students who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at other 2-year or 4-year Texas public colleges and universities. Consider the impact withdrawing from this class has on your academic progress and other areas, such as financial implications. We encourage you to consult your advisor(s) and financial aid for additional guidance. CAUTION #1: Withdrawing before census day does not mean you get a full refund. Please see the [Tuition and Fee Refund Schedule](#). CAUTION #2: All international students must check with the [Office of International Programs](#) before withdrawing. All international students are required to enroll full-time for fall and spring terms. CAUTION #3: All UT Tyler Athletes must check with the Athletic Academic Coordinator before withdrawing from a course. CAUTION #4: All veterans or military-affiliated students should consult with the [Military and Veterans Success Center](#).
- **Final Exam Policy:** Final examinations are administered as scheduled. If unusual circumstances require that special arrangements be made for an individual student or class, the Dean of the appropriate college, after consultation with the faculty member involved, may authorize an exception to the schedule. Faculty members must maintain student final examination papers for a minimum of three months following the examination date.
- **Incomplete Grade Policy:** If a student, because of extenuating circumstances, is unable to complete all of the requirements for a course by the end of the semester, then the instructor may recommend an Incomplete (I) for the course. The "I" may be assigned in place of a grade only when all of the following conditions are met: (a) the student has been making satisfactory progress in the course; (b) the student is unable to complete all coursework or final exam due to unusual circumstances that are beyond personal control and are acceptable to the instructor, and (c) the student presents these reasons before the time that the final grade roster is due. The semester credit hours for an Incomplete will not be used to calculate the grade point average. The student and the instructor must submit an Incomplete Form detailing the work required and the time by which the work must be completed to their respective department chair or college dean for approval. The time limit established must not exceed one year. Should the student fail to meet all of the work for the course within the time limit, then the instructor may assign zeros to the unfinished work, compute the course average for the student, and assign the appropriate grade. If a grade has yet to be assigned within one year, then the Incomplete will be changed to an F, or NC. If the course was initially taken under the CR/NC grading basis, this may adversely affect the student's academic standing.
- **Grade Appeal Policy:** - Disputes regarding grades must be initiated within sixty (60) days from the date of receiving the final course grade by filing a Grade Appeal Form with the instructor who assigned the grade; this is separate from the Application for Appeal form submitted to the Student Appeals Committee, which does not rule on grade disputes as described in this policy. If the student is not satisfied with the decision, the student may appeal in writing to the Chairperson of the department from which the grade was issued. In situations where there is an allegation of capricious grading, discrimination, or unlawful actions, appeals may go beyond the Chairperson to the Dean of the college from which the grade was issued, with that decision being final. The Grade Appeal form is found in the [Registrar's Form Library](#).

- **Disability/Accessibility Services:** In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA), the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical, and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with the Assistant Director of Student Accessibility and Resources/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <https://www.uttyler.edu/disability-services>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150, or call 903.566.7079."
- **Military Affiliated Students:** UT Tyler honors the service and sacrifices of our military-affiliated students. If you are a student who is a veteran, on active duty, in the reserves or National Guard, or a military spouse or dependent, please stay in contact with your faculty member if any aspect of your present or prior service or family situation makes it difficult for you to fulfill the requirements of a course or creates disruption in your academic progress. It is important to make your faculty member aware of any complications as far in advance as possible. Your faculty member is willing to work with you and, if needed, put you in contact with university staff who are trained to assist you. The [Military and Veterans Success Center \(MVSC\)](#) has campus resources for military-affiliated students. The MVSC can be reached at MVSC@uttyler.edu or via phone at 903.565.5972.
- **Academic Honesty and Academic Misconduct:** The UT Tyler community comes together to pledge that "Honor and integrity will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do." Therefore, we enforce the [Student Conduct and Discipline policy](#) in the Student Manual Of Operating Procedures (Section 8).
- **FERPA** - UT Tyler follows the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) as noted in [University Policy 5.2.3](#). The course instructor will follow all requirements to protect your confidential information.
- **Absence for Official University Events or Activities:** This course follows the practices related to approved absences as noted by the Student Manual of Operating Procedures ([Sec. 1 -501](#)).
- **Absence for Religious Holidays:** This course follows the practices related to [Excused Absences for Religious Holy Days as noted in the Catalog](#).
- **Campus Carry:** We respect the right and privacy of students who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>.

Student Resources

Resources to assist you in this course

- [UT Tyler Student Accessibility and Resource \(SAR\) Office](#) (provides needed accommodations to students with document needs related to access and learning)
- [UT Tyler Writing Center](#)
- [The Mathematics Learning Center](#)
- [UT Tyler PASS Tutoring Center](#)
- [UT Tyler Supplemental Instruction](#)
- [Upswing \(24/7 online tutoring\) - covers nearly all undergraduate course areas](#)
- [Robert Muntz Library](#) and [Library Liaison](#)
- [Canvas 101](#) (learn to use Canvas, proctoring, Unicheck, and other software)
- LIB 422 -- Computer Lab where students can take a proctored exam

- [The Career Success Center](#)
- [UT Tyler Testing Center](#)
- [Office of Research & Scholarship Design and Data Analysis Lab](#)

Resources available to UT Tyler Students

- [UT Tyler Counseling Center](#) (available to all students)
- [My SSP App](#) (24/7 access to Student Support Program counseling through phone or chat and online wellness resources available in a variety of languages)
- [Student Assistance and Advocacy Center](#)
- [Military and Veterans Success Center](#) (supports for all of our military-affiliated students)
- [UT Tyler Patriot Food Pantry](#)
- [UT Tyler Financial Aid and Scholarships](#)
- [UT Tyler Registrar's Office](#)
- [Office of International Programs](#)
- [Title IX Reporting](#)
- [Patriots Engage](#) (available to all students. Get engaged at UT Tyler.)