



## Dual Credit Introduction to Economics

ECON 1301.D001, ECON 1301.D070, ECON 1301.D090

Spring 2026

**Instructor:** Dr. Meryem Saygili

**Email:** msaygili@uttyler.edu

**Office Hours:** TuTh 9:15 – 10:45 AM Online via Zoom (or by appointment)

[Zoom link](#)

Meeting ID: 823 2719 3500

Passcode: Spring2026

### 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 and principles.

### Grading Policy

Component	Weight
Exams	30%
FRE	30%
Quizzes	25%
Discussions	15%

The course consists of four non-cumulative exams. I will drop the lowest, and the remaining three will make up 30% of your final grade. You will have weekly quizzes, except for exam weeks. I will drop the lowest quiz score, and the rest will make up 25% of your final grade. I will assign work from the Federal Reserve Education (FRE) platform every week. These assignments will be 30% of your final grade. You will also have short discussion assignments/activities throughout the semester (15%). Your overall score will be calculated based on your averages in the above categories and their respective weights. Your letter grade will be assigned according to the grading scale below.

## Grading Scale

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

## Late Policy

Exam due dates are marked in the course schedule below. You will have an entire week to work on assignments (due on Sundays). Please try to submit assignments by the due dates to help you stay organized in the course. Falling behind, even by a few weeks, can make it difficult to catch up. However, I understand that things happen, so you have up to three **"Life Happens"** passes per semester. If you miss a deadline, email me (within a week) to request one of your passes by briefly explaining why you were unable to complete the assignment on time. Missing work will be assigned a zero two weeks after its due date.

## Retake and Extra Credit

I do not offer extra credit assignments. However, most assignments (not all) from FRE allow unlimited attempts, giving you the opportunity to achieve perfect scores. Quizzes and tests on Canvas do not allow retakes and will be proctored by Respondus Monitor.

## Textbook

There is no textbook. FRE and my videos are the main sources of content.

## Course Structure

Everything about this course will be on Canvas. Check the Canvas course page regularly for announcements or any other updated materials. Make sure you receive emails sent through Canvas. I will create weekly units under “Modules” and post the relevant course materials and assignments you must complete each week in these weekly modules.

## Communication

You can reach out to me via three channels:

1. Message on Canvas
2. Email (msaygili@uttyler.edu)
3. Office hours (TuTh 9:15 am – 10:45 am)

## Online Proctoring

This course requires the use of LockDown Browser and a webcam for online exams (except for FRE assignments). The webcam can be the type that's built into your computer or one that plugs in with a USB cable.

Watch this brief video to get a basic understanding of LockDown Browser and the webcam feature.

<https://www.respondus.com/products/lockdown-browser/student-movie.shtml>

### Download Instructions

- Select a quiz from the course
- If you have not already installed LockDown Browser, select the link to download the application and follow the installation instructions
- Return to the quiz page in a standard browser
- LockDown Browser will launch, and the quiz will begin

Note: LockDown Browser only needs to be installed once per computer or device. It will start automatically from that point forward when a test requires it.

### Guidelines

When taking an online exam, follow these guidelines:

- Select a location where you are comfortable having a video recording taken of yourself and your workspace environment. This area should be free of distractions and interruptions.
- Turn off all other devices (e.g. tablets, phones, second computers) and place them outside of your reach
- Before starting the test, know how much time is available for it, and also that you've allotted sufficient time to complete it
- Clear your desk or workspace of all external materials not permitted - books, papers, other devices
- Remain at your computer for the duration of the test
- If the computer, Wi-Fi, or location is different than what was used previously with the "Webcam Check" and "System & Network Check" in LockDown Browser, run the checks again prior to the exam
- To produce a good webcam video, do the following:
  - Avoid wearing baseball caps or hats with brims

- Ensure your computer or device is on a firm surface (a desk or table). Do NOT have the computer on your lap, a bed, or other surface where the device (or you) are likely to move
- If using a built-in webcam, avoid readjusting the tilt of the screen after the webcam setup is complete
- Take the exam in a well-lit room, but avoid backlighting (such as sitting with your back to a window)
- Remember that LockDown Browser will prevent you from accessing other websites or applications; you will be unable to exit the test until all questions are completed and submitted.

### Getting Help

Several resources are available if you encounter problems with LockDown Browser:

- The Windows and Mac versions of LockDown Browser have a "Help Center" button located on the toolbar. Use the "System & Network Check" to troubleshoot issues. If an exam requires you to use a webcam, also run the "Webcam Check" from this area
- 24/7/365 Live Chat Support is also available from the Help Center, or from within the "it's not working" troubleshooter.
- Respondus has a Knowledge Base available from [support.respondus.com](https://support.respondus.com). Select "LockDown Browser & Respondus Monitor" as the product to view helpful articles.
- If you're still unable to resolve a technical issue with LockDown Browser, go to [support.respondus.com](https://support.respondus.com) and select "Submit a Ticket". Provide detailed information about your problem and what steps you took to resolve it.

Please note that you will be asked to show your surroundings and photo ID before each test. If you feel uncomfortable showing your ID or, in general, being proctored in an online class, please consider dropping the course. I believe it is crucial to have a proctoring tool that ensures students are evaluated on a fair basis, and Respondus is the only option for this class.

### **Flags Policy**

Students get flagged when there is a possibility of academic dishonesty. Students are not allowed to use resources other than the ones specified in the test descriptions. Students cannot use other devices, check notes or textbooks, look off-screen for extended time, speak to others, or wear head coverings or glasses that prevent proper monitoring of their eyes. Students need to remain visible to the camera during tests. Students will receive a warning on the first flag, a 10-point reduction on the second, and a zero on the third and all subsequent flags. Students who continue to get flagged will fail the class.

## AI Policy

AI is not permitted in this course. I expect all work students submit for this course to be their own. I have carefully designed all assignments and class activities to support your learning. Doing your own work, without human or artificial intelligence assistance, is best for your efforts in mastering course learning objectives. For this course, I expressly forbid using ChatGPT or any other artificial intelligence (AI) tools for any stages of the work process, including brainstorming. Deviations from these guidelines will be considered a violation of UT Tyler's Honor Code and academic honesty values.

## Course Schedule

Week	Topics	Due
Week 1 (January 12-18)	What is economics? Concepts of scarcity and opportunity cost	Quiz 1 (Sunday, January 18)
Week 2 (January 19 – 25)	Factors of Production, Economic Models	Quiz 2 (Sunday, January 25)
Week 3 (January 26 – February 1) ** the Census date is Monday, January 26th.	Absolute vs. Comparative Advantage, Specialization	Quiz 3 (Sunday, February 1)
Week 4 (February 2 – 8)	Benefits of Trade, International Trade	Exam 1 (Sunday, February 8)
Week 5 (February 9 – 15)	Demand, Supply	Quiz 4 (Sunday, February 15)
Week 6 (February 16 – 22)	Market Equilibrium	Quiz 5 (Sunday, February 22)
Week 7 (February 23 – March 1)	Market Failures, Externalities, Public goods	Exam 2 (Sunday, March 1)
Week 8 (March 2 – 8)	Gross Domestic Product (GDP), GDP per capita	Quiz 6 (Sunday, March 8)
<b>Week 9 (March 9 – 15)</b>	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	
Week 10 (March 16 - 22)	Economic Growth	Quiz 7 (Sunday, March 22)
Week 11 (March 23 - 29)	Inflation	Quiz 8 (Sunday, March 29)
Week 12 (March 30 - April 5)	Unemployment	Exam 3 (Sunday, April 5)
Week 13 (April 6 – 12)	Business Cycles, The Structure of the Federal Reserve System	Quiz 9 (Sunday, April 12)
Week 14 (April 13 - 19)	Monetary Policy and Fiscal Policy	Quiz 10 (Sunday, April 19)
Week 15 (April 20 – 28)	Personal Finance	Exam 4 (Tuesday, April 28)

## UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND INFORMATION

### Withdrawing from Class

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Students may [withdraw](#) (drop) from this course using the [Withdrawal Portal](#). Withdrawing (dropping) this course can impact your Financial Aid, Scholarships, Veteran Benefits, Exemptions, Waivers, International Student Status, housing, and degree progress. Please speak with your instructors, consider your options, speak with your advisor, and visit the One-Stop Service Center (STE 230) or email [enroll@uttyler.edu](mailto:enroll@uttyler.edu) to get a complete review of your student account and the possible impacts to withdrawing. We want you to make an informed decision. UT Tyler faculty and staff are here for you and often can provide additional support options or assistance. Make sure to carefully [read the implications for withdrawing from a course and the instructions](#) on using the [Withdrawal portal](#).

Texas law prohibits students from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career\*. The six courses dropped include those from 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 Enrollment Services 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](#).

\* Students who began college for the first time before 2007 are exempt from this law.

### Artificial Intelligence Statement

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UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy. Refer to the About This Course section of the UT Tyler Syllabus Module for specific information on appropriate use of AI in your course(s).

## **Final Exam Policy**

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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**

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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**

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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. A grade appeal should be used when the student thinks the final course grade awarded does not reflect the grades earned on assessments or follow the grading scale as documented in the syllabus. The student should provide the rationale for the grade appeal and attach supporting document about the grades earned. The form should be sent via email to the faculty member who assigned the grade. The faculty member reviews the rationale and supporting documentation and completes the instruction section of the form. The instructor should return the form to the student, even if a grade change is made at this level. 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 or the Dean's designee 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](#).

NOTE: The Grade Appeal Form is different from the Application for Appeal form submitted to the Student Appeals Committee, which does not rule on grade disputes as described in this policy.

### **Disability/Accessibility Services**

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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 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 Robert Muntz Library, LIB 460, email [saroffice@uttyler.edu](mailto:saroffice@uttyler.edu), or call 903.566.7079."

### **Military Affiliated Students**

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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 members 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](mailto:MVSC@uttyler.edu) or via phone at 903.565.5972.

### **Students on an F-1 Visa**

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To remain in compliance with Federal Regulations requirements you must do the following:

- Traditional face-to-face classes: Attend classes on the regular meeting days/times.
- Hybrid Classes: Attend all face-to-face classes convened by the instructor according to the schedule set for your specific course.
- Online course: Only one online course can count toward your full-time enrollment. Students are expected to be fully engaged and meet all requirements for the online course.



## **Academic Honesty and Academic Misconduct**

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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**

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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**

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This course follows the practices related to [Excused Absences for University Events or Activities](#) as noted in the Catalog.

## **Absence for Religious Holidays**

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This course follows the practices related to [Excused Absences for Religious Holy Days as noted in the Catalog](#).

## **Absence for Pregnant Students**

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This course follows the requirements of Texas Laws SB 412, SB 459, SB 597/HB 1361 to meet the needs of pregnant and parenting students. Part of the support afforded to pregnant students includes excused absences. Faculty who are informed by a student of needing this support should make a referral to the Parenting Student Liaison. NOTE: Students must work with the Parenting Student Liaison in order to receive this support. Students should reach out to the Parenting Student Liaison at [parents@uttyler.edu](mailto:parents@uttyler.edu) and also complete the [Pregnant and Parenting Self-Reporting Form](#).

## **Campus Carry**

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We respect the rights 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 Student Business Services](#) (pay or set up payment plans, etc.)
- [UT Tyler Registrar's Office](#)
- [Office of International Programs](#)
- [Title IX Reporting](#)
- [Patriots Engage](#) (available to all students. Get engaged at UT Tyler.)