

The University of Texas at Tyler
ECON 1301.D001, 1301.D070, 1301.D090
Dual Credit Introduction to Economics
Spring 2025

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: 862 8094 5372

Passcode: spring2025

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 | 30% |
| Quizzes | 25% |
| Econ Lowdown | 25% |
| Discussions | 20% |

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 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 regular discussion assignments, which will constitute **20%** of your final grade. These will be short essays where you will analyze real-life examples of economic concepts or economic data. The due dates for the tests 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%

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.

Retake and Extra Credit: I do not offer extra credit assignments. However, several (not all) assignments on the Econ Lowdown website allow unlimited attempts, giving you the opportunity to achieve perfect scores. Quizzes and tests on Canvas do not allow retakes and will be proctored via ProctorU.

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), discussions, 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. 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: You can reach out to me via three channels:

1. Message on Canvas
2. Email (msaygili@uttyler.edu)
3. Office hours (TuTh 11:00 am -12:30 pm)

When you send me an email, always include the course number (Econ 1301) in the subject line. I will make every effort to respond quickly to your emails. I check my email several times a day during the week and less frequently on weekends. Generally, I respond within 24 hours during the week and within 48 hours on weekends (excluding holidays). I strongly encourage my students to utilize office hours. This is the time I have designated for you. You can sign in with any questions, ask me to go over missed questions on tests, or request clarification on a subject.

Online Proctoring: All the tests on Canvas will be proctored by 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, which is the mode we will use.

Please note that ProctorU will require you to show a photo ID before each test. If you feel uncomfortable about showing your ID or, in general, being proctored Online, please consider dropping the course. I believe it is crucial to have some tool that ensures the students are evaluated on a fair basis, and ProctorU is currently the only option for Online classes.

ProctorU Flags Policy: Students get flagged by ProctorU 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 open tabs, 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 be always visible to the camera during tests. Students will receive a warning on the first ProctorU flag, a 10-point reduction on the second, and a zero on the third and after. Students who continue to keep getting flagged will fail the class.

AI Policy: AI is not permitted in this course. I expect all work submitted by students to be their own. I have carefully designed all assignments and 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. The use of ChatGPT or any other AI tools is expressly forbidden at all 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. While AI use is usually self-evident, I may also utilize AI detection tools when necessary.

Course Schedule

Week 1 (January 13-19)

What is economics?

Microeconomics vs. Macroeconomics

Concepts of scarcity and opportunity cost

Quiz 1 (Due on Sunday, January 19 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 2 (January 20 – 26)

Factors of Production

Economic Models:

- Circular Flow Diagram
- Production Possibilities Frontier

Quiz 2 (Due on Sunday, January 26 @ 11:59 pm)

Note: The Census date (last day to drop without W) is Monday, January 27th.

Week 3 (January 27 – February 2)

Absolute Advantage

Comparative Advantage

Specialization

Quiz 3 (Due on Sunday, February 2 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 4 (February 3 – 9)

Benefits of Trade

International Trade

Exam 1 (Due on Sunday, February 9 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 5 (February 10 – 16)

Demand

Supply

Quiz 4 (Due on Sunday, February 16 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 6 (February 17 – 23)

Market Equilibrium

Quiz 5 (Due on Sunday, February 23 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 7 (February 24 – March 2)

Market Failures, Externalities, Public goods

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

Week 8 (March 3 – 9)

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

Quiz 6 (Due on Sunday, March 9 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 9 (March 10 - 16)

Economic Growth

Quiz 7 (Due on Sunday, March 16 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 10 (March 17– 23) **SPRING BREAK**

Week 11 (March 24 - 30)

Inflation

Quiz 8 (Due on Sunday, March 30 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 12 (March 31 - April 6)

Unemployment

Exam 3 (Due on Sunday, April 6 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 13 (April 7 -13)

Business Cycles

The Structure of the Federal Reserve System

Quiz 9 (Due on Sunday, April 13 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 14 (April 14 - 20)

Monetary Policy and Fiscal Policy

Quiz 10 (Due on Sunday, April 20 @ 11:59 pm)

Week 15 (April 21 – 29)

Personal Finance

Exam 4 (Due on Tuesday, April 29 @ 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.)