Economics B105: Introduction to Economics
Fall 2026
Tuesday & Thursday 8:40-10:00am
Dalton 300

Instructor
Andrew Nutting, Associate Professor of Economics
Dalton 210
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Office Hours:
Tuesday 2:00-3:30pm
Wednesday 10:00-11:30am
…or by Appointment

Teaching Assistant
Kiley Scoma
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TA sessions: 7-8:30 Wednesdays, Dalton 119

Course Synopsis
This course introduces students to microeconomic and macroeconomic principles. Microeconomic principles include markets, consumer behavior, firm behavior, and other topics. Macroeconomic principles include macroeconomic indicators, the long-run model, the short-run Keynesian model, and banking.

Readings
The textbook for this class is the 6th edition of *Economics: Principles and Applications* by Robert E. Hall and Marc Lieberman. Copies are available on reserve at Canaday Library.

Prerequisites
Familiarity with basic algebra is strongly recommended.

Grades
Your final grade will be based on two midterm exams, one (non-cumulative) final exam, and weekly problem sets. The breakdown is as follows:

28% - Each exam (3 total)
16% - Problem Sets
Participation: students who do well in this area can "bump up" to the higher grade if they are on the border between, for example, a 3.3 and a 3.7.

The baseline grading scale is in the chart on the next page. If need be, a curve will be implemented. There will be no "reverse" curve, i.e. if you receive over a 96% you cannot get worse than a 4.0, if you have 74% you cannot get worse than a 2.0, etc. Each midterm exam, when handed back, will report your cumulative grade.

Baseline grading scale

4.0	96-100	2.7	82-84	1.7	72-74
3.7	92-96	2.3	78-82	1.3	69-72
3.3	88-92	2.0	74-78	1.0	60-69
3.0	84-88				

Exams

Two midterm exams will be delivered during class time. The final exam will be self-scheduled. Exams are closed-book and closed-notes, and calculators are permitted for computational purposes only. Cellphone calculators and calculator sharing are not permitted. The instructor must receive advance notice regarding exams missed due to university-sponsored events; such exams can be made up in advance. Exams missed because of legitimate and excused circumstances that are unforeseen (illness, family emergency) will be dealt with on an ad hoc basis. Unexcused absences result in an exam grade of 0.

Problem Sets

Problem sets will be assigned on Moodle and will be due **in-class** no less than one week after they are assigned. (Ordinarily they will be assigned on a Wednesday and due the following Wednesday.) **Turn in Problem Sets in hard-copy form and not via email. They must be handwritten and not typed. You must turn in your own problem set, but group work is permitted and encouraged. Problem sets that are turned in the day they are due but late will be docked 30 percentage points. After that they will not be accepted. Only one late problem set will be accepted per student per semester.** Problem sets that are missed for excused reasons (illness/family emergency) will not count as part of a student's final grade. Documentation is required for such excuses.

Disability Support Services: Reasonable Accommodations

Access Services works with students, faculty, and staff to ensure that students with physical, medical, learning, or psychological disabilities are provided with equal access to all college programs, activities, and services in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (as amended) and Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Students who think they may need accommodations in this course because of the impact of a learning, physical, or psychological disability are encouraged to meet with me privately early in the semester to discuss their concerns. In addition, students must contact Access Services (at Bryn Mawr they are Coordinator Joanna Timmerman, 610-526-7516 or jtimmerman@brynmawr.edu; and Assistant Director Robyn Suchy, 610-526-7351 or rsuchy@brynmawr.edu) as soon as possible, to verify eligibility for reasonable academic accommodations. Early contact will help to avoid unnecessary inconvenience and delays.

Academic Honesty

I expect that all students' behavior in this course will be in accordance with the Bryn Mawr Honor Code, of which you are well aware.

<u>Class Schedule (Subject to minor changes)</u>

Tue Sep 1 – Thur Sep 3	Chapter 1-2: Introduction
Tue Sep 8 – Thur Sep 10	Chapter 3: Supply and Demand Chapter 4: Working with Supply and Demand (pp 89-100 only)
Tue Sep 15	Chapter 5: Elasticity
Thur Sep 17 – Tue Sep 22	Chapter 6: Consumer Choice
Thur Sep 24	Chapter 7: Production and Cost
Tue Sep 29	**Midterm Exam: Chapters 1-6**
Thur Oct 1	Chapter 8: Profit Maximization (SKIP pp. 224-28, pp. 231-35)
Tue Oct 6 – Thur Oct 8	Chapter 9: Perfect Competition (pp. 244-65 only)
	FALL BREAK
Tue Oct 20 – Thur Oct 22	Chapter 14: Economic Efficiency Chapter 15: Government's Role (pp. 456-59 only)
Tue Oct 27	Chapters 17-18: Introduction to Macroeconomics
Thur Oct 29	Chapter 19: The Price Level and Inflation
Tue Nov 3	Chapter 20: The Classical Long-Run Model Chapter 13: Capital Markets (pp. 407-410 only)
Thur Nov 5	**Midterm Exam: Chapters 7-9, 14-15, 17-19**
Tue Nov 10	Chapter 20: The Classical Long-Run Model (cont'd) Chapter 21: Long-Run Growth
Thur Nov 12 – Tue Nov 17	Chapter 22-23: Fluctuations & the Short-Run Model
Thur Nov 19 – Tue Nov 24	Chapter 24 <u>and Appendix</u>: Fiscal Policy
Tue Dec 1	Chapter 25: Banking and Financial Institutions
Thur Dec 3	Chapter 26: Monetary Policy
Tue Dec 8 – Thur Dec 10	Chapter 27: Aggregate Supply and Aggregate Demand
FINAL EXAM	**Schedule TBA** **Not Cumulative; Covers Ch. 20-27 (including Ch. 24 Appendix) and part of Ch. 13**