



University of
Pittsburgh
Bradford

College in the High School

Economics in the Modern World
ECON 0101
3 credits

Description: Designed to provide the student who has had no previous exposure to economics with an introduction to current economic issues.

Prerequisite: None

Textbook & Material: Some recommended texts:

Freakonomics by Steven D. Levitt & Stephen J. Dubner, HarperCollins Publishers.
Animal Farm by George Orwell

Faculty may select any textbook or a related title from the following:

Economics New Ways of Thinking - EMC – Arnold
Prentice Hall: Economics, Principles in Action
Economics by Arthur O'Sullivan, Steven M. Sheffrin & Grant Wiggins
Economics, Concepts and Choices by McDougal Little
The Economic Way of Thinking by Paul Heyne, Peter Boettke, David Prychitko

Instructors may also supplement the above with relevant videos, TV News, podcasts, Newspaper Editorials, Streaming Platforms and Social Media

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Describe what modern economics is about
- Explain how different markets work, from free enterprises to command economies
- Understand the laws of supply and demand and how they help to regulate economies
- Recognize different styles of business ownership and their effects on labor trends
- Analyze the importance of the role that competition and monopolies play in modern economies
- Describe the role and importance of government involvement in today's economies
- Evaluate the part inflation, unemployment, and business cycles play in economies
- Investment, the Stock Market, Student Debt Issue

Course objectives: Upon completion of this course students will have a better understanding of:

- What Economics is about
- The economic problem and efficiency
- Laws of demand and supply
- Organization of production
- Competition and monopoly
- GDP and its measurement
- Inflation, unemployment and business cycles
- Monetary & Fiscal Policies
- International trade and global economic issues, Economic Crisis of 2008
- Personal Finance

Tentative Schedule of Classes & Topics (Suggested)

Class topics by each week will depend upon the text chosen by the liaison, the length of the term and assessment methods. A sample schedule is given below. Instructors can use the template and adjust according to their set-up:

Weeks	TOPIC
1-2	Course/Syllabus review. Introduction to Economics
3-4	How Markets Work – Intro to Monetary & Fiscal Policy
5-6	Business and Labor or related topics
7-8	Money, Banking, & Finance or related topics
8-9	Measuring Economic Performance or related topics (Inflation, Unemployment)
10-11	Government in the Economy, Global Economy (or Economic Crisis of 2008)
11-12	Final Exam

Grading: The final grade may be determined using a variety of assessment methods:

Assignment/Assessment	Weight
Classwork	25%
Weekly Writings	15%
Freakonomics/other work	15%
Assessments/reaction papers	15%
Miscellaneous	5%
Comprehensive final exam	25%
TOTAL	100%

Final Letter Grades may be organized based on the instructor’s rubric

Pitt Grading System:

All courses required to satisfy associate and baccalaureate degree requirements-including all courses required for a major, a minor, or general education-must be taken for letter grades, with the exception of those courses designated as graded S and NC only. Pitt-Bradford uses 13 earned letter grades. They are listed below with their equivalent quality point values.

A+	4.00
A	4.00 superior achievement
A-	3.75
B+	3.25
B	3.00 meritorious achievement
B-	2.75
C+	2.25
C	2.00 adequate achievement
C-	1.75
D+	1.25
D	1.00 minimal achievement
F	0.00 failure

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: Members of a university community, both faculty and students, bear a serious responsibility to uphold personal and professional integrity and to maintain complete honesty in all academic work. Violations of the code of academic integrity are not tolerated. Students who cheat or plagiarize or who otherwise take improper advantage of the work of others face harsh penalties, including permanent dismissal. The academic integrity guidelines set forth student and faculty obligations and the means of enforcing regulations and addressing grievances.

Grades: Grade criteria in the high school course may be different from the University standards. A CHS student could receive two course grades, one for high school and one for the University transcript. In most cases, the grades are the same. Grading standards should be explained at the beginning of the course.

Transfer Credits: Grades earned in CHS courses appear on an official University of Pittsburgh transcript and the course credits may be eligible for transfer to other colleges and universities. Students should contact potential colleges and universities in advance to be sure their CHS credits will be accepted. If students will attend any University of Pittsburgh campus, grade earned in the course will count toward the student grade point average at the University. At the University of Pittsburgh, the CHS course supersedes any equivalent AP credit.

Drops and Withdrawals: Students should monitor their progress in a course. A CHS teacher can contact the program administrators to request a drop or withdrawal. Dropping or withdrawing from the CHS course has no effect on enrollment in the high school credits.