



## Basic Economic Issues Welcome Letter

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Hello everyone, welcome and thanks for choosing ECON 200: Basic Economic Issues.

I am Grace Wang and I am your instructor for this course. I am a PhD candidate in Economics at the University of Arizona. My research is primarily related to applied econometrics, labor economics, and public policy. This will be my fourth time teaching this course and personally I have learned a lot from teaching and have a lot of fun while I am doing it.

This course will prepare you to have an economic mindset to analyze real-world economic problems. It covers the fundamental building blocks of modern economic analysis. Great efforts have been made to develop the course in a way that

incorporates economic thinking across the lectures and evaluates economic problems in your everyday life.

In addition to short videos explaining economic concepts, we have multimedia contents across the course slides with additional videos and reference readings. We also have in-class demonstration videos for you to experience the same excitement from class activities as you would have in a classroom. All the efforts here are to make your learning experience more enjoyable.

Advice to succeed in this course is to have a study plan and ask for help whenever needed. This course is very fast-paced but will still allow you to have the flexibility to decide when to take the lectures and when to finish your weekly homework. Having your own study plan is an efficient way to make a dedicated time to finish each task on time, and this really helps with your final score. The course contents are strongly connected through each lecture, so an unsolved problem will slow down your future study.

If you have a question about the course contents, I would strongly recommend you post it on "[Ask the Instructor](#)". Having your questions published on a forum that everyone can see will not only benefit you but also other students. If your question contains personal information or things you prefer not to discuss on the forum, please send me an email. Thanks again for choosing this course. I am looking forward to seeing you all and good luck with your studies.

Best Regards,  
Grace Wang  
Instructor, ECON200  
PhD Candidate,  
Department of Economics



# Basic Economic Issues ECON 200 Course Syllabus

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## Instructor Contact Information



Chao (Grace) Wang  
[chaowang0827@email.arizona.edu](mailto:chaowang0827@email.arizona.edu)  
<https://econ.arizona.edu/people/chao-wang>

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## Course Overview

This course serves as an introduction to basic microeconomic and macroeconomic analysis. The microeconomic principles explain the action of individual market participants including consumers, firms and workers. Microeconomic models are powerful tools for both business and policy decisions. The macroeconomic section of the course studies the national economy as a whole. You will explore the causes of economic growth, how to assess the overall health of a national economy and how fiscal and monetary policies are used to address unemployment, inflation and economic growth.

### Prerequisite Requirements

Two courses from Tier One, Individuals and Societies (INDV 101, 102, 103, 104). Not available to students who have completed or are enrolled in ECON 201A, ECON 201B, or ECON 210.

## Course Objectives

Upon successful course completion, you will be able to:

- Apply economic analysis to individual consumer, business, and government decision-making.
- Explain and demonstrate the importance and power of markets and their potential shortcomings.
- Interpret basic macroeconomic statistics

## Course Materials

Please note that, in order to successfully complete this course, you are responsible for purchasing the required readings listed below.

### Required Readings:

- *Principles of Economics*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition by Dirk Mateer and Lee Coppock, eBook with InQuizitive. ISBN: 9780393641523
  - You will access the full version of the electronic textbook from the **Table of Contents -> Online Textbook & InQuizitive** area of D2L (on the left of screen) through the Inclusive Access program. **Important:** Access will be activated on the first day of class, **Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup>**.
  - You automatically have access to the course materials FREE through **Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>**. You must take action (even if you haven't accessed the materials) to opt-out if you do not wish to pay for the materials, and choose to source the content independently. The deadline to opt-out is **Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>**. Please refer to the Inclusive Access FAQs at [shop.arizona.edu/inclusive](http://shop.arizona.edu/inclusive) for additional information.

### Required Webcam:

To take proctored exams through Examity, you will need to purchase an external webcam with **at least a 5-foot USB cable**. Before purchasing your external webcam please ensure the technology is compatible with your specific device.

- An example of a suitable webcam is <https://tinyurl.com/yd9d3so7>



- **Important:** you must complete the **Examity Webcam Requirement Quiz** by the end of the first week of class. This quiz is located in the **Table of Contents -> Learning Modules -> Week 1** area of D2L.

## Course Workload Expectations

This course is structured around **7** weeks. The course workload is estimated as follows:

Course Item	Estimated Hours
Reading Text and Viewing Lectures	6-8 / week
Homework and Online Discussions	8-12 / week

This averages to approximately **20** hours/week. These estimates will vary depending upon your existing knowledge level and/or time commitment. Preparing for exams will require additional time.

## Course Schedule

The expected weekly progress and deliverables are outlined in the course schedule. Please see the course schedule as posted on D2L.

There is a considerable amount of material covered in this class. It is essential that you stay current with all reading and homework assignments. Note **DUE Dates** on course deliverables.

### Working Ahead of Schedule

To maintain the integrity of the group learning environment, this course is not structured to allow students to work ahead.

## Office Hours and Communications

Please use the **Ask the Instructor** discussion forum on D2L to contact me for content related questions. All students can then benefit from my response. I will respond within 24 hours of your post Monday through Friday and 48 hours on Saturday and Sunday. If you have a question regarding your personal performance in the course, please email me directly using the address above. I will provide feedback on course work that needs to be manually graded (e.g., essay papers, projects) within 3-5 days of submission. You will be able to see results for automatically graded course work (online quizzes and exams) after the specified deadline.

### Office Hours

The instructor will host virtual office hours in the Zoom tool (located on the left of the screen under **Table of Contents -> Office Hours**) on Wednesdays from 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM (AZ Time). Other office hours can be scheduled by appointment on a case-by-case basis.

## Course Time Zone

All dates and times mentioned in this course represent Arizona Time. Arizona does not observe Daylight Savings Time. You can use the following link to get the current local time in Tucson, Arizona:

<http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/city.html?n=393>

## D2L Course Management System

This course uses the UA D2L learning management system. You are **required** to use D2L with this class and are encouraged to check our D2L class course space daily.

You are also encouraged to have D2L email forwarded to your primary email account. The instructor will use D2L for course assignments, quizzes, exams, content distribution, and important announcements. The UA D2L system is available at: <https://d2l.arizona.edu/>.

## Assignments and Assessments

### Homework

InQuizitive is an adaptive quizzing tool that combines interactive question types with game-like elements to engage students. There are 18 homework sets (quizzes), each worth 10 points, if you reach the target score. All quizzes will be available at the start of the semester and ideally students will complete them before beginning an assigned topic.

Full details are available in the **Table of Contents -> Learning Modules** area of D2L (located on the left of the screen).

### Online Discussions

Each week, there will be an assigned reading or podcast. Every student is expected to contribute to each online discussion. There are 6 discussions worth 12 points each.

Full details, including grading rubrics and submission instructions are available in the **Table of Contents -> Learning Modules** area of D2L (located on the left of the screen.)

### Examity Webcam Requirement Quiz

There is an ungraded 2 question quiz required for all students to ensure that you have read and understood the webcam requirements that are needed for your proctored exams. It is a requirement for all students to complete this quiz to continue in this class.

### Exams

This course has 3 proctored exams, each of which is non-cumulative. Each exam will consist of 30 multiple choice questions and 10 short answer questions and is worth 250 points (750 points in total). Each question is worth the same amount. Every student is required to take all three exams to receive a course grade. No exams may be taken early. No exam scores are dropped. It is your responsibility to notify me of an excused absence before the exam.

- Exam 1 will cover topics 1-4, 6
- Exam 2 will cover topics 7-10, 13, 16
- Exam 3 will cover topics 17, 19-21, 24-25, 28-31

Exam #	Format	Time Limit	Special Instructions
Exam 1	Online Proctored	75 minutes	The exam is closed book, no notes. You are allowed to use a hand-held white dry erase board and eraser, and a dry erase marker. The board should be clear at the beginning of the exam and should be wiped clean upon exam completion.
Exam 2	Online Proctored	75 minutes	The exam is closed book, no notes. You are allowed to use a hand-held white dry erase board and eraser, and a dry erase marker. The board should be clear at the beginning of the exam and should be wiped clean upon exam completion.
Exam 3	Online Proctored	75 minutes	The exam is closed book, no notes. You are allowed to use a hand-held white dry erase board and eraser, and a dry erase marker. The board should be clear at the beginning of the exam and should be wiped clean upon exam completion.

Proctored exams for this course **must** be taken through **Examity**. For information on Examity, please refer to the **UA\_D2L\_Student\_Quick\_Guide\_Pictures.pdf** document located in the **Table of Contents -> Examity** area of D2L.

**Important:** Please schedule your exam **no later than one week** before the date when you want to take the exam. If you schedule your exam less than 24 hours prior to the exam date, you will need to use the **On Demand** tool on the Examity web site and you will be charged a rush fee.

It is your responsibility to ensure your equipment is running and you have uninterrupted Internet connectivity. Any proctored exam interrupted by equipment or Internet connectivity problems will receive a score of 0.

### Required Webcam

Please pay particular attention to the information related to the **required** webcam provided in the **Course Readings and Materials** section of the syllabus. You are also required to test the webcam placement via Zoom Office Hours with the instructor or facilitator prior to the first exam.

## Verifying Continued Connection to Examity

When you are connected to your Examity proctor, you should see the following task bar on your screen:



This task bar usually appears at the top right corner of your screen. If you become disconnected from your Examity proctor, this task bar will disappear. If this occurs, you must reconnect to your Examity proctor immediately.

## Turning in Assignments

All graded assignments and assessments will be submitted electronically through D2L. Specific submission instructions are provided for each assignment in the **Table of Contents -> Learning Modules** area of D2L.

## Late Assignment Policy

Late assignments will not receive points. Please allow yourself time to mitigate any computer glitches.

## Course Grading

Course grades will be determined based on the following items:

Course Work	Points	Percentage
Homework (18 @ 10 points each = 180 points)	180	18%
Exams (3 @ 250 points each = 750 points)	750	75%
Online Discussions (6 @ 12 points each = 72 points. 70 points count towards your final grade)	70	7%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>100%</b>

The approximate final course grade breakdown will be as follows:

Points	Percentage	Letter Grade
900-1000	90-100%	<b>A</b>
800-899	80-89.9%	<b>B</b>
700-799	70-79.9%	<b>C</b>
600-699	60-69.9%	<b>D</b>
< 600	< 60%	<b>E</b>

## Incomplete Policy

If you experience extraordinary circumstances beyond your control, which prevent you from completing the course within the scheduled 7-week timeframe, you must request an incomplete by emailing the Instructor **before the end of the course**. Please clearly explain the reasons for the request and provide relevant documentation. Please be aware that you must be receiving a passing grade at the time of the request. If

granted an incomplete, you should review the related policy stipulations at <https://www.registrar.arizona.edu/grades/incomplete-i-grade>

## Academic Policies and Institutional Resources

### Academic Policies and Procedures

As a University of Arizona student, you are expected to become familiar with and abide by the university-wide policies and procedures. You can find complete, up-to-date information at:

<https://www.eller.arizona.edu/academic-programs/policies/online-ugrad>

### Academic Integrity

Upon accepting admission to the University of Arizona, you immediately assumed a commitment to uphold the Code of Academic Integrity. Complete copies of these policies can be found online at:

- The University of Arizona: <https://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/policies-and-codes/code-academic-integrity>
- Eller College of Management: <https://ugrad.eller.arizona.edu/about/ethics>

**Any instances of academic dishonesty will result in a grade of E for the course.**

While it is our sincere hope that you will not engage in academic misconduct, it seems prudent to clarify in advance the policy on dishonest behavior.

**Reminder: this course has a zero-tolerance policy on cheating.**

### Online Collaboration/Netiquette

In Eller Undergraduate Online courses, you will primarily communicate with instructors and peers virtually through a variety of tools such as discussion forums, email, and web conferencing. The following guidelines will enable everyone in the course to participate and collaborate in a productive, safe environment.

- Be professional, courteous, and respectful as you would in a physical classroom.
- Online communication lacks the nonverbal cues that provide much of the meaning and nuances in face-to-face conversations. Choose your words carefully, phrase your sentences clearly, and stay on topic.
- It is expected that students may disagree with the research presented or the opinions of their fellow classmates. To disagree is fine but, to disparage others' views is unacceptable. All comments should be kept civil and thoughtful. Remember that this course abides by university policies regarding disruptive behavior: <https://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/accountability/disruptive-student-behavior>. Violations of the instructors' copyright violate the Code of Academic Integrity and may result in course sanctions.
- Compose your messages and posts in a word processing tool, and check your spelling and grammar before submitting your post / email.
- Students who are uncooperative, rude, abusive to a TA, instructor, staff members, or other students, whether in class or outside class, will be penalized.

### UA Eller UG Online Student Support

The instructor is available to assist with **content-related** issues. You may, at any time, email the instructor. This course also provides an **Ask the Instructor** discussion forum. You are encouraged to post content-related questions to this forum at any time. The instructor monitors this forum on a regular basis and will respond in a timely fashion. It is common for other students to participate in answering questions posted in the **Ask the Instructor** forum. You should feel free to contribute to the solution if you can provide knowledge or guidance related to the question.

The following are guidelines for requesting support:

- **General Course Questions:** Use the **Ask the Instructor** discussion forum for questions regarding course materials or policy.
- **Personal Course Questions:** Email the instructor to discuss grades or personal concerns.



- **Course Registration & Curriculum Questions:** Please refer to the <https://ugrad.eller.arizona.edu/online/contact> web site for the appropriate contact information.
- **D2L Support Questions:** Click on <https://help.d2l.arizona.edu/form/student-contact-us> to submit your tech support request.
- **InQuizitive Support Questions:** Check out this [FAQ](#) and this [video](#) to get started

### **Disability Accommodations**

At the University of Arizona we strive to make learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability or pregnancy, you are welcome to let me know so that we can discuss options. You are also encouraged to contact Disability Resources (520-621-3268) to explore reasonable accommodation.

If our class meets at a campus location: Please be aware that the accessible table and chairs in this room should remain available for students who find that standard classroom seating is not usable.

### **Library Support**

The University of Arizona Libraries is dedicated to providing the research tools you need at any time. For an abbreviated list of resources directly related to a specific course, select the **Library** link (located in the *Table of Contents* on the left of the screen). If you need any assistance, please contact Jeremiah Paschke-Wood at [jpaschkewood@email.arizona.edu](mailto:jpaschkewood@email.arizona.edu) and include your University of Arizona NetID.

### **Student Resource Center**

For the duration of the program, you will have access to the Student Resource Center at <http://ugrad.eller.arizona.edu/online> where you can find comprehensive, up-to-date information on a wide variety of topics, including the Eller Online Undergraduate program learning outcomes, academic advising, financial aid, and other topics to help you succeed.

### **Workload and Course Requirements Subject to Change**

Workload and Course Requirements are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor with proper notice to the students.

### **Errata**

The instructor reserves the right to revise the syllabus as necessary to correct typographical errors, factual errors, omissions, or other material included herein as needed to correctly reflect the requirements of the course.





## Basic Economic Issues Course Schedule

For each assigned discussion, you are required to post one original comment and respond to at least two original posts made by others. In order to give others time to respond to your postings, you must make your **original posting by Thursday at 11:59 pm (AZ time)**.

To get the current local time in Tucson, AZ, refer to: <http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/city.html?n=393>

Week	Dates	Topic	Assignments	Due Date (by 11:59 PM AZ time)
1	5/13- 5/19	The Five Foundations of Economics (Chapter 1) and Model Building and Gains from Trade (Chapter 2)	Introduce Yourself Discussion	May 16 <sup>th</sup>
			Online Discussion 1	Original Post: May 16 <sup>th</sup> Replies: May 19 <sup>th</sup>
			InQuizitive (homework) Chapters 1-2	May 19 <sup>th</sup>
			<b>Examity Webcam Requirement Quiz</b>	
2	5/20- 5/26	Supply and Demand (Chapter 3), Elasticity (Chapter 4) and Price Controls (Chapter 6)	Online Discussion 2	Original Post: May 23 <sup>rd</sup> Replies: May 26 <sup>th</sup>
			InQuizitive (homework) Chapters 3-4, 6	May 26 <sup>th</sup>
3	5/27- 6/2	Market Inefficiencies (Chapter 7), Business Costs and Production (Chapter 8) and Firms in a Competitive Market (Chapter 9)	Online Discussion 3	Original Post: May 30 <sup>th</sup> Replies: June 2 <sup>nd</sup>
			InQuizitive (homework) Chapters 7-9	June 2 <sup>nd</sup>
			<b>Exam 1 (proctored)</b> Opens: <b>May 31<sup>st</sup> 12:05 AM (AZ time)</b> ; Closes: <b>June 2<sup>nd</sup> 11:59 PM (AZ time)</b>	

4	6/3-6/9	Monopoly (Chapter 10), Oligopoly and Strategic Behavior (Chapter 13) & Consumer Choice (Chapter 16)	Online Discussion 4	Original Post: June 6 <sup>th</sup> Replies: June 9 <sup>th</sup>
			InQuizitive (homework) Chapters 10, 13, 16	June 9 <sup>th</sup>
5	6/10- 6/16	Behavioral Economics (Chapter 17) & Gross Domestic Product (Chapter 19)	Online Discussion 5	Original Post: June 13 <sup>th</sup> Replies: June 16 <sup>th</sup>
			InQuizitive (homework) Chapters 17, 19	June 16 <sup>th</sup>
			<b>Exam 2 (proctored)</b> Opens: <b>June 14<sup>th</sup></b> 12:05 AM (AZ time); Closes: <b>June 16<sup>th</sup></b> 11:59 PM (AZ time)	
6	6/17- 6/23	Unemployment (Chapter 20), Inflation (Chapter 21) & Economic Growth (Chapters 24- 25)	Online Discussion 6	Original Post: June 20 <sup>th</sup> Replies: June 23 <sup>rd</sup>
			InQuizitive (homework) Chapters 20-21, 24-25	June 23 <sup>rd</sup>
7	6/24- 6/30	Fiscal Policy (Chapters 28-29) & Monetary Policy (Chapters 30- 31)	InQuizitive (homework) Chapters 28-29 & 30-31	June 30 <sup>th</sup>
			<b>Exam 3 (proctored)</b> Opens: <b>June 28<sup>th</sup></b> 12:05 AM (AZ time); Closes: <b>June 30<sup>th</sup></b> 11:59 PM (AZ time)	
			Course Evaluation	June 29 <sup>th</sup>