

ECON 152: Principles of Economics
Moravian College
Fall 2014

Class Information

152C: Tuesday & Thursday, 8:00am – 9:30am (PPHAC 101)

152D: Tuesday & Thursday 10:00am – 11:30am (PPHAC 101)

Instructor Information

Professor Rhea Bhatta

Email: bhattar@moravian.edu

Office Location: Comenius Hall 210

Office Phone: (610) 861 - 1413

Office Hours: Tuesday 12:00pm – 1:30pm & Thursday 1:30pm – 3:30pm; or by appointment

Course Objectives

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

- Understand the core principles of both micro and macroeconomic theory
- Use economic models to evaluate individual-level and firm-level decision-making as well as government policies
- Perform economic analysis of current events and policies
- Appreciate the history of basic economic thought

Catalog Description

Study of basic economic theory and major economic institutions, including the development of economic thought. Emphasis on structure, functions, and underlying principles of modern economic life. Includes elementary macro- and microeconomic theory.

Prerequisites

A minimum of three years of secondary mathematics, including college-level algebra, is required prior to taking this course.

Course Materials

Textbook: *Economics, Brief Edition*, 2nd edition, McConnell, Campbell R., Stanley L. Brue, and Sean M. Flynn, McGraw-Hill/Irwin, and New York c. 2013. (ISBN: 978-0-07-351146-7)

McGraw-Hill Connect (MHC) – Registration instructions are available on p. 5 of the syllabus. Homework assignments, as well as additional study materials, will be available through MHC, so students must purchase a subscription.

Students have the option to purchase a hard copy of the textbook, which may or may not include a registration code for MHC. If an MHC registration code is not included, students must purchase a code separately. Alternatively, students may purchase a registration code along with an electronic copy of the textbook.

Any additional materials or readings will be posted to Blackboard, so please check our site regularly. Be sure to enroll in our course (ECON152CD.FA14) as soon as possible!

Other Materials

- A simple, 4-function calculator (non-programmable) for quizzes and exams [Please note: cell phones will NOT be allowed for use as calculators]
- Please bring your name card to every class

Course Expectations and Grading Policies

Class Attendance and Participation

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and regularly attend. Habitual tardiness and/or absences will reduce your attendance grade. Prior to each class, students are required to read assigned material (according to the course schedule on p. 6) in order to be prepared to actively participate in any class discussion. If, for any reason, you are unable to attend class or need to attend my other section on a given day, please email me in advance. For further information about attendance policies (e.g. extended or frequent absences), please consult the Moravian College Student Handbook (under Academic Life).

Homework Assignments

Weekly homework assignments will be administered through MHC, and students are expected to complete each assignment in a timely manner. They will be available at least one week prior to the due date and must be submitted by 11:59PM on the designated due date. Homework deadlines will not be changed under any circumstances, and late assignments will not be accepted. At the end of the semester, the lowest homework grade will be dropped.

Current Events Journal

Students are required to maintain a bi-weekly current events journal, preferably in electronic format (e.g. in MS Word). Journal entries will be due every other Friday and must be submitted by uploading to Blackboard (due dates are listed on the course schedule on p. 6; entry must be submitted by 11:59pm on the designated date). For each journal entry, students should find a current event article, either online or in print, related to or demonstrating examples of any content covered in our course. Each entry should include:

- a link to or electronic copy (e.g. PDF) of the article
- a brief summary of the article (no more than one paragraph);
- the specific economic concept(s) discussed or exemplified in the article;
- why the article is a good example of the concept(s);
- what you find most interesting about the article; and
- what you learned (if anything) from the article.

In order to find articles, you may want to consider some of the following websites:

The Economist (<http://www.economist.com>)

New York Times (<http://www.nytimes.com/>)

Wall Street Journal (<http://online.wsj.com/home-page>)

Short Essays

Students will be required to submit two short essays on important historical figures in the development of economic thought. Students may choose from the following list of major economic thinkers (please pick a different one for each essay):

Adam Smith

Alfred Marshall

Milton Friedman

David Ricardo

John Maynard Keynes

Paul Krugman

Karl Marx

Friedrich Hayek

At a minimum, each essay should include the following information:

- basic background information;
- what major economic thought and/or theory is attributed to this person; and
- brief discussion (in your own words) of what this thought/theory entails.

Each essay should be no more than 3-4 typed pages (double-spaced, 1" margins all around, and 12 pt font). Be sure to include valid citations (and please do not just quote Wikipedia!). The first essay will be due in-class on Thursday, October 9th, and the second essay will be due in-class on Thursday, December 4th.

Quizzes

Three in-class quizzes will be administered throughout the semester:

Quiz #1 – Tuesday, September 9th

Quiz #2 – Tuesday, October 21st

Quiz #3 – Thursday, November 20th

Each quiz will consist of multiple choice and open-ended questions, and students will be allowed roughly 30 minutes to complete each quiz. I will divulge the content to be covered at least one week prior to each quiz date. There will be no makeups for missed quizzes, so please plan to attend class on these dates.

Exams

Students are expected to successfully complete two in-class midterm exams and a final exam, which is non-cumulative except for content that requires building on previous material. Exam dates are as follows:

Midterm Exam #1 – Tuesday, September 23rd

Midterm Exam #2 – Tuesday, November 4th

Final Exam – Friday, December 12th @ 1:30pm (152C)

Friday, December 12th @ 8:30am (152D)

If you have conflicts with any of the three exam dates, please contact me as soon as possible. Please note that airline travel or other travel plans do not constitute a valid reason for rescheduling any of

the three exams, so make your plans accordingly. **If you fail to take an exam on the scheduled date without my prior permission, you will receive a zero for that exam.**

Disability Support Services

Students who wish to request disability accommodations for this class should contact Elaine Mara, Assistant Director of Academic and Disability Support. She may be reached by visiting the Academic and Disability Support Office, located on the first floor of Monocacy Hall, or by calling 610-861-1401. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center. Students with other needs/concerns (all other disabilities) are encouraged to make an appointment with Dr. Ronald Kline in the Counseling Center, located at 1307 Main Street (phone: 610-861-1510). For more information, please refer to the Academic Resources section of the Moravian College Student Handbook.

Grading

Students' grades will be determined based on the following weights:

Attendance & Participation	10%
Homework Assignments (10)	20%
Current Events Journal	10%
Short Essays (2)	10%
Quizzes (3)	15%
Midterm Exam #1	10%
Midterm Exam #2	10%
Final Exam	15%

** Please note that I do not offer extra credit of any kind.

** Please also note that no assignments (homework, current events journal entries, essays) will be accepted late.

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to abide by Moravian College's Academic Honesty Code. Please see the Moravian College Student Handbook (under Respect for Academic Honesty) for details. Any violations of the Academic Honesty Code will be not be tolerated.

Economics Honors Society

Omicron Delta Epsilon (ODE) is the economics honor society. Its purpose is to recognize scholastic achievement in economics and to promote closer ties of students and faculty. This fall, ODE will organize short biweekly meetings Wednesdays at 7 PM for any interested students. Current students will present their research and young economics alumni will talk about their careers. Look for upcoming announcements. To become eligible for induction into ODE, students must attain junior status and have a 3.0 GPA in three or more economics courses as well as overall.

How to Register for McGraw-Hill Connect

The screenshot shows the McGraw-Hill Connect interface for student registration. At the top left is the McGraw-Hill Education logo and the word "connect" in a stylized font. Below this is a white box with a light blue border containing the following information:

- student registration information**
- course**
ECON 152 - Principles of Economics with LearnSmart
- instructor**
Rhea Bhatta
- section**
Sections C & D - Fall 2014

Below the registration information is a light blue box with the following text:

- online registration instructions**
- Go to the following web address and click the "register now" button.
- <https://connect.mheducation.com/class/r-bhatta-sections-c--d---fall-2014>
- This is a unique address for **Sections C & D - Fall 2014**

At the bottom of the white box, there is a link for help:

- Having trouble registering?
Get help here: <http://bit.ly/StudentRegistration>

At the very bottom of the page, a black bar contains the copyright notice: © 2014 McGraw-Hill Education. All rights reserved.

Website Link (to copy and paste):

<https://connect.mheducation.com/class/r-bhatta-sections-c--d---fall-2014>

For help, please visit:

<http://bit.ly/StudentRegistration>

Course Schedule

	Tuesday	Thursday	Assignments
Week 1	<i>Aug 26</i> Introduction, Chap. 1	<i>Aug 28</i> Chaps. 1 & 2	Enroll on Blackboard Register for MHC
Week 2	<i>Sept 2</i> Chap. 3	<i>Sept 4</i> Chap. 4	Current Event Journal (Fri 9/5) HW #1 (Sat 9/6)
Week 3	<i>Sept 9</i> Quiz #1	<i>Sept 11</i> Chap. 5	Quiz #1 (in-class) HW #2 (Sat 9/13)
Week 4	<i>Sept 16</i> Chaps. 5, 6	<i>Sept 18</i> Chap. 6	Current Event Journal (Fri 9/19) HW #3 (Sat 9/20)
Week 5	<i>Sept 23</i> Midterm Exam #1	<i>Sept 25</i> Chap. 7	Exam #1 (in-class)
Week 6	<i>Sept 30</i> Chap. 8	<i>Oct 2</i> Chap. 9	Current Event Journal (Fri 10/3) HW #4 (Sat 10/4)
Week 7	<i>Oct 7</i> Chap. 10	<i>Oct 9</i> Chap. 11	Essay #1 (10/9, in-class) HW #5 (Fri 10/10)
Week 8	<i>Oct 14</i> No class (Fall Recess)	<i>Oct 16</i> Chap. 12	Current Event Journal (Fri 10/17)
Week 9	<i>Oct 21</i> Quiz #2	<i>Oct 23</i> Chap. 13	Quiz #2 (in-class) HW #6 (Sat 10/25)
Week 10	<i>Oct 28</i> Chap. 14	<i>Oct 30</i> Chap. 15	Current Event Journal (Fri 10/31) HW #7 (Sat 11/1)
Week 11	<i>Nov 4</i> Midterm Exam #2	<i>Nov 6</i> Chap. 16	Exam #2 (in-class)
Week 12	<i>Nov 11</i> Chaps. 16, 17	<i>Nov 13</i> Chap. 17	Current Event Journal (Fri 11/14) HW #8 (Sat 11/15)
Week 13	<i>Nov 18</i> Chap. 18	<i>Nov 20</i> Quiz #3	Quiz #3 (in-class)
Week 14	<i>Nov 25</i> Chap. 19	<i>Nov 27</i> No class (Thanksgiving)	HW #9 (Wed 11/26)
Week 15	<i>Dec 2</i> Chap. 20	<i>Dec 4</i> Wrap-Up	Essay #2 (12/4, in-class) Current Event Journal (Fri 12/5) HW #10 (Fri 12/5)

**** Please note that deadlines may be subject to change only with instructor's notice.**

**** Homework assignments and current event journal entries are due by 11:59pm on the designated date.**