

ECON 152: Principles of Economics
Moravian College
Spring 2015

Class Information

152A: Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 10:20am – 11:30am (Comenius 201)

152B: Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 11:45am – 12:55pm (Comenius 201)

Instructor Information

Professor Rhea Bhatta

Email: bhattar@moravian.edu

Office Location: Comenius Hall 210

Office Phone: (610) 861 - 1413

Office Hours: Monday 1:30pm – 3:00pm & Wednesday 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: 978-0-07-792476-8 [w/Connect subscription] OR 978-0-07-351146-7 [w/o Connect subscription])

McGraw-Hill Connect (MHC) – Registration instructions are available on p. 6 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 (ECON152AB.SP15) 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, see p. 7; also available on Blackboard under “Course Information”) 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 about one week prior to the due date and must be submitted by 11:59PM on the designated due date. Late assignments will not be accepted. However, under exceptional circumstances, which must first receive my approval, you may submit a late assignment for half credit. At the end of the semester, the lowest homework grade will be dropped.

Current Events Journal

Students are required to maintain a current events journal. Journal entries will be due roughly every third Friday and must be submitted through Blackboard (by 11:59pm on the designated due dates). 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 throughout 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>)

Group Project

Students will be required to work in groups of no more than 3-4 to complete a project on an important historical figure in the development of economic thought. During the first week of class, students will need to submit a list containing group members and also rank their top three choices from the following list of major economic thinkers (or, you may suggest another relevant person of interest to you and other group members):

Adam Smith	Alfred Marshall	Milton Friedman
David Ricardo	John Maynard Keynes	Paul Krugman
Karl Marx	Friedrich Hayek	

By the end of the second week of class, groups and their person of interest for the project will be identified. The project will consist of two parts: an essay and a presentation to the class. At a minimum, the essay should include the following information:

- basic background information;
- what major economic thought and/or theories are attributed to this person (this should include reading through some of this person's original writing!);
- brief discussion (in your own words) of what these thoughts/theories entail; and
- do you think this person's contributions are relevant today?

Each essay should be at least 4-5 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 essay will be due in-class on Friday, April 24th.

Group presentations will take place during the last week of class. Groups will need to create a coherent Powerpoint presentation that overviews what they have learned about their respective person in history. Presentations should be approximately 15-20 minutes.

Please note that I expect each student in a group to contribute equally. At the same time, I expect each of you to work cooperatively, so that both the essay and the presentation flow smoothly. After your presentation, you will be asked to fill out a confidential form evaluating your group members' performance.

Quizzes

Two in-class quizzes will be administered:

Quiz #1 – Friday, February 6th

Quiz #2 – Monday, March 30th

Each quiz may consist of multiple choice and open-ended questions, and students will be allowed approximately 30-40 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 one in-class midterm exam and a final exam, which is non-cumulative except for content that requires building on previous material. Exam dates are as follows:

Midterm Exam – Friday, March 6th

Final Exam – Tuesday, May 5th @ 1:30pm (152A)

Monday, May 4th @ 8:30am (152B)

If you have conflicts with either exam date, please contact me as soon as possible. Please note that airline travel or other travel plans do not constitute a valid reason for rescheduling either the midterm or final exam, 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.**

Exam Corrections

Following receipt of your graded midterm exam, you are permitted to submit exam corrections to earn back up to one-half of the points that you lost on the exam. You may use any resources, including your textbook, class notes, and classmates, but you may not ask me for help with exam corrections. Corrections must be typed up on a separate sheet of paper (graphs and calculations may be completed by hand), and you must provide explanations for why your original answers are incorrect in addition to the correct answers (even for multiple choice questions). Corrections must be submitted, along with your original exam paper-clipped to them, to me within one week of receiving the graded 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.

Grading

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

Attendance & Participation	10%
Homework Assignments (11)	20%
Current Events Journal (4)	10%
Group Project	15%
Quizzes (2)	15%
Midterm Exam	15%
Final Exam	15%

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

** Please also note that no assignments will be accepted late, except under exceptional circumstances that must be approved by me.


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



student registration information

course

ECON 152 - Principles of Economics
with LearnSmart

instructor

Rhea Bhatta

section

Sections A & B

online registration instructions
Go to the following web address and click the "register now" button.

<https://connect.mheducation.com/class/r-bhatta-sections-a--b>

This is a unique address for
Sections A & B

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

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Website Link (to copy and paste):

<https://connect.mheducation.com/connect/shortUrl.do?accessUrl=r-bhatta-sections-a--b>

For help, please visit:

<http://bit.ly/StudentRegistration>

ECON 152AB - Course Schedule (Updated: 1/19/2015)

	Monday	Wednesday	Friday	Assignments
Week 1	<i>Jan 19</i> Introduction, Chap. 1	<i>Jan 21</i> Chap. 1	<i>Jan 23</i> Chap. 2	Enroll on Blackboard (Wed 1/21) Register for MHC (Fri 1/23) Submit group list (Fri 1/23)
Week 2	<i>Jan 26</i> NO CLASS	<i>Jan 28</i> Chaps. 2 & 3	<i>Jan 30</i> Chaps. 3 & 4	HW #1 (Sat 1/31)
Week 3	<i>Feb 2</i> Chap. 4	<i>Feb 4</i> Review of chaps. 1-4	<i>Feb 6</i> Quiz #1	CEJ Entry #1 (Fri 2/6) HW #2 (Sat 2/7)
Week 4	<i>Feb 9</i> Chap. 5	<i>Feb 11</i> Chaps. 5 & 6	<i>Feb 13</i> Chap. 6	HW #3 (Sat 2/14)
Week 5	<i>Feb 16</i> Chap. 7	<i>Feb 18</i> Chaps. 7 & 8	<i>Feb 20</i> Chaps. 8 & 9	HW #4 (Sat 2/21)
Week 6	<i>Feb 23</i> Chaps. 9 & 10	<i>Feb 25</i> Chap. 10	<i>Feb 27</i> Chap. 10	CEJ Entry #2 (Fri 2/27) HW #5 (Sat 2/28)
Week 7	<i>Mar 2</i> Chap. 11	<i>Mar 4</i> Review of chaps. 5-11	<i>Mar 6</i> Midterm Exam #1	HW #6 (Sat 3/7)
Week 8	<i>Mar 9</i> NO CLASS (Spring Recess)	<i>Mar 11</i> NO CLASS (Spring Recess)	<i>Mar 13</i> NO CLASS (Spring Recess)	
Week 9	<i>Mar 16</i> Chap. 12	<i>Mar 18</i> Chaps. 12 & 13	<i>Mar 20</i> Chap. 13	HW #7 (Sat 3/21)
Week 10	<i>Mar 23</i> Chap. 14	<i>Mar 25</i> Chap. 14	<i>Mar 27</i> Review of chaps. 12-14	HW #8 (Sat 3/28)
Week 11	<i>Mar 30</i> Quiz #2	<i>Apr 1</i> Chap. 15	<i>Apr 3</i> NO CLASS (Easter Recess)	CEJ Entry #3 (Thurs 4/2)
Week 12	<i>Apr 6</i> Chap. 15	<i>Apr 8</i> Chap. 16	<i>Apr 10</i> Chap. 16	HW #9 (Sat 4/11)
Week 13	<i>Apr 13</i> Chap. 17	<i>Apr 15</i> Chap. 17	<i>Apr 17</i> Chap. 18	
Week 14	<i>Apr 20</i> Chap. 18	<i>Apr 22</i> Chap. 20	<i>Apr 24</i> Chap. 20	HW #10 (Wed 4/22) Group Essay due (Friday 4/24)
Week 15	<i>Apr 27</i> Group presentations	<i>Apr 29</i> Group presentations	<i>May 1</i> Group presentations Wrap-Up	CEJ Entry #4 (Fri 5/1) HW #11 (Sat 5/2)

** Should we need to change any deadlines, I will update this schedule (and upload it to Blackboard).

** Homework assignments and CEJ entries are due by 11:59pm on the designated due dates.

** Late assignments will generally not be accepted. Under certain circumstances, they may be completed for half credit.