



# APRIL NEWSLETTER ECONOMICS

Spring 2023



## FROM THE CHAIR...

Dear Students,

How quickly the semester goes by – it's almost May! We will soon start our Fall course registration and we are pleased to announce our new faculty joining Brandeis this July. Ryan Westphal will have a PhD in Economics from Boston College when he starts on July 1, 2023. His research areas include Industrial Organization, Behavioral Economics and Household Finance. His job market paper considered when prices are passed through to consumers and found that with high uncertainty, average pass through of prices by firms was lower. He tested and confirmed these theoretical predictions using confidential data from the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act. Professor Westphal will be teaching one section of Econ 80a Intermediate Micro in the Fall.



Also new to Brandeis, we welcome Jiwon Choi. Jiwon will have a PhD in Economics from Princeton University when she starts on July 1, 2023. Her research areas include labor economics, urban economics and economic history. In her job market, she evaluated the local labor market effects of de-industrialization using historical data from New England textile towns in the 1920s. She found that industrial decline had no impacts on people migrating out of these localities; instead, younger populations invested in their educational attainment. Alternatively, older populations moved to working in the agricultural sector. Professor Choi will be teaching one section of Econ 184b Econometrics in the Fall.

In other news, the Economics department will now have a new Econ 93a Course. This course will allow the possibility of undertaking research on a faculty project under the guidance of a faculty member. More details on faculty projects as well as information on the ideal skill levels sought will be posted on the department's website closer to the start of the Fall semester.

Good luck on your exams and stay healthy!



# Fall Pre-registration

**Pre-registration for fall 2023 will begin on April 25th and continue through May 1st.**

Most of the economics courses are open enrollment. Those courses with "0" enrollment listed (Econ 184, etc.) will be enrolled through a wait list only. These lists are prioritized by academic year, declared major, and time stamped place on the waitlist. We will continue to enroll students wherever there is space up until the end of registration\*.

\*Econ 25 does not allow students to enroll once classes have begun due to the pace of the course

If you have NOT met required prerequisites for a course, Workday will not allow you to register. If you feel this is incorrect, please click on "override" to request that you be allowed to register. You MUST put comments in to assist in the override decision.

**Workday overrides DO NOT enroll you in a course, they allow you to bypass the prerequisites.**

NOTE: Any student with a time conflict must have a "Time Conflict form" signed by both conflicting course instructors to be able to enroll. You will be enrolled once it is processed at the registrar's office.

**(Please note: A qualified senior is any econ major senior who has completed at least 88 credits by the end of the spring 2023 semester)**

Please remember, adding a course late does not excuse you from completing all required assignments.

Students who have questions about registering for economics courses should contact our

Academic Administrator, Leslie Yancich at [lesliey@brandeis.edu](mailto:lesliey@brandeis.edu).

## Need some help navigating Workday?

Student Registration Workday help: FAQ'S - this is a living document where questions and answers about the registration process will be posted. If you have a question and you don't see the answer here, please email [HERE](#). It's more than likely that if you have a question, someone else has the same one!



## Reminder!

### **Math requirement for Econ 80a, Econ 82b, Econ 83a and Econ 184b**

Every student must satisfy a calculus requirement before enrolling in Econ 80a, 82b, 83a or 184b. Specifically, students must establish competence in calculus in any one of three ways: completion of Math 10a (or equivalent course) with a grade of C- or better; scoring at least 4 on the AP Mathematics AB test, or at least 3 on the AP Mathematics BC test; or passing a placement exam the Econ Department administers at the beginning of the semester. A sample of the exam can be found [here](#). The fall exam is tentatively scheduled for Friday, September 8 th , 2023.

### **Please note, a student may only take this exam once.**

Students must satisfy this requirement **before** taking Econ 80a, 82b, 83a or 184b. Students should also prepare for this requirement by having AP test scores and/or transfer credit grades and syllabus information available before classes begin. Students who have not satisfied the requirement in one of these ways will be removed from these courses.

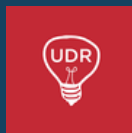




## Economics UDR's

Congratulations to our graduating UDR's Naftali Kruman and Pierre Sulmont! Thank you for all of your hard work and best of luck to you on your next adventure.

We'd also like to welcome our new UDR's Maxwell Johnston and Jeffrey Kuang! We're excited for a new year and new events. Feel free to reach out to them with ideas or questions!



## Fall Ta's



If you are interested in being a TA for one of our fall economics courses, please apply on Workday to student job #R0008166. Feel free to email me with your preferences on classes you are eligible to TA for.

## Graduating Senior Survey

Calling all graduates! Before packing up and heading off campus, let us know how we can reach you! We'll be sending out a brief senior survey to make sure your alumni status is right on track!

## Grad Level Courses

We may be able to offer some spots in graduate level courses to qualified junior and senior undergraduates. Spaces are limited and all prerequisites must be met to enroll. Anyone wishing to enroll in these courses should contact Leslie Yancich ([lesliey@brandeis.edu](mailto:lesliey@brandeis.edu)) for availability/enrollment processes. Students may need to wait until the fall semester to see what the availability is before being allowed to enroll. Please note that not all grad level courses are able to counted as economics electives.

## Senior Honors Program



To graduate with honors in Economics, a student must maintain a GPA of at least 3.5 in courses in the major and write a senior thesis. Juniors planning to write a thesis are advised to begin the process this term by discussing potential topics with faculty members who can help match students with appropriate faculty advisors. Many Econ faculty members have suggested potential senior thesis research topics, and these are now available on the Economics Department website. For more information about the senior honors program, go to the Senior Honors Program page of the Econ website. If you were unable to attend the informational meeting in the spring, please email me and I will send you the handouts. For the 2023-24 academic year, the program will be chaired by Professor Shiller. Please note: All proposals are due on Friday, September 8TH by 5:00 pm. No exceptions!

## Senior Focus Group Survey



All seniors are asked to participate in a survey that gives us valued feedback on our department. We want to hear from you about our major and any comments you may have or ways to improve for our future economists! We appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts with us.