



APRIL NEWSLETTER ECONOMICS



FROM THE CHAIR...

Dear Students,

With April break in sight, it is time to start thinking about the fall semester!

We are excited to welcome two new faculty members to the Economics Department in the fall, Professor [Jingyi Huang](#) and Professor [Ashley Miller](#). Professor Huang's research lies at the intersection of economic history, law and industrial organization and includes a fascinating paper on the Chicago meatpacking industry. Professor Huang will be teaching Econ 80a Microeconomic Theory in the fall. Professor Miller does research in labor economics and the economics of education, and she will teach Econ 83a Statistics for Economic Analysis in the fall.

In addition, we are very pleased to welcome back Professor Mahsa Akbari, who is re-joining the Economics Department after a one-year absence. Professor Akbari's research interests are in economic development, labor economics and applied econometrics. She will be teaching Econ 184b Econometrics and Econ 175a Introduction to the Economics of Development in the fall.

While our fall course line-up does not have any new elective courses, we are planning two new electives that will debut in the spring 2023 semester: an upper-level elective on the Economics of Digitization, taught by Professor Benjamin Shiller, and a new team-taught course called Introduction to Machine Learning with Economic Applications. This course will be co-taught by Professor Yinchu Zhu (ECON) and Professor Pengyu Hong (COSI). The prerequisites will be COSI 10a Intro to Problem Solving in Python, along with Econ 83a Statistics for Economic Analysis. Please plan ahead and get COSI 10a on your course schedule if you would like to take our new machine learning course in spring 2023!



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As a reminder, for students subject to the Brandeis Core requirements, we will be offering two-credit practicums in Writing in Economics (Econ 26b) and Oral Communication in Economics (Econ 25a) which develop critical skills in writing and oral communication of economic ideas. Econ 25a has Econ 80a as a prerequisite (or co-requisite) and fulfills the Oral Communications foundational literacies requirement for Economics majors. Econ 26b has Econ 82b as a prerequisite (or co-requisite) and fulfills the Writing Intensive foundational literacies requirement for Economics majors. In addition, junior and senior majors can take certain graduate courses at IBS for upper-level elective credit. Further information on these options is provided below. Students can also earn Econ credits by taking our classes in Copenhagen in summer 2023! For more information, see the [Brandeis in Copenhagen website](#). Be well, be healthy, and feel free to be in touch with me about any concerns, questions, or requests at ebrainer@brandeis.edu.



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 2nd, 2022.**

Fall Pre-registration

Pre-registration for fall 2022 will begin on [April 25th](#) and continue through [May 2nd](#).

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 2022 semester)

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.



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.

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!



***Want to volunteer?
Commencement is live and in
person on May 22, 2022!***

University Events is looking for Ushers for Commencement! Please apply on WorkDay, job #R0005860.

- Pays \$14.25 an hour and housing is covered.
- Qualifications: Courteous, professional reliable. Able to stand for long periods of time.
- Duties: Help direct students and guests to the correct locations/seats at Commencement; other duties as assigned.
- Hours: 5/17/22 5/18/22: 10am-11:00am;
5/22/22: 6am-9p



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) for availability/enrollment processes. Students may need to wait until the fall semester to see what the availability is before being allowed to enroll.

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 Leslie Yancich (lesliey@brandeis.edu) and she will give you the handouts.

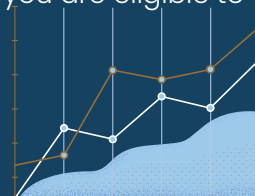
Senior Honors Program Contd.

For the 2022-23 academic year, the program will be chaired by Professor Schoenle. **Please note: All proposals are due on Friday, September 6th by 5:00 pm. No exceptions!**

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 **#R0005995**. Feel free to email Leslie Yancich (lesliey@brandeis.edu) with your preferences on classes you are eligible to TA for.



Economics UDR's

Congratulations to our graduating UDR's Spandana Shankara and Willow Yang! 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 Huan Tian and Pierre Sulmont. We're excited for a new year and new events. Feel free to reach out to them with ideas or questions!



Senior Focus Group

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 and will be raffling off a **\$50 Amazon gift card** to one of the participants!



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!

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