



FROM THE CHAIR...

Hello All,

Well the cold weather is here as the calendar year winds down. There is a lot happening on campus, and we hope you are taking advantage of all the opportunities to engage, reflect, and express your views, in a respectful manner. We in economics write now to provide some highlights for next semester.

First, in terms of course offerings, Prof. Maya Eden will be teaching a new class – Econ 132 – Normative Economics. This is an important addition to our curriculum since it discusses redistributive justice, a topic that is of great interest to all economists and to students who value social justice issues (which is many of you!). This class will be cross-listed with the Applied Math department. Students who have the prerequisites should definitely consider this class.



Second, we have six lower level electives and seven upper level electives this Spring. I hope everyone will take advantage of these opportunities to study things from the economics of the middle east to race and gender and the econometrics of causal inference.

Third, for students subject to the Brandeis Core requirements, we will be offering three sections each of the two-credit practicums in Writing in Economics (Econ 26b) and Oral Communication in Economics (Econ 25a) which develop 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. Finally, I write to remind all junior and senior majors that they can take certain graduate courses at IBS for upper-level elective credit.

Good luck for your Spring classes and I hope it is a semester filled with lots of new learning on important ideas and concepts.

FALL PRE-REGISTRATION

Pre-registration for Spring 2024 will begin November 28th, 2023. Please see [here](#) for more information. Most of the economics courses are open enrollment. 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.

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.



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 spring exam is tentatively scheduled for **Friday, January 19th, 2024**.

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 ADMIN... DID YOU KNOW?

Here's some helpful tips for navigating registration, enrollment questions, and more!



- **OVERRIDES?** Please explain in the comment section why you are requesting the override. This saves us from sending it back to you for more information and then gets you quicker approval!
- Direct question for the **UAH (Undergraduate Advising Head)**? The **Economics department chair**? We now have designated email addresses:

econdeptuah@brandeis.edu
econdeptchair@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!



THINKING ABOUT WRITING A THESIS?

To graduate with honors in Economics, a student must maintain a GPA of at least 3.5 in courses in the major, earn a B+ grade or higher in econometrics, 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. We will be hosting an **Informational Thesis Program Session** for the 2024-25 academic year this spring.

Date TBD.

SPRING UTA'S

If you are interested in being a UTA for one of our spring economics courses, please apply on Workday to student job #R0009386. Feel free to email me with preferences for classes you are eligible to UTA for!

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. Please note that not all grad level courses are able to be counted as economics electives.

