
College of the Holy Cross
Fall 2026

Economics 110: Principles of Economics
Sections 04 & 05

Professor: Jeremy Garrison

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Class Time and Place

Section 04: Monday 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM, Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM, Stein 205

Section 05: Monday 12:00 PM - 12:50 PM, Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM, Stein 205

Office Hours

Office hours will be in person in my office, Stein 415, and occasionally (as announced on Canvas) on Zoom at [this link](#).

- Monday: 1:00 - 3:00 PM
- Tuesday: 2:00 - 3:30 PM
- Wednesday: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- Thursday: 2:00 - 3:30 PM
- Additional office hours can be made by appointment.

Resources

- [Canvas course webpage](#): this is where you'll find course details, assignments, and posted grades as well as occasional announcements.
- **Textbooks**: available as open access e-texts at <https://core-econ.org/the-economy/>
 - The CORE Econ Team, *The Economy 2.0: Microeconomics*, 2023
 - The CORE Econ Team, *The Economy 2.0: Macroeconomics*, 2025
- Additional readings will be posted on Canvas.

Course Description and Objectives

Economics is the study of social interactions with material consequences. This course provides an introduction to economics by exploring the key concepts, theories, and methods of the discipline. Throughout the semester, we will cover a range of topics in microeconomics and macroeconomics including technology, constrained optimization, game theory, institutions, supply and demand, market power, wage labor, unemployment, aggregate demand, inflation, macroeconomic policy, debt, money, and inequality. The primary objective of this course is to provide a survey of the tools and frameworks offered by economics and to improve fluency with economic terminology and mathematics, giving students a solid foundation of economic education on which they can build. Additionally, students should, by the end of the semester, be better at distinguishing between explanation and justification, considering their everyday lives within the context of economic systems, and engaging in civil discourse.

Academic Dishonesty

The work in this class is expected to be your own and meet the standards of academic honesty laid out in the College Catalog. Ignorance of these standards is not a valid excuse. Failure to comply with

these standards will result in a zero for the assignment and notification of the Dean's Office of the violation. If you are ever in doubt of whether your actions are in violation of the code, please confer with me before submitting the assignment or exam. Please also familiarize yourself with the [College's Academic Integrity Policy](#).

(In the spirit of academic honesty: while preparing this syllabus, I have benefited from reading the syllabi of Professors Schwab and Congdon-Hohman.)

Technology Policy

No phones, laptops, tablets, or other electronic devices may be used during class. *Students using their devices during class time will be marked as absent.* If this policy significantly hinders your capacity to learn and understand the material or if you are a primary caretaker who must occasionally check your device, please talk to me after class or reach out by email. No generative artificial intelligence (AI) models (e.g. ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, etc.) may be used for this course.

Grading

Grading components: Your final grade will be calculated from your assignment grades as follows (the number of assignments in each category is in parentheses):

Class participation	(40)	40 pts	20%
Reading notes	(13)	36 pts	18%
Collaborative exercises	(12)	60 pts	30%
Quizzes	(12)	60 pts	30%
Games	(~4)	4 pts	2%
Optional final	(1)	≤ 60 pts	≤ 30%
Total		200 pts	100%

All but the optional final will occur weekly. You can find descriptions of each in Assignments, and you can find their due dates in the schedule here and on Canvas.

Grading scale: Letter grades are determined based on percentage grades as follows: A = 93-100%; A- = 90-92.9%; B+ = 87-89.9%; B = 83-86.9%; B- = 80-82.9%; C+ = 77-79.9%; C = 73-76.9%; C- = 70-72.9%; D+ = 67-69.9%; D = 60-66.9%; F < 60%.

Assignments

Class attendance and participation: Students are expected to attend all classes they can. If you are unable to attend class (e.g. due to sickness or an athletic event), please send me an email before class, and please obtain lecture notes from other students after class. If you will miss a test or in-class activity, I will let you know how you can make it up (likely during my office hours). Attendance alone is insufficient to earn the participation points. For full participation credit, you must actively engage in activities and discussions, and you may not use electronic devices. See also General Expectations in this syllabus and the [College's Class Attendance Policy](#).

Handwritten reading notes / reflections: Each week, students are expected to handwrite 1-2 pages of notes based on the assigned readings found in the schedule and on Canvas. I will grade them as incomplete (0), partial (1.5), or complete (3). You will turn in these notes in class each Monday. I will accept a range of styles of notes. You can write a journal-like reflection on the readings as a whole, or you can turn in a list of annotations with page numbers. You are welcome to engage with the text by summarizing, synthesizing, critiquing, analyzing, pondering, arguing with, or asking

questions about the content. You may bring your own lived experience and knowledge from other courses and sources to bear on the concepts presented in the readings. You are welcome to agree or disagree with any or all of the readings. I am looking primarily for honest engagement. At the end of the semester, I will drop your lowest score.

Quizzes and in-class exercises: We will spend Thursday classes on in-class exercises. These will include games, discussions, math problems, and quizzes. The graded component will be a short set of questions concerning the concepts and theory from that week. Half of these questions you are encouraged to work together on (though each of you will still turn in your own responses). The other half will be completed individually as a quiz. You are allowed to use your handwritten lecture and reading notes during all of these exercises. 30% of your final grade is based on the collaborative exercises and 30% on the individual quizzes, but they will occur weekly, any one of these assignments is worth only 5 points (2.5%). You will also have the opportunity to make up any 6 of the 12 weeks of assignments during the optional final.

Optional final: The optional final will consist of 12 short answer questions, one for each week of material I test you over. Each of these questions will be clearly marked. You may complete up to 6 of the 12 problems. For each of the problems you complete, your final grade on that question will replace your two quiz/exercise grades from the corresponding week if it is higher. If it is lower, it will not count against you. You are allowed to bring up to six handwritten pages of notes to the final.

Late and missed assignments: Reading notes submitted one class late will be marked down by 1.5 points (to either partial—1.5—or incomplete—0). See Class Attendance and Participation for missed in-class exercises.

Accommodation and Accessibility Resources

If you have been granted accommodations from the Office of Student Accessibility Services, please let me know, and I will do everything I can to help. I do ask that you provide as much advance notification as possible. Additionally, if you have not been given accommodations but believe that they may be appropriate for you, please contact the [Office of Student Accessibility Services](#).

General expectations

- Attend class, participate in discussions and activities, and refrain from using your electronic devices
- Take space, make space: if you are taking up a lot of space in discussions, please step back and invite others into the conversation; if you are not contributing to a discussion, please do your best to step up and share your valuable perspective.
- Ask questions! (And don't shame people for not knowing something.)
- Respect each other (even if you have radically different perspectives)
- Practice active listening (start with the goal of trying to understand a perspective before deciding whether you agree with it)
- Communicate with me: if you are struggling, confused, sick, or are experiencing other circumstances that are making it difficult for you to keep on top of your academic responsibilities, please let me know. I want to give each and every one of you the best chance to succeed in this class.

Additional information and resources

Diversity and inclusivity

Holy Cross is a community of people from many cultures and social backgrounds. We collaborate in our courses to create an inclusive environment in which all feel welcome and supported. We are committed – as individuals and as a community – to respect and foster diversity, which is a powerful force for positive change in our community and beyond.

Recording of classes: PLEASE NOTE that, consistent with applicable federal and state law, this course may be video/audio recorded as an accommodation only with permission from the Office of Accessibility Services. Students are not permitted to record the contents of this class under any other circumstances.

Confidentiality and mandatory reporting

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. I also have a mandatory reporting responsibility related to my role as your professor. It is my goal that you feel able to share information related to your life experiences in classroom discussions, in your written work, and in our one-on-one meetings. I will seek to keep the information you share private to the greatest extent possible. However, any information that you disclose that addresses sexual misconduct or relates to a prior suicide attempt or an intention to attempt suicide requires my sharing that information with those on campus who are able to provide you with necessary resources. Following the College's Sexual Misconduct Policy, I will share information about sexual misconduct with the College's Office of Title IX Initiatives. If you would like to talk to Title IX directly, they can be reached at 508-793-3336 or [email](#). For more information, please visit the [Sexual Respect and Title IX website](#). If you would like to discuss the matter confidentially, the following confidential resources are available to you: [Counseling Center](#), 508-793-3363; [Health Services](#), 508-793-2276; [Chaplains' Office](#), 508-793-2448. Following the College's Suicide Protocol, if you disclose a prior suicide attempt or an intention or plan to attempt suicide, I will share that information with the Chair of our [Student CARE Team](#), who will engage in appropriate outreach.

Holy Cross academic resources:

- [Academic Services and Learning Resources](#)
- [Center for Writing](#)
- [Writers' Workshop](#)
- [Class Deans](#)
- [Holy Cross Libraries](#)

Holy Cross student support resources:

- [Counseling Center](#)
- [Office of the College Chaplains](#)
- [Health Services](#)
- [Office of Justice, Equity, Belonging, & Identity](#)
- [Office of Title IX and Equal Opportunity](#)

Schedule

Date	Topic	Readings	Assignments
8/25	Introduction	<i>Microeconomics</i> Unit 1	
8/27			
8/31	Technology and incentives	<i>Microeconomics</i> Unit 2	Reading notes
9/1			
9/3			In-class exercise / quiz
9/7	Constrained optimization	<i>Microeconomics</i> Unit 3	Reading notes
9/8			
9/10			In-class exercise / quiz
9/14	Game theory	<i>Microeconomics</i> Unit 4	Reading notes
9/15			
9/17			In-class exercise / quiz
9/21	Institutions and power	<i>Microeconomics</i> Unit 5	Reading notes
9/22			
9/24			In-class exercise / quiz
9/28	Wage labor	<i>The Economy 1.0</i> Unit 6	Reading notes
9/29			
10/1			In-class exercise / quiz
10/5	Inequality	<i>The Economy 1.0</i> Unit 19	Reading notes
10/6			
10/8			In-class exercise / quiz
10/12	Break		
10/13			
10/15			
10/19	Market power and profit maximization	<i>Microeconomics</i> Unit 7	Reading notes
10/20			
10/22			In-class exercise / quiz
10/26	Supply and demand with perfect competition	<i>Microeconomics</i> Unit 8	Reading notes
10/27			
10/29			In-class exercise / quiz
11/2	Wages, profits, and unemployment	<i>The Economy 1.0</i> Unit 9	Reading notes
11/3			
11/5			In-class exercise / quiz
11/9	Aggregate demand and the multiplier	<i>Macroeconomics</i> Unit 3	Reading notes
11/10			
11/12			In-class exercise / quiz
11/16	Inflation and unemployment	<i>Macroeconomics</i> Unit 4	Reading notes
11/17			
11/19			In-class exercise / quiz
11/23	Macroeconomic policy	<i>Macroeconomics</i> Unit 5	Reading notes
11/24			
11/26			Break
11/30	Debt, Money, and Financial Markets	<i>Macroeconomics</i> Unit 6	Reading notes
12/1			
12/3			In-class exercise / quiz
Section 04 12/12	3:00 PM - 5:30 PM		Optional final
Section 05 12/11	11:30 AM - 2:00 PM		Optional final