

**Princeton University – Department of Economics**  
**Rules on Preapproval of Summer Courses Taken Elsewhere**

The Economics department only considers for pre-approval summer courses that can be substitutes for ECO 100 (intro microeconomics) and ECO 101 (intro macroeconomics). No other courses are considered. Moreover, we will not allow both the micro and macro courses to be taken away from Princeton; at least one must be taken here.

To consider a course, we need the full syllabus, including information about the textbook, week-by-week plan of topics and chapters, and the number of hours per week and the number of weeks of instruction. A short paragraph like that in our Undergraduate Announcement is not enough. The syllabus must be printed out and attached to the approval request form; we will not follow up web links. If the syllabus for the coming summer session is not yet available, we can give preliminary approval based on the syllabus for last year's summer session, to be confirmed if the actual syllabus for this summer proves to be essentially equivalent. Note – a syllabus for an academic year semester course is not acceptable as presumptive evidence of what will be covered in a summer course; summer versions often cover less material and at a lower level than academic year courses.

For an intro micro course, indifference curve analysis, externalities and public goods are important topics; for macroeconomics simultaneous equilibrium in markets for goods and money, and long run growth are important topics. For both, coverage of international aspects is important. Summer courses often skip these topics or skimp on them for want of time, so check carefully in advance.

The Statistics pre-requirement cannot be satisfied with summer courses taken after you have begun your studies at Princeton, except in unusual circumstances approved by the Departmental Representative, Professor Smita Brunnermeier ([smita@princeton.edu](mailto:smita@princeton.edu)).

For preapproval of mathematics summer courses, students should ask the Mathematics Dep. Rep., not the Economics Dep. Rep. What we need is their approval of a course as equivalent to MAT 175. Ask them to e-mail this certification to our undergraduate program administrator, Noelina Hall ([noelina@princeton.edu](mailto:noelina@princeton.edu)).

All of this pertains to courses for potential ECO majors. In cases of non-ECO majors for whom the course is required for making up course deficiencies in order to be permitted to return to Princeton in the Fall or after a leave of absence, we can give approvals for other courses and for courses that have slightly lower standards than ours, subject to the explicit condition that such courses cannot be used in fulfillment of any economics department or finance certificate prerequisites or requirements whatsoever.

In all situations, approval must be obtained in advance. No approvals are given ex post facto for any reason.

For summer course pre-approval of economics courses, contact Prof. Smita Brunnermeier ([smita@princeton.edu](mailto:smita@princeton.edu)). Please fill out the following form and attach the requested information <http://odoc.princeton.edu/sites/odoc/files/Summer%20Course%20Preapproval%20Form.pdf>.

The procedure for preapproval of Study Abroad courses taken during the academic year is different. Please contact Professor Smita Brunnermeier ([smita@princeton.edu](mailto:smita@princeton.edu)).