

## Frequently Asked Questions by Students Starting in the Economics Department (FAQ):

### 1. I'm a new student starting in the department this semester. What should I do?

First, welcome to the department! The first step is to explore our department's website. Our university operates on a three-semester system: Fall, Spring, and Summer. On the department website, you can view the undergraduate curriculum, which shows the courses you'll need to take each semester over four years.

Additionally, it's important to read our undergraduate regulations, which outline the rules and rights you need to follow during your studies. The regulations are available under the Regulations link on the Student Affairs page (TOBB-ETU Undergraduate Education, Training, and Exam Regulations). It includes useful information, such as:

- Classification requirements (when you progress from one year to the next),
- Withdrawal from courses (receiving a "W" grade),
- Course repetition,
- Semester credit limits,
- Taking leave from the university.

You can also find the academic calendar on the university website, where you'll see the dates for the start and end of classes, add-drop periods, course withdrawal deadlines, final exam dates, and more.

### 2. How do I register for courses?

Students register for courses themselves by logging in to the registration page on the Student Affairs page with their username and password.

You need to add the courses you'll be taking during the registration period and confirm your registration. If you miss the registration period, you'll have to pay a late registration fee. It's essential to follow the university's announcements and registration dates to avoid missing the registration period.

### 3. What is the role of an academic advisor? Do I need to meet with my advisor?

Each of you has an academic advisor in the department. Generally, you don't need to meet with your advisor for course registration. However, advisors can provide academic guidance. For instance, they can inform you about courses you may want to take based on your career goals. They can also guide you toward a minor or double major program according to your interests. You can also discuss pursuing a master's or doctoral degree with them.

Advisors do not have information on technical details about the registration system or tuition payments. For issues such as accessing the registration system, connectivity problems, or tuition payment, please refer to Student Affairs and the IT department.

#### 4. I'll be joining the department at the beginning of the Spring semester after completing the preparatory program. What courses should I take? Can I catch up to graduate with my peers who started in the Fall semester?

Students who start at the beginning of the academic year are called "regular" students, while those who start in the middle are referred to as "irregular" students. Not every course is offered each semester. If you start as an irregular student after the Fall semester, you should take whichever required courses are available according to the curriculum. In some cases, these students may be able to graduate alongside their peers by taking additional courses and succeeding in them. However, sometimes they graduate with the next regular student group.

#### 5. How many credits should I take in a semester?

The undergraduate curriculum specifies the courses you are expected to take each semester, which reflects the credit load for that semester. You should follow the curriculum and take each course in its designated semester. The maximum credits you can take are listed on the online registration page. Some courses have prerequisites, which are listed in the curriculum section on our website.

If you have any courses you previously failed, you'll need to retake them to improve your grade. This will add to your credit load. As credit load increases, it may become more challenging to succeed, so it's recommended not to exceed the total credit load for the semester unless necessary. The total credit you take cannot be below the minimum (12 credits) or above the maximum (22 credits) listed on the registration system.

#### 6. What if my GPA is below 2.00?

Your cumulative GPA should be at least 2.00 at the end of each semester to be in "good standing." If it falls below 2.00, you'll be placed on "probation," and if it's below 1.50, you'll be considered "unsuccessful." These statuses come with restrictive rules, such as limiting the credits for new courses, which may slow your progress and delay graduation.

Keeping a high GPA has many advantages, such as meeting the minimum GPA requirement for minor and double major programs. Additionally, some companies offering internships may have GPA requirements, and graduate programs also consider GPA as a criterion.

#### 7. Is passing all courses in the curriculum enough for graduation?

To graduate, you must pass all courses in the curriculum and have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.00. Although DD and DC grades mean you have passed a course, they can lower your GPA. Therefore, aim not only to pass but also to achieve the highest possible grades.

#### 8. What language should I choose for my second foreign language?

English is the primary language in the field of Economics. Hence, improving your English skills is essential. We aim for our graduates to be proficient in both Turkish and English.

The choice of a second foreign language depends on the student's interests. Our department does not recommend any particular second language.

#### 9. Is attendance mandatory for classes?

Yes, students must attend at least 70% of their classes. Those who don't meet this requirement cannot take the final exam and receive a "U" grade. However, if you've previously taken the course and failed for reasons other than attendance, you don't need to meet attendance requirements upon retaking it.

#### 10. How are classes conducted during the pandemic?

Recently, an email from the University Rectorate announced that Fall 2020-2021 courses would start online from September 21, with plans adjusted based on the pandemic's progression.

Most online classes are conducted via Zoom, where you'll meet with instructors via video conferencing. You'll need to download this program and register with your school email. Most classes are synchronous (live), while a small portion may be asynchronous (pre-recorded videos shared with students). Additionally, you can meet with instructors during office hours for asynchronous classes.

During online education, course materials are uploaded to [remote education portal]. You'll receive the password from the IT department. After registering for classes, you can access materials for your registered courses.