

Notes on Registration Bilkent Economics Spring 2025-2026

Welcome, or welcome back!

If you are a returning student, you will be familiar with this note. Nonetheless, please read it again and be mindful of deadlines and changes to registration practices.

Bilkent Economics is here to help you flourish into whoever you want to be. You will, in the end, have a degree in economics and that has requirements that have to be fulfilled. Course requirements and registration regulations are designed to allow you to do whatever you want to do, subject to the constraint that you should fulfill the core requirements of being an economist and other students should similarly be served.

We have a diverse student body and one size does not fit all. If you have a special need that our regulations do not allow or cover, please contact first your advisor and/or the department office Ms. Ozlem Eraslan, and then Dr. Talat Senocak. We will either get it done or you will understand why it cannot or should not be done. Please understand that exceptions are more likely for students in better standing. If you have not distinguished yourself scholastically, the department (and the university) tends to be more paternalistic, telling you what you have to do, until you are in good standing.

When thinking about which courses to take this semester, please keep the following in mind:

1. Your curriculum lists which courses and elective requirements should be fulfilled to graduate. These are distributed across semesters, but those distributions are suggestive. That is, as long as you complete all requirements, it does not matter when or in which order you complete them. However, prerequisite conditions are binding and not all courses are offered every semester. Hence, have a plan for your entire course of study at Bilkent when choosing courses now.
2. If this is your first semester in the department, note the elective in your curriculum. We ask you to choose a course in your first semester to make you think of what interests you. Choose your elective and while you are at it, make a plan for the remainder of your time at Bilkent Economics. That plan will likely change but you will benefit much from having looked at what Bilkent offers and what you would like to do here at the outset.
3. Many courses fulfill several requirements, it is up to you to decide which requirement a particular course will count towards. If there are multiple options, always choose the most restrictive category. That is, for Econ courses, fulfill Economics electives before unrestricted ones, for introductory social sciences courses, fulfill the 100-Level Social Science requirement, then restricted electives, then unrestricted electives, etc. Take the required courses you can take as early as possible.

4. Do not count on summer school when planning. Summer school is not a regular semester, professors do not have to teach, teaching is voluntary. Departments therefore offer only the courses individual faculty members decide to offer. You should assume that no courses will be offered in summer school and make no plans contingent on taking this or that course in the summer session. Summer school is a random process that depends on faculty preferences, the department cannot and will not commit to offering any courses. No department can.
5. Economics department offers all required (must) courses in both semesters to accommodate irregular students. Given your curriculum, regardless of your regular/irregular status, the department will make sure that you are taking a required course you should be taking that semester for the first time. We will do our best to accommodate you if you have taken a course and want to take it again because you failed or because you want to go for a higher grade. However, making you repeat a course at your convenience is neither a requirement, nor a priority. If you have already taken the course once, you have taken up the space and the priority is to accommodate the students who want to take that course for the first time. Failing a course and repeating it is not normal and creates an enormous negative externality.
6. You are at an excellent department in an excellent university. Use your time well, plan your studies optimally. What is optimal for you is nobody's business but yours. But make sure that whatever you do is the result of self-reflection, that you choose what you do rather than taking the path of least resistance (unless that is your considered choice).

Your advisors will be available for advising and discussing your plans with you during registration days. Make sure to contact your academic advisor first. If your advisor is not available, then you should seek out the director of undergraduate studies (Dr. Talat SENOCAK). Your advisor will inform you on how to conduct meetings with you during registration hours and at other times. This may be via zoom, e-mail, office phone, or face-to-face in their office. All registration will continue be done online. You will receive a separate document from FEASS Dean's office on the mechanics of registering using SRS. You will not need to deliver any paperwork (form) to your advisor and administrative staff or get physical signatures.

Have a great semester!

Kemal YILDIZ

on behalf of the

Department of Economics

Before registering, remember that:

1. Your nominal credit load is 18.
2. If you are in satisfactory standing ($\text{CGPA} \geq 2.00$) you can take up to six courses at your discretion, you do not need to ask for permission. If you are not in satisfactory standing, you may take up to six courses at your discretion, as long as you do not violate limits on new courses you can take (see item 10).
3. If your CGPA is above 2.50 you may take a seventh course with your advisor's and department chair's approval.
4. Only students who will graduate this semester may take eight courses. This also requires the advisor's and department chair's approval. If you are to graduate with seven or eight courses, you may take those courses anytime during the registration period. **Graduating this semester means fulfilling all graduation requirements when grades are submitted at the end of the semester.**
5. GE 100, GE 250, GE 251, and the summer practice training requirement (ECON 399) do not count towards the maximum number of courses you can take.
6. Students in satisfactory standing and who would like to repeat a course to improve their grades (in general a bad idea) may register to repeat the course for which their grade is below B, beginning Friday, January 23 at 8:00 AM. This can be done only if you have taken the course during the past two semesters.
7. Prerequisite requirements for Econ courses **will not be waived** unless students can officially document that they satisfy the knowledge requirement by having taken another course with very similar content.
8. Note that the deadlines for dropping and adding courses are different. The deadline for dropping a course is 1:00 PM on Wednesday, January 28. The deadline for adding a course 11:59 PM on the same day (Wednesday, January 28). This will allow students to know exactly which courses have space at the end of the add-drop period, as there will be no more drops. But note that this also means if you have not dropped a course by the deadline, you can only withdraw from it, although you can still add new courses for the remainder of the day.
9. You can not take courses with schedule conflicts. Exceptions are possible only if one of the professors declare that despite what is in STARS, the class will not be meeting during the conflicting hours.
10. **Course loads for students who are under probation or are unsatisfactory:** Students under probation ($1.80 \leq \text{CGPA} < 2.00$) should repeat

the courses from which they received F, FX, FZ, UE and U and may register to a limited number of new courses depending on their registration semester. All courses that were not previously taken by a student in previous semesters or taken but withdrawn are counted as a new course. The table below gives the maximum number of new courses that can be taken (depending on your Department Semester):

2nd Semester	After 2nd Semester
1 new elective + total of 15 credits of any new course. In most cases this corresponds to: 1 new elective + any 5 new courses.	1 new elective + total of 10 credits of any new course. In most cases this corresponds to: 1 new elective + any 3 new courses.

If the number courses that you registered to (all repeat and new courses) is less than 5, students under probation should re-take some of the courses from which they had previously received a passing letter grade below C. They are allowed to take new non-credit courses.

Students in unsatisfactory standing ($CGPA < 1.80$) should repeat the courses for which they received F, FX, FZ, UE and U, and may register for a limited number of new courses depending on their registration semester. All courses that were not previously taken by a student in previous semesters or taken but withdrawn are counted as a new course. The table below gives the maximum number of new courses that can be taken (depending on your Department Semester):

2nd Semester	After 2nd Semester
1 new elective + total of 12 credits of any new course. In most cases this corresponds to: 1 new elective + any 4 new courses.	1 new elective

If the number courses that you registered to (all repeat and new courses) is less than 5, unsatisfactory students should re-take some of the courses from which they had previously received a passing letter grade below C. They are allowed to take new non-credit courses.

*New course limits are binding limits, **they will not be relaxed by administrative action.** Exceptions may be possible only in graduation semesters.*

11. If you are under probation but this is your graduation semester, then you may take up to eight courses, provided that the 7th/8th course is **not**

a new course; or you have already registered to 4 new courses and the course you want to take is a 3 credits course.

12. If you are in unsatisfactory standing but will graduate by taking seven or eight courses and if the 7th/8th course is not a new course or you have already registered to 1 new elective (and no other new courses) and the course you want to take is a 3 credits course you may be allowed to take the 7th/8th course. But your case will be discussed by a faculty committee. You should not be disappointed if you are not allowed to take the 7th/8th course.
13. Please pay attention to deadlines. If you miss the deadline for dropping a course, you will have to take it, etc. This applies to students on Erasmus exchange as well. You should make sure that your paperwork is done in a timely manner and if a change to your mobility agreement is needed it is similarly approved here before the deadline to make amendments to learning agreements. If you take courses without a valid learning agreement (signed by the student, the host institution, and Bilkent) your credits cannot be transferred.

Registration is a busy time for everybody. Please be understanding and show good cheer. We are here for you.

Have a great semester!











