



Top-Notch Technology in the Classroom

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ECONOMICS

THE SCIENCE OF EXPLAINING TOMORROW WHY THE PREDICTIONS YOU MADE YESTERDAY DIDN'T COME TRUE TODAY.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.



"Snap out of it, Hornblatt. You knew economics was a dismal science when you took this job!"

Ben Stein, the Face of Economics



★ Ferris Bueller's Day Off

Economists in Commercials

- ★ Watch the [Commercial!](#)



Learning Economics with Movie/TV Clips

- ✱ Makes learning easier & more efficient
- ✱ Illustrates key concepts in an interesting way
- ✱ Introduce concepts at the beginning of a lecture
- ✱ Assigned as homework to embed learning
- ✱ *I Love Lucy*
- ✱ *The Hudsucker Proxy*

Movie Scenes for Economics

[Go to the Catalog!](#)

Dear Economics Educators,

Short film scenes are used as a vehicle to introduce elementary economic concepts. The pedagogical advantages of this approach are increased student engagement; an enhanced ability to critically analyze core content, and the method provides an alternative to the lecture-discussion format. In addition, the approach complements the traditional development of economic theory without sacrificing a significant amount of class time.



On this website, you will find a large catalog of movie clips that can be used to supplement key topics in economics. The authors of this website have used movie clips extensively in their classes with positive results. It is our hope that you may find something on this site to be of use in one of your classes. We welcome any additions to the database as well as any comments or suggestions to help us improve our site.

If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact us, this project is an ongoing endeavor.

Best,

[G. Dirk Mateer](#) and [Herman Li](#)
[The Pennsylvania State University](#)

Cool Links:

- [Economics in the Movies](#)
- [ABBA to Zeppelin: Using Music to Teach Economics](#)
- [Music for Economics](#)
- [Gametheory.net](#)
- [Teaching Economics with YouTube](#)

[Research on Movies and Economics](#)

[Suggestions*](#)

**Contributing authors will be acknowledged.*

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The Journal of Economic Education, Vol. 39, No. 3

Poster	Film	Description	Length of the Scene	Location on DVD
	<u>Along Came Polly (2004)</u>	Rueben (Ben Stiller) is fluffing throw pillows and placing them on his bed like he does everyday when Polly (Jennifer Aniston) asks why he spends so much time placing and replacing the pillows. Rueben has never really thought about the opportunity costs involved in keeping the bed looking nice. - <i>Efficiency, Optimal Behavior</i>	2.5 minutes	Chapter 13
	<u>Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy (2004)</u>	Will Farrell is an anchor in the male-dominated broadcasting business of the 1970s. Things change when Christina Applegate is hired as the station's first female anchor. - <i>Causes of discrimination, occupational crowding, marginal revenue product</i>	3.5 minutes	Chapter 5 (from 13:46 to 17:13)
	<u>Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery (1997)</u>	Imagine if you were cryogenically frozen in the 1960's and revived 30 years later. Advances in technology, culture, and higher prices would all come as a shock. After viewing this scene you can encourage students to think about demand-pull and cost-push inflation. In the intervening time period demand-pull inflation occurred (as a result of an increase in population) and cost-push inflation (resulting from the 1970's oil embargos) also caused prices to rise. - <i>Inflation, Real and Nominal Prices</i>	5 minutes	Chapter 6

Seinfeld Economics

- ✱ Jerry's New Jacket
- ✱ Use this scene to motivate a better understanding of elasticity!
- ✱ www.yadayadayadaecon.com

The Economics of Seinfeld


Where too much television is good for your brain.

- Home
- About

Seinfeld ran for nine seasons on NBC and became famous as a "show about nothing." Basically, the show allows viewers to follow the antics of Jerry, George, Elaine, and Kramer as they move through their daily lives, often encountering interesting people or dealing with special circumstances. It is the simplicity of Seinfeld that makes it so appropriate for use in economics courses. Using these clips (as well as clips from other television shows or movies) makes economic concepts come alive, making them more real for students. Ultimately, students will start seeing economics everywhere – in other TV shows, in popular music, and most importantly, in their own lives.

We hope that you find these clips valuable and would appreciate your feedback.

Search:



The Alternate Side

imperfect information | moral hazard

Jerry's car is stolen, so he rents a car. The rental company doesn't give him the car he reserved; he gets a small economy car. They ask if he wants insurance, and he replies, "Yes, because I'm going to beat the hell out of this car."



The Andrea Doria

incentives

Jerry helps Newman deliver eight bags of mail he has stored in Jerry's storage unit to help Newman get a promotion that

TV for Economics <http://www.tvforecon.blogspot.com/>

We are a group of economics instructors who actively try to demonstrate the relevance of economic concepts to our students' daily lives. One of the ways that we do this is to use contemporary media in our classrooms. Pursuant to that goal, we have compiled a list of clips from TV shows that we use to emphasize applications of the economic concepts that we teach.

Topics

[Addition](#) [Availability of Substitutes](#) [Barriers to Entry](#) [Black Markets](#) [Business ethics](#) [Changes in Demand](#) [Changes in the price of a substitute](#) [Choices](#) [Coase Theorem](#) [Common Property](#) [Common Resource Problem](#) [Comparative Advantage](#) [Competition](#) [Compound Interest](#) [Consumer Surplus](#) [Cost-benefit analysis](#) [Costs and benefits of government](#) [regulation](#) [Currency](#) [Debasement](#) [Deadweight Loss of Gift Giving](#) [Diminishing Marginal Utility](#) [Diminishing Marginal Utility of Income](#) [Discount Rate](#) [Discounting the future](#) [Discouraged worker effect](#) [Division of labor](#) [Elasticity](#) [Externalities](#) [Factors of Production](#) [Fairness](#) [Fixed and Variable Costs](#) [Food Stamps](#) [Free Riding](#) [Functions of Money](#) [Gains from Exchange](#) [Game Theory](#) [Generics](#) [Health Care](#) [Economics](#) [Incentives](#) [Income elasticity](#) [Inelastic demand](#)

SpongeBob SquarePants, "Banned in Bikini Bottom"

Posted by TV for Econ On Monday, April 19, 2010 [0 comments](#)



Black Market Goods and Shortage: A leader of a special interest group uses her political ties to shut down the restaurant where SpongeBob works. The restaurant owner then uses SpongeBob's house to start selling his food again illegally.

DVD Location: Season 5, "Banned in Bikini Bottom", Volume 2, Disc 2.

(Contributed by Frank Benavides.)

[READ FULL STORY](#)

The Simpsons, "Homer versus the 18th Amendment"

Posted by TV for Econ On Sunday, April 18, 2010 [0 comments](#)



Incentives; monopoly power; prohibition and black markets: Springfield rediscovers an old prohibition law

The Economics of *The Office*

- ★ Michael Scott Paper Company.
- ★ Princess Unicorn Dolls. Part 2.
- ★ Schrute Bucks. Part 2.
- ★ Replaced.



From ABBA to Zeppelin, Led: using music to teach economics

▶ ABOUT US

This weblog offers a variety of song lyrics that instructors of economics may find useful in teaching economics. Each post includes a selection from the song's lyrics and a brief assignment for students.


▶ RECENT ENTRIES

- [Youngstown](#)
- [Capitalism](#)
- [5150](#)
- [Allentown](#)
- [Between Angels and Insects](#)
- [If I Had a Million Dollars](#)
- [Cash Machine](#)
- [Why Don't You Get a Job?](#)
- [Satisfaction](#)
- [20 Dollars](#)
- [Like A Rolling Stone](#)
- [Some Days You Gotta Dance](#)
- [eBay](#)
- [The Taxman](#)
- [Fly Like An Eagle](#)
- [Share The Land](#)
- [The Trees](#)

Youngstown - Bruce Springsteen

JEL: [A](#) [J](#)

From the Monongaleh valley
 To the Mesabi iron range
 To the coal mines of Appalachia
 The story's always the same
 Seven-hundred tons of metal a day
 Now sir you tell me the world's changed
 Once I made you rich enough
 Rich enough to forget my name

 [Full Lyrics](#) • [Click to Listen](#)

Assignment:

Thinking like an economist usually involves invoking phrases like 'on the other hand.' This excerpt from Bruce Springsteen's song "Youngstown" suggests that he is owed something for making the plant owners rich. According to economists [Paul Gomme](#) and [Peter Rupert](#), labor's share of value-added in the nonfinancial corporate sector is around 74%. Are these perspectives at odds with one another? Please explain.

▶ SEARCH

▶ JEL CODES

A B C D E F G
 H I J K L M N O
 P Q R S T U V
 W X Y Z (*What is this?*)

▶ MUSICAL GENRES

- [Alternative Rock](#)
- [Country](#)
- [Hard Rock](#)
- [Hip-Hop](#)
- [Modern Rock](#)
- [Pop](#)
- [Rap](#)
- [Rock](#)

▶ KEYWORDS

Music For Econ - Mozilla Firefox

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http://www.musicforecon.com/

Flash Music for Economics

About the Authors:
[G. Dirk Mateer](#)
[Andrew Rice](#)

Academic Paper:
["Using Synchronized Lyrics and Music to Teach Economics"](#) (pdf)

Animation Database* - See below for access

Dear Economics Educators,

This website showcases a series of animated Flash files that were created for use in teaching introductory economics. The Flash files are an eclectic mix of music from the last forty years. Each Flash animation includes synchronized lyrics to the song and an economic interpretation of the lyrics. Some of the animations also include pop-ups and visual tricks to enhance the experience.

This online database is the culmination of all of the songs we have converted into educational tools thus far.


This approach builds on the work of Becker and Watts who criticized economics for its reliance on "chalk and talk." Animated musical Flash files represent a step forward and they should be thought of as a new item in the economic educator's toolbox. Our hope is that readers will be stimulated to try the approach in their own classes.

If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact us, this project is an ongoing endeavor.

Best,

[G. Dirk Mateer](#) and [Andrew Rice](#)
[Penn State University](#)

Other Interesting Websites



[Economics in the Movies](#)
Learn more about teaching economics with movies.

[From ABBA to Zeppelin, Led: Using Music to Teach Economics](#)
This weblog offers a variety of song lyrics that instructors of economics may find useful in teaching economics

Done

Start From Anchorman to The ... Top Ten - Final Clips Music For Econ - Mozil...

Music Database - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

http://www.musicforecon.com/ClassSongs/indexlist.html

Flash Music for Economics

About the Authors:
[G. Dirk Mateer](#)
[Andrew Rice](#)

"Using Synchronized Lyrics and Music to Teach Economics"
(Paper that explains the use of these files)

Animation Database*
[Back to main page](#)

Animation Database - Click on the column title to sort

(By accessing these files you agree to display them for educational purposes only)

Field	Song	Artist	Year
Micro	If I had a million dollars	Bare Naked Ladies	1992
Micro	Big yellow taxi	Counting Crows	2003
Micro	Privilege to pee	Urinetown Soundtrack	2001
Macro	The way it is - Changes	Tupac / Bruce Hornsby	1986
Macro	Workers Song	Dropkick Murphy's	2003
Micro	Dog Eat Dog	AC/DC	1977
Micro	Boys and Girls	Good Charlotte	2002
Micro	Material girl	Madonna	1984
Micro	Last DJ	Tom Petty	2002
Micro	Money	Pink Floyd	1973
Micro	My Christmas List	Simple Plan	2001
Macro	Secure horizons	Guttermouth	2001
Micro	Big money	Garth Brooks	2001
Macro	Another day in paradise	Phil Collins	1989
Micro	Make that money	Robi Rob's Club World	1996
Micro	Downeaster Alexa	Billy Joel	1989
Micro	Rich girl	Gwen Stefani	2004
Macro	Dance of greed	Reagan	1976

Done

Start From Anchorman to The ... Top Ten - Final Clips Music Database - Moz...

9:34 AM

☀ Animations open in a separate window and they will play automatically in your browser if you have Flash installed

Music and Economics: your choice!

- ★ Flash Music for Economics:
www.musicforecon.com
- ★ Open each class with an animated song

Choices:

- A – [Diamonds from Sierra Leone – Kanye West f. Jay Z](#) (cool hip hop) [offline link](#)
- B – [Satisfaction – Rolling Stones](#) (Mick Jagger, economist?) [offline link](#)
- C – [eBay – Weird Al](#) (funny parody) [offline link](#)
- D – [Good Riddance \(Time of Your Life\) – Green Day](#) (modern punk) [offline link](#)



English

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Teaching Economics with [Edit Channel](#)

You Tube



dmateer

Joined: **January 18, 2007**
Last Sign In: **6 days ago**
Videos Watched: **325**
Subscribers: **128**
Channel Views: **5,340**

This channel showcases two teaching methods:

(1) A series of short in-class videos that utilize interactive learning approaches in the principles of economics course.

(2) Links to economic content provided by other You Tube users. The content includes short film clips, music, comedy acts, news programs, and more.

Suggestions are most welcome!

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Hometown: **Summit, NJ**

Schools: **Florida State University, PhD in...**

Website: <http://www.econ.psu.edu/~dmateer>

Videos (9)

Videos | [Most Viewed](#) | [Most Discussed](#)

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[Introductory Economics Lecture on Incentives](#)

1 year ago



[Market Experiment Used to Introduce](#)

1 year ago



[Diminishing Marginal Utility Demonstration](#)

1 year ago

[see all](#)

Favorites (41)



[IB Econ](#)

Added: 2 months ago
Views: 97
04:31



[10 percent econ](#)

Added: 2 months ago
Views: 102
02:55



[Duck Tales Inflation Lesson](#)

Added: 1 year ago
Views: 195,561
04:26 ★★★★★



Live Question: Disruptive Technology in the Classroom

- With your smart phone google “live question tool” and choose “APEconConference” from the list. Post a question, reply to others, and vote for your favorite!

Exam 1 review session.

[Post a question](#) :: [Choose a different instance](#) :: [Archived questions](#) :: [Help](#)

Active Questions

2 votes	Can you give an example of the hardest question on the test?	7:52 pm EST, 10 Feb :: Reply :: Hide :: Modify	5 votes	Example of game theory, how does superificiality realte with economics?	7:31 pm EST, 10 Feb :: Reply :: Hide :: Modify
5 votes	What is marginal thinking?	7:27 pm EST, 10 Feb :: Reply :: Hide :: Modify	4 votes	What is the difference between demand and quantity demand?	7:31 pm EST, 10 Feb :: Reply :: Hide :: Modify

Most Recently Submitted Questions

2 votes	Say that there is an expectation in the future for houses to be lower in price, what effect would this have on supply and demand?	8:43 pm EST, 10 Feb :: Reply :: Hide :: Modify	3 votes	dead weight loss?	8:02 pm EST, 10 Feb :: Reply :: Hide :: Modify
1 votes	Adam smith? Anonymous: Idea that individual is motivated by self-interest. Respond predictably to opportunities for gain.	8:15 pm EST, 10 Feb :: Reply :: Hide :: Modify	2 votes	What needs to happen to shift the ppc outward?	8:02 pm EST, 10 Feb :: Reply :: Hide :: Modify
3 votes	Say Joe can produce 20 CDs or 10 DVDs in a day. Jim can produce 15 CDs or 8 DVDs in a day. For Joe, what is the opportunity cost of producing 80 DVDs?	8:05 pm EST, 10 Feb :: Reply :: Hide :: Modify	1 votes	What is social welfare?	7:47 pm EST, 10 Feb :: Reply :: Hide :: Modify
2 votes	The law of increasig relative costs?	7:34 pm EST, 10 Feb :: Reply :: Hide :: Modify	2 votes	Can you give an example for opportunity costs? (Like the one in class with the bus and plane).	7:33 pm EST, 10 Feb :: Reply :: Hide :: Modify
3 votes	Example of search cost and what is search cost?				

Starting Point: Teaching and Learning Economics



Search the S Go



Welcome

This site introduces economists to innovative teaching strategies developed both within and beyond the discipline of economics. It provides instructors with the tools to begin integrating and assessing these teaching strategies in their own classrooms and promotes the sharing of teaching innovations among instructors.

Teaching Methods

The what, why and how of teaching methods that will engage and motivate your students.

Modules Currently Available:

- [Classroom Experiments](#)
- [Context-Rich Problems](#)
- [Teaching with Cases](#)
- [Teaching with Computer Simulations](#)
- [Cooperative Learning](#)
- [Classroom Response Systems](#)
- [Documented Problem Solving](#)
- [Interactive Lecture Demonstrations](#)
- [Interdisciplinary Approaches to Teaching](#)
- [Quantitative Writing](#)
- [Teaching with Spreadsheets](#)
- [Undergraduate Student Research](#)
- [Using Media to Enhance Teaching and Learning](#)

Currently in Development:

- Interactive Lectures
- Just-in-Time Teaching

Activities

Classroom-tested activities covering important topics in economics. Coming soon.

Join Us

Contribute an activity, join economics educators who are coming together to share their expertise on effective teaching. Coming soon.

About this project

Starting Point: Teaching and Learning Economics is a National Science Foundation funded project developed in collaboration with the Science Education Resource Center (SERC) at Carleton College. [Learn more](#)