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# Economics In Film And Fiction



## Synopsis

Economics is everywhere. It's in business. It's in government. It's in our personal lives. Now, this ground-breaking textbook supplement brings this reality to the classroom. The book uses both contemporary and classic film and literature to illustrate 33 fundamental concepts in introductory economics. Designed for use in introductory economics courses, the clearly organized text brings both sides of the lectern closer together through real-life illustration of economic concepts in such favorites as Jaws, Legally Blonde, Casablanca, The Great Gatsby, The Scarlet Letter, and The Da Vinci Code. Each economic topic is described and terms are defined. A plot synopsis of a film or book sets the stage for each discussion. Using a detailed scene description, the authors then show how the scene illustrates the concept under study. Classroom discussion and assignments are facilitated through a series of questions that probe deeper.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Using movie clips and fiction passages to illustrate economic principles is a terrific idea that really livens up the classroom. This approach will work very well. (Bradley Schiller, professor of economics at American University, author of The Macro Economy Today and The Micro Economy Today) Economics in Film and Fiction is an intriguing and original supplement for the principles course. It should help pique student interest in economics and stimulate lively class discussion. (Anthony Patrick O'Brien, professor of economics, Lehigh University; co-author of Macroeconomics) The authors have done a good job of developing economic applications that are

part of most students' upbringing and therefore more interesting to them than the standard discussions of current economic events of no immediate relevance to them. A particularly good feature of the book is that it is self-contained with all clips and passages nicely summarized. (William Holmes, Professor of Economics at Temple University) A Chinese proverb says "I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand." Economics in Film and Fiction is a wonderful teaching tool because students see economic concepts practiced in a familiar context through a medium they enjoy. They will remember and understand the ideas in a deeper and more permanent way. (Larry Singell, professor of economics at the University of Oregon)

Milica Bookman is a professor of economics at St. Joseph's University. Aleksandra Bookman is studying history and producing at New York University.

This book applies and teaches well established neoclassical economic concepts through movie scenes and fictional works. For example, concepts of opportunity cost and comparative advantage are explained by analyzing scenes from Legally Blonde and Gone with the Wind. In essence, the book assumes the proposition that movies are lifelike, and then proceeds to explain economics through movie scenes. The book is very practical and fun. I believe that it is intended for those who are not well acquainted with economics, like me. In addition, this book can be a wonderful supplement to regular macroeconomics textbook for those professors who want to engage their student in socratic method of teaching. For each concept, the book provides short theory, explains the movie, and applies the theory to the movie. Then, a series of questions is posed relating to other circumstances to encourage the reader or a student to think about the problem and apply the theory.

As a sophomore undecided student, now I finally know what I want to major in! Economics. Who ever thought I could relate to it so much. I recommend this to anyone who has an interest in economics or who does not understand the basics of macro and micro economics.

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