

A Level Economics

Reading List and Further Research



Economics Reading List and Further Research

Keep up to date with economics in the news:

- BBC News (economy section) - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business/economy>
- The Guardian (economics section) – <https://www.theguardian.com/business/economics>
- The Telegraph (economy section) – <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/economy/>
- The Independent (money section) – <http://www.independent.co.uk/money>
- This is money – <http://www.thisismoney.co.uk>

Books:

- The Economics Book by Niall Kishtainy
- Doughnut Economics by Kate Raworth
- Economics: The User's Guide: A Pelican Introduction by Ha-Joon Chang
- Cracking Economics by Tejvan Pettinger
- Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything by Levitt, Steven D., Dubner
- The Undercover Economist by Tim Harford
- The Euro by Joseph Stiglitz
- Capital in the Twenty First Century by Thomas Piketty
- GDP: A Brief but Affectionate History by Professor Diane Coyle
- Bad Banks: Greed, Incompetence and the Next Global Crisis by Alex Brummer
- Growth Delusion by David Pillinger
- Great Economists by Linda Yueh
- Bad Samaritan by Ha Joon Chang
- Dead Aid by Dambisa Moyo
- Talking to my Daughter by Yanis Varoufakis
- Capital by Thomas Piketty
- When to Rob a Bank by Levitt and Dubner
- The Price of Inequality by Joseph Stiglitz

Magazines:

- Economic Review
- The Economist

Economics Watching List

- *The Big Short (2015)* – Another biographical film about the 2008 crisis, this one is worth checking out for the distinctive style in which financial instruments are introduced. Using cameos of well-known celebrities and fourth-wall-breaking chats into the camera, the movie explains concepts such as subprime mortgages and collateralised debt obligations in an accessible way.
- *Margin Call (2011)* – Another movie about the 2008 financial crisis, this fictionalised drama is set over 24 hours at a large Wall Street investment bank as the crisis begins to unfold. A high energy and dramatic movie with a cast of famous names, this one is not to be missed.
- *Rogue Trader (1999)* – British biographical drama film written and directed by James Dearden and starring Ewan McGregor and Anna Friel. The film centres in the life of former derivatives broker Nick Leeson and the 1995 collapse of Barings Bank. It was based on Leeson's 1996 book *Rogue Trader: How I Brought Down Barings Bank and Shook the Financial World*.
- *Boiler Room (2000)* – Crime, drama film about a college dropout who gets a job at a shady brokerage. Starring Giovanni Ribisi, Vin Diesel, Nia Long, Ben Affleck.
- *Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room (2005)* – documentary examines the 2001 collapse of the Enron Corporation, at the time one of the world's largest, which resulted in criminal trials for several of the company's top executives during the ensuing Enron scandal; it also shows the involvement of the Enron traders in the California electricity crisis.

- *Inside Job (2010)* – Another documentary about the financial system, this movie focuses on the US in particular and the way that the financial services industry has grown in power and has fostered corruption over the last few decades. Split into five parts, it briefly tackles the history of the finance industry before moving on to the early 2000s bubble, the crisis, and the current state of affairs.
- *Wall Street* - An earlier film with a similar theme to *Wolf of Wall Street*, this 80s drama stars Michael Douglas as a stockbroker who gets involved with a corporate raider with nefarious plans. Showing life as an 80s trader in its most gauche and excessive, the film delves into issues of morality, wealth, and power in the monied world of high-level corporations.
- *Arbitrage* - Arbitrage is a thriller drama starring Richard Gere as a hedge fund manager who has been engaged in shady accounting practices in secret to try and hide his losses and avoid being arrested for fraud. After a car accident nearly exposes his secrets, he must decide how to evade the police in order to protect his secret.
- *The Informant!* - For a light-hearted comedy crime film with an economics theme, try the 2009 Matt Damon movie *The Informant!* Based on a true story of a whistle blower who reports a price-fixing conspiracy at his workplace to the FBI, the movie follows the life of a whistle blower as he tries to help gather evidence against his company. With a fun, ironic tone, the film looks at the way corporate malpractice occurs and the challenges in stopping it.
- *Too Big To Fail* - A documentary based on the book *Too Big To Fail: The Inside Story of How Wall Street and Washington Fought to Save the Financial System--and Themselves* which covers the 2008 financial crisis and how it came about. The film is presented from the point of view of the key players in various financial institutions who work to try to prevent a global economic meltdown.