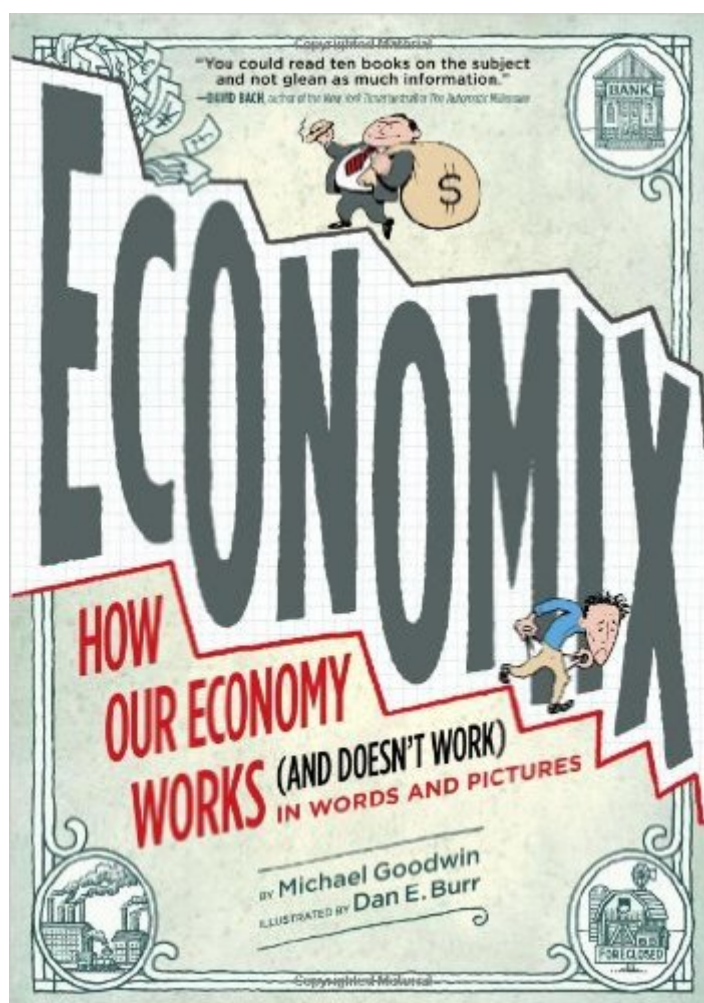


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# Economix: How Our Economy Works (and Doesn't Work), In Words And Pictures



## Synopsis

Stimulus plans: good or bad? Free markets: How free are they? Jobs: Can we afford them? Occupy Wall Street . . . worldwide! Everybody's talking about the economy, but how can we, the people, understand what Wall Street or Washington knows--or say they know? Read *Economix*. With clear, witty writing and quirky, accessible art, this important and timely graphic novel transforms "the dismal science" of economics into a fun, fact-filled story about human nature and our attempts to make the most of what we've got . . . and sometimes what our neighbors have got. *Economix* explains it all, from the beginning of Western economic thought, to markets free and otherwise, to economic failures, successes, limitations, and future possibilities. It's the essential, accessible guide to understanding the economy and economic practices. A must-read for every citizen and every voter.

**PRAISE FOR *ECONOMIX***

"*Economix* is a lively, cheerfully opinionated romp through the historical and intellectual foundations of our current economy and our current economic problems. Goodwin has a knack for distilling complex ideas and events in ways that invite the reader to follow the big picture without losing track of what actually happened. Any reader wondering how our economy got to where it is today will find this a refreshing overview." --Timothy W. Guinnane, Philip Golden Bartlett Professor of Economic History, Yale University

"[*Economix*] brings a lively visual sensibility to this intensely abstruse subject matter without condescending to the reader or dumbing the ideas down." --MotherJones.com

"This witty and elegant volume takes on a number of complex issues--in this case, economics, history and finance--and makes them comprehensible for mere mortals." --Miami Herald

"It's simply phenomenal. You could read ten books on the subject and not glean as much information." --David Bach founder of FinishRich Media; author of nine New York Times bestsellers, including *Debt Free for Life* and *The Automatic Millionaire*

"Goodwin has done the seemingly impossible--he has made economics comprehensible and funny." --Joel Bakan, author of *The Corporation: The Pathological Pursuit of Profit and Power*

"An amazing lesson in true-world economics! Delightfully presented, powerful, insightful, and important information! What a fun way to fathom a deep and often dark subject!" --John Perkins, author of *Hoodwinked* and the New York Times bestseller *Confessions of an Economic Hit Man*

"Smart, insightful, clear, and as close to the truth as economics can get. The bonus: Who would have guessed that economics could be fun, and--here's the joy--really accessible? Goodwin roots us in history and fills us with common sense understanding. As he puts it early on, economics seems horribly complicated mostly because we're looking at it all at once. Broken down into its component pieces, it's relatively easy to understand. And a good understanding of economics is critical to maneuvering in the world today. If I were compiling a list of the 100 most important books you can read in a

lifetime, this would be on it." --Stephen Petranek, editor-in-chief, *Weider History* magazines, former editor-in-chief of *Discover* magazine  
"Through a potent mix of comics and punchy, concise, accessible prose, Goodwin takes us on a provocative, exhaustively researched, and exceedingly engaging trip through our history and present day, creating an alternately hilarious and scary picture of where we are today as an economy-- and what it all means. More than that, Goodwin makes the arcane, understandable. If your mind either spins or slumbers at the thought of economics, read Goodwin's *Economix* and all will become clear." --Nomi Prins, author of *It Takes a Pillage: An Epic Tale of Power, Deceit, and Untold Trillions*

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"I just cannot stress enough how amazing this book is!" --James Floyd Kelly, *Wired.com*  
"Dan E. Burr's appealing illustrations add punch, humor, and clarity to Goodwin's already-excellent storytelling skills. . . . Light switches flicked on in my mind every few pages or so, and after reading *Economix* I felt like I understood many fundamental aspects about the way the world works. . . . *Economix* is a book I'm going to buy and give to people." --Mark Frauenfelder, *BoingBoing*  
"Michael Goodwin hasn't just written a great graphic novel -- he's written one that should be required for every school, newsroom and library in the United States." --Andrew Smith, *Scripps-Howard News Service*  
"*Economix* eliminates stupidity in the face of economics-speak. . . . You'll come away from *Economix* with a slew of newly understood concepts, from mixed economy to stagflation, but the most important thing you'll come

away with is a newfound confidence in your ability to understand how the economic world works for and often against us." --Bob Duggan, BigThink.com"Goodwin brilliantly contextualizes economic theories with historical narrative, while Burr's simple but elegant illustration employs classical techniques like caricaturing politicians and symbolizing big businesses (as a gleeful factory) to help the reader visualize difficult concepts. If the book has a prime message, it's that the economy is quite understandable and when things go wrong, the effort and thinking of a whole society must be applied to bring everything back into line." --Publisher's Weekly (starred review)

Michael Goodwin is a writer and editor with a degree in Chinese studies. He has lived in China, India, and now New York City. Dan E. Burr illustrated the classic graphic novel *Kings in Disguise*. He lives in Milwaukee.

This book gave me the basic economic understanding I was looking for to make sense of the world today. Yes it's biased toward the left wing, yes it really only talks about the US economic history, but it's quite obvious about being biased and most importantly, uses this as a vehicle for explanation. As such, it teaches more because of its perspective, rather than being limited by it.

Really a treatise on why the USA economy is where it is after the Great Recession. Does go into economic theory but its strength lies in reviewing policies implemented in the USA. Because basic economic theory (which should be understood before reading this comic) should be already part the reader's knowledge before reading (see Yoram Bauman and Grady Klein's *Cartoon Introduction to Economics Vol-1* [http://www..com/gp/product/0809094819/ref=cm\\_cr\\_ryp\\_prd\\_ttl\\_sol\\_55](http://www..com/gp/product/0809094819/ref=cm_cr_ryp_prd_ttl_sol_55) and *Vol-2* [http://www..com/gp/product/0809033615/ref=cm\\_cr\\_ryp\\_prd\\_ttl\\_sol\\_53](http://www..com/gp/product/0809033615/ref=cm_cr_ryp_prd_ttl_sol_53)), this isn't necessarily where to start so to grasp economic theory. For a guy like me who has virtually no background in the subject, the information is somewhat unsettling but expected (a lot of the information has been mentioned-in-passing on radio, television, and various printed media.)

I have been reading about history and economics for years and as economics books this one just nails it. I have to admit I was quite weary of reading a comic book on such a serious subject but the author actually nailed it very well: there is no concession to clarity or significant cut corners in there. It covers the history of the economic thought to the present day and although the author is left-leaning (at least in his economics view) he made a very good job at being balanced until at least the 80's and Reaganomics, which he prefaces explicitly by stating that what was coming was

necessarily colored by his views. If what you want is a 4-hour read that gives you a pretty good idea of the evolution of economic thought including much History (not of just the US) without being tedious, this is a great choice. I have ordered three additional copies of which I already gave two away and I am most likely to buy another few copies.

Great book on basic economics and how it has been applied and used throughout the history of the world. The writer puts a "progressive spin" on how corporations and the super rich in general have behaved to keep their power and influence, but it's all true because the history books don't lie!

Brilliant and accessible and entertaining explanation of economic theory and history.

Honestly the best economics book I've ever read. Would recommend this book to anyone who is clueless about how the economy today works and/or the history of economics and how we got to where we are right now.

I was completely ignorant in regards to economics, but I was never confused as I followed along with this book. I definitely recommend it for those starting with little to no understanding.

This should be required reading for voters. :-)

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