

# Economics, Minor

## DEPARTMENT

### Department of Economics

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MN in Economics, Minor  
BA in Economics, B.A.  
MN in International Political Economy Minor  
Courses Offered

Economics is the social science that studies the way in which societies are organized to produce the goods and services that sustain and enhance the life processes of the community. As a fundamental scientific discipline, economics employs systematic analysis in the study of the production and distribution of income within and among nations. Since all social policy issues in modern societies have an economic dimension, the study of economics offers the student an opportunity to investigate the most important and exciting problems of political economy facing the world today.

Such topics as inflation, unemployment, business cycles, international trade, finance, and development have long been within the province of economics. More recently, the economic way of thinking has been extended to other areas. Economic theories have been used to explain crime rates, birth rates, class conflict, pollution, marriage decisions, migration, and many other topics involving human behavior.

Economics majors acquire skills in critical and analytical thinking that contribute to an individual's intellectual independence and self-confidence in the problem-solving processes. In addition, economics majors confront the necessity of developing a broad view of the options facing humankind in organizing the production and distribution of income. The literature of economics presents widely diverse systems of political economic philosophy. The department offers a well-developed and balanced curriculum.

The program in economics is designed to give the student maximum flexibility. A typical economics major might take courses in intermediate macroeconomic theory and statistics while also learning about global corporations in the third world, or the regional economy, or pursue an independent study project on the foundations of supply-side economics. The economics major is designed to permit the student to pursue a broad liberal arts undergraduate degree, integrating the study of economics with other social sciences, humanities, natural sciences, and business administration.

## REQUIREMENTS

### Economics Minor Requirements

ECON 40, 50 (6 units)  
Upper-Division Economics Courses (**12 units**)  
**Total (18 units)**

**Note:** The minors also require a 2.0 GPA and 6 upper-division units in residence.

### Advising Note for Minors

ECON 25, 40, and 50 may also meet General Education requirements. ECON 165 cannot be used as a course in any minor in the Economics Program.

## FACULTY

The faculty of the department is staffed by professors whose primary professional commitment is to undergraduate education. Every member participates in the full range of teaching assignments from moderate sized sections of economics principles to small, upper-division classes (averaging 16 students). They offer a wide variety of courses ranging from the traditional core of intermediate micro and macroeconomic theory to problem-oriented courses, as the economics of health, crime, sports, and

government regulation. The background of the faculty, like its program offerings, represents a broad spectrum of intellectual tastes and professional specialties.

For faculty phone numbers and e-mail, see the campus directory.

For more on the faculty, see the faculty pages.

The faculty pages are updated by the department or program.