School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences

Economics (BA, BS)

Economists study how people make choices in life when scarcity limits what is available and provides incentives to induce efficient behavior. They look at a society's financial, industrial, and labor organizations; its distribution of income and ownership rights; its governmental activities; and its political and economic philosophies, and analyze how these and other factors influence the goods an economy produces, the resources it uses in production, and the distribution of its output. They also look at how incentives affect decisions relating to human behavior, such as whether to obey the law, get married, or have children.

Economic analysis leads to explanations, predictions, and policy suggestions. How are wages and prices set? Why do some cities boom while others decline? Why do we have an energy crisis? How should we use our exhaustible resources? How will consumers and corporations react to a tax cut? How can the crime rate be reduced? If we are to use our resources efficiently, what antitrust and government regulations should be enforced? What can be done to reduce inflation and unemployment? To prevent excess pollution? To achieve economic growth? To distribute income more equitably? In examining these sorts of questions, economics helps us to understand more clearly the choices available to us and the consequences of our decisions.

There is an abundance of career opportunities for an economics major.

Careers in business include consulting, banking and other financial institutions, insurance, corporate strategic planning, real estate, journalism, management, marketing, and public utilities.

Careers in government include consulting, publicly owned utilities, planning and forecasting, regulatory agencies, management, needs assessment, legislative staffs, judicial agencies, and executive support.

Careers in the interfacing of business and government include labor arbitration, regulation, environmental planning, urban and regional planning, and interest representation.

Economics is an excellent preparation for a career in law.

Bachelor of Arts in Economics

Degree Requirements (120 hours)

I. Core Curriculum Requirements: 42 semester credit hours

Communication: 6 semester credit hours
COMM 1311  Survey of Oral and Technology-based Communication
RHET 1302  Rhetoric

Mathematics: 3 semester credit hours

One of the following:

MATH 1306  College Algebra for the Non-Scientist
MATH 1314  College Algebra
STAT 1342  Statistical Decision Making

Life and Physical Sciences: 6 semester credit hours

Select any 6 semester credit hours from Life and Physical Sciences core courses (see advisor)

Language, Philosophy and Culture: 3 semester credit hours

One of the following:

HUMA 1301  Exploration of the Humanities
LIT 2331  Masterpieces of World Literature
PHIL 1301  Introduction to Philosophy
PHIL 2316  History of Philosophy I
PHIL 2317  History of Philosophy II

Creative Arts: 3 semester credit hours

ARTS 1301  Exploration of the Arts

American History: 6 semester credit hours

HIST 1301  U.S. History Survey to Civil War
HIST 1302  U.S. Survey from Civil War

Government / Political Science: 6 semester credit hours

GOVT 2305  American National Government
GOVT 2306  State and Local Government

Social and Behavioral Sciences: 3 semester credit hours

One of the following:

CRIM 1301  Introduction to Criminal Justice
CRIM 1307  Introduction to Crime and Criminology
SOC 1301  Introduction to Sociology

Component Area Option: 6 semester credit hours
EPPS 2301  Research Design in the Social and Policy Sciences
And one of the following:
EPPS 2302  Methods of Quantitative Analysis in the Social and Policy Sciences
EPPS 2303  Descriptive and Inferential Statistics for the Social and Policy Sciences

II. Major Requirements: 48 semester credit hours

Major Preparatory Courses: 6 semester credit hours beyond Core Curriculum
ECON 2301  Principles of Macroeconomics
ECON 2302  Principles of Microeconomics
STAT 1342  Statistical Decision Making

Major Core Courses: 15 semester credit hours
ECON 3304  Basic Techniques for Economic Research
ECON 3310  Intermediate Microeconomic Theory
ECON 3311  Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory
ECON 4320  Public Sector Economics
And one of the following:
ECON 3330  Economics of Health
ECON 4332  Energy and Natural Resource Economics
ECON 4382  International Finance

Major Related Courses: 27 semester credit hours
27 semester credit hours of upper-division ECON courses

III. Elective Requirements: 30 semester credit hours
This requirement may be satisfied with lower- and upper-division courses from any field of study. Students must complete at least 51 semester credit hours of upper-division courses to qualify for graduation.
Note: Students wishing to pursue Master's or PhD degrees in economics should consult their advisor about appropriate mathematics and quantitative methods courses.

Bachelor of Science in Economics

Degree Requirements (120 semester credit hours)

I. Core Curriculum Requirements: 42 semester credit hours

Communication: 6 semester credit hours

COMM 1311 Survey of Oral and Technology-based Communication
RHET 1302 Rhetoric

Mathematics: 3 semester credit hours

One of the following:

MATH 1325 Applied Calculus I
MATH 2413 Differential Calculus
MATH 2417 Calculus I
STAT 1342 Statistical Decision Making

Life and Physical Sciences: 6 semester credit hours

Select any 6 semester credit hours from Life and Physical Sciences core courses (see advisor)

Language, Philosophy and Culture: 3 semester credit hours

One of the following:

HUMA 1301 Exploration of the Humanities
LIT 2331 Masterpieces of World Literature
PHIL 1301 Introduction to Philosophy
PHIL 2316 History of Philosophy I
PHIL 2317 History of Philosophy II

Creative Arts: 3 semester credit hours

ARTS 1301 Exploration of the Arts

American History: 6 semester credit hours
HIST 1301  U.S. History Survey to Civil War
HIST 1302  U.S. Survey from Civil War

Government / Political Science: 6 semester credit hours
GOVT 2305  American National Government
GOVT 2306  State and Local Government

Social and Behavioral Sciences: 3 semester credit hours
One of the following:
CRIM 1301  Introduction to Criminal Justice
CRIM 1307  Introduction to Crime and Criminology
SOC 1301  Introduction to Sociology

Component Area Option: 6 semester credit hours
EPPS 2301  Research Design in the Social and Policy Sciences
And one of the following:
EPPS 2302  Methods of Quantitative Analysis in the Social and Policy Sciences
EPPS 2303  Descriptive and Inferential Statistics for the Social and Policy Sciences

II. Major Requirements: 56 hours

Major Preparatory Courses: 11 hours beyond Core Curriculum
ECON 2301  Principles of Macroeconomics
ECON 2302  Principles of Microeconomics
MATH 2417  Calculus IV
or MATH 1325  Applied Calculus I
MATH 2419  Calculus II
or MATH 1326  Applied Calculus II
or MATH 2414  Integral Calculus
STAT 1342  Statistical Decision Making

Major Core Courses: 18 semester credit hours
ECON 3310  Intermediate Microeconomic Theory
ECON 3311 Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory  
ECON 4320 Public Sector Economics  
ECON 4351 Mathematical Economics  
ECON 4355 Econometrics  
And one of the following:  
ECON 3330 Economics of Health  
ECON 4332 Energy and Natural Resource Economics  
ECON 4382 International Finance  

Major Related Courses: 27 semester credit hours  
27 semester credit hours of upper-division ECON courses  

Optional Major Core Concentrations: 9 semester credit hours  

Green Economics  
One course from:  
  ECON 4333 Environmental Economics  
  ECON 4336 Environmental Economic Theory and Policy  
Two additional courses from:  
  ECON 4320 Public Sector Economics  
  ECON 4332 Energy and Natural Resource Economics  
  ECON 4333 Environmental Economics  
  ECON 4336 Environmental Economic Theory and Policy  

International Economics  
ECON 4360 International Trade  
Select two course from:  
  ECON 3369 Political Economy of Terrorism  
  ECON 4362 Development Economics  
  ECON 4382 International Finance  
  GEOG 3370 The Global Economy  
  GEOG 3372 Population and Development
Business Economics

Three courses from:

ECON 3312 Money and Banking
ECON 4301 Game Theory
ECON 4310 Managerial Economics
ECON 4340 Labor Economics and Human Resources
ECON 4345 Industrial Organization
ECON 4355 Econometrics
ECON 4385 Business and Economic Forecasting

III. Elective Requirements: 22 semester credit hours

This requirement may be satisfied with lower- and upper-division courses from any field of study. Students must complete at least 51 semester credit hours of upper-division courses to qualify for graduation.

Note: Students wishing to pursue Master's or PhD degrees in economics should consult their advisor about appropriate mathematics and quantitative methods courses.

1. Incoming freshmen must complete and pass UNIV 1010 Freshman Seminar and the corresponding school-related freshman seminar course. Students, including transfer students, who complete their core curriculum at UT Dallas must take UNIV 2020.

2. Curriculum Requirements can be fulfilled by other approved courses from institutions of higher education. The courses listed are recommended as the most efficient way to satisfy both Core Curriculum and Major Requirements at UT Dallas.

3. A Major requirement that also fulfills a Core Curriculum requirement. Semester credit hours are counted in Core Curriculum.

4. Indicates a prerequisite class to be completed before enrolling for upper-division classes in Economics and Finance.

5. Three semester credit hours are counted under Mathematics core, and one semester credit hour is counted under Major Preparatory Courses.

6. Semester credit hours to be counted as part of major related courses.

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