

ECONOMICS

DEPARTMENT OFFICE

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**Faculty Early Retirement Program*

Programs Offered

Bachelor of Arts in Economics
Minor in Economics

Economics is a social science that focuses on the organization of economic systems for the production of goods and services and the distribution of wealth and income. The SSU Economics Department is committed to excellence in providing students an education to meet the challenges of the future in a wide variety of careers.

The B.A. degree program has three basic objectives: to provide a sound grasp of the tools of economic analysis and measurement; to provide an understanding of institutional development and the interrelation of economic and social factors; and to develop the student's ability to apply systematic analysis and understanding to decision-making in both the private and the public sectors.

Many courses deal with the structure and performance of a particular institution or policy area within the economy. Students can follow their career and intellectual interests by taking a field concentration or advisory study plan as described below.

Many faculty have served as practicing economists with public agencies or private firms, bringing a rich background of practical experience analyzing policy issues and problems to their teaching.

Careers in Economics

The curriculum and teaching program of the department are designed for students who seek employment in the public or private sector upon graduation and those who wish to pursue graduate studies in economics, business, public administration, law, and other fields.

Many of the department's graduates have started their careers with major financial institutions, corporate businesses, government, and nonprofit organizations. They find employer preferences for well-trained economics majors as budget analysts, management trainees, marketing specialists, program planners, teachers, and a wide variety of entry-level jobs in which employers expect a person to be able to apply systematic thinking and analysis.

Learning Objectives

Objectives Specific to Economics

Students are required to:

- Articulate an understanding of economic terms, concepts, and theories;
- Identify subjective and objective aspects of economic policy;
- Use both qualitative and quantitative reasoning to analyze social and economic issues; and
- Demonstrate an awareness of current and historic economic issues and perspectives.

General Skills

In the course of meeting the objectives specific to economics, students are expected to acquire and demonstrate:

- Critical-thinking abilities;
- Communication skills; and
- Quantitative and information-based skills.

Relating Knowledge to Values

Students are expected to acquire and demonstrate:

- An awareness of global, historical, and institutional economic issues; and
- Understanding of choices and values behind economic policy formation.

Bachelor of Arts in Economics

(See page 102 for a sample four-year program.)

Degree Requirements	Units
General education	50
Major requirements	41-44
General electives	26-28
Total units needed for graduation	120

Prerequisites

Majors must complete a math/statistics requirement (ECON 217, MATH 165, BUS 211 or equivalent) as a prerequisite for the upper-division core courses in the major.

Major Core Requirements

ECON 204 Introduction to Macroeconomics	4
ECON 205 Introduction to Microeconomics	4
ECON 304 Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory	4
ECON 305 Intermediate Microeconomic Theory	4
ECON 317 Introduction to Econometrics	4
Two 400-level economics seminars not used in a field concentration or advisory study plan	8

Total units in the major core 26-28

Field concentration or advisory study plan 15-16

Total units in the major 41-44

B.A. Field Concentrations

An economics major may select one of the following concentrations, which are designated on a student's transcript and diploma. Please see an advisor for details of each of the following concentrations:

- Managerial Economics
- Labor and Public Economics
- International Economics

B.A. Advisory Study Plans

Instead of a field concentration, economics majors may focus their course work beyond the required core courses in an advisory study plan. These plans are not designated on diplomas, but completion can be certified by a letter from the department chair. Please see an advisor for details or to develop a specialized plan.

Minor in Economics

Students may qualify for a minor in economics by completing the 20-unit program listed below. The minor will be recorded upon request in the student's official records.

ECON 204 Introduction to Macroeconomics	4
ECON 205 Introduction to Microeconomics	4
ECON 304 Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory	4
ECON 305 Intermediate Microeconomic Theory	4
ECON 317 Introduction to Economics	4
Total units in the minor	20

Double Majors

Students with majors in disciplines such as business, environmental studies and political science will find that adding an economics major provides them with a breadth of background that is viewed favorably by graduate professional programs and employers.

Students interested in any double major with economics should consult with their Economics Department advisor.

Graduate Work in Economics and Related Fields

Economics majors planning graduate work in economics, business, or public administration should take one or more courses of calculus and linear algebra, probability theory, ECON 404, 405 and 417. Consult with an advisor to plan accordingly.

Sample Four-Year Program for Bachelor of Arts in Economics

FRESHMAN YEAR: 29-30 Units

Fall Semester (15 Units)

ENGL 101 (A2) (4)
MATH 165 (B4) (4) or BUS 211 (4)**
ECON 204 (D5) (4)
Elective: UNIV 102 (3)

Spring Semester (14-15 Units)

PHIL 101 or 102 (A3) (4)
GE (B1 or B2 with lab) (3-4)
ECON 205 (4)
GE (D3) U.S. History (3)

SOPHOMORE YEAR: 30-33 Units

Fall Semester (14-16 Units)

GE (C2) (3-4)
ECON 304 (4)
ECON 317 (4)
GE (D1* or D2) (3-4)

Spring Semester (16-17 Units)

GE (B1 or B2) (3)
POLS 200 or 202 (D4) (3)
GE (C1*) (3-4)
GE (B3) (3)
ECON 305 (4)

JUNIOR YEAR: 28-30 Units

Fall Semester (14-15 Units)

UD GE (C3*) (3-4)
Field Concentration or Advisory Study Plan Courses (8)
Elective Course (3)

Spring Semester (14-15 Units)

GE (additional C if units needed) (3-4)
Field Concentration or Advisory Study Plan Courses (8)
UD GE (E*) (3)

SENIOR YEAR: 34 Units

Fall Semester (19 Units)

Economics Seminar (4)
Elective Courses (12)
UD GE (D1 or D2) (3)

Spring Semester (15 Units)

Economics Seminar (4)
Electives (11)

TOTAL UNITS: 120

* One of these courses must be Ethnic Studies

** If you plan to take either MATH 131 or MATH 161 (B4), then you can take BUS 211 instead of MATH 165