



Why pursue a Bachelor of Arts in Economics?

“I can’t get no, I can’t get no, I can’t get no satisfaction...” Rolling Stones’ Mick Jagger (a former economics major, London School of Economics).

Mick Jagger clearly understood the concept of utility! Economic principles are relevant to every imaginable aspect of human behavior and provide explanations for many everyday observations. Economic models provide clear answers to some of the most important but complex questions. To mention a few—Should we outsource jobs to other countries? How should we pay for health care? Why does the Federal Reserve take the punch bowl away when the party gets going? What if anything went wrong with deregulation of electricity in California? How much should we spend on cleaning the air and protecting the environment? What is the effect of Roe vs. Wade on crime rate?

The ideas of economists are powerful enough to shape the world. As John Maynard Keynes said, “...Indeed the world is ruled by little else.” The nature of economic analysis has been described by Keynes as “...a technique of thinking which helps its possessors draw correct conclusions.”

It is no surprise that corporate leaders speak the language of microeconomics and policymakers speak the language of macroeconomics. To name just a few: Steve Ballmer (CEO, Microsoft), Scott McNealy (CEO, Sun Microsystems), Ted Turner (CNN), the prime ministers of India and Slovenia, the deputy prime minister of Turkey, a former prime minister of South Korea, and a former president of Mexico were all economics majors.

Distinguished Faculty - Faculty members in Cal State Fullerton’s Department of Economics are highly knowledgeable in their fields. Many have played a major role in policy formulation by serving as consultants in national and international committees.

Excellent Preparation for Graduate School - Students pursuing graduate degrees in many other fields, such as law, business, public administration, public health, environmental studies, urban studies, the social sciences, and journalism find that economics is their best choice for an undergraduate major or minor, given the extensive economic content of these programs.

In sum, if you want a fascinating major with a wide range of job opportunities and flexibility in career paths, the economics major is for you.

What career opportunities are available?

According to the recent *Occupational Outlook Handbook*: “The growing need for economic analyses in virtually every industry should result in additional jobs for economists. Employment of economists and survey researchers is expected to grow faster than the average for all occupations through 2010.”

The economics major provides you with skills that are highly valued by employers. These include skills in problem-solving, analytical thinking, gathering and interpreting data, writing reports and research papers, and skills in computation. Such marketable skills open doors to a wide range of jobs in the following areas: city, state and federal government; Wall Street firms; law, banking, finance, insurance and real estate; utility companies; non-profit organizations; regulatory agencies; sports, health and aging; academia; all aspects of business and international agencies such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. Economists are needed in both times of recessions and booms – a recession-proof career!

In fact, according to the National Association of Business Economists (NABE), “The key skills of the economic analyst compared to other business analysts is the ability to link industry/market developments to the overall economy, i.e., to see the forest as well as the trees.”

What are the admission requirements?

Admission to the economics major involves two steps. Students who apply to the major are initially classified as pre-economics. After completing the lower-division core requirements with grades of at least a “C,” students may apply to the economics major. Pre-economics students may take lower-division business and economics courses, but most upper-division courses are not open to those students.

What are the program requirements?

Our program leads to a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics. All students complete required lower-division courses and upper-division courses along with 15 units of economics electives; six units must be 400 level.

Required Lower-Division Courses (21-23 units)

Accounting 201A Financial Accounting (3 units)

Accounting 201B Managerial Accounting (3 units)

OR Math 150B Analytic Geometry and Calculus (4 units)

Business Administration 201 Business Writing (3 units)

Economics 201 Principles of Microeconomics (3 units)

Economics 202 Principles of Macroeconomics (3 units)

Information Systems/Decision Sciences 265 Introduction to Information Systems and Applications (3 units)

Math 130 Short Course in Calculus (4 units)

OR Math 135 Business Calculus (3 units)

OR Math 150A Analytic Geometry and Calculus (4 units)

Required Upper-Division Courses (15 units)

Business Administration 301 Advanced Business Communication (3 units)

Economics 310 Intermediate Microeconomic Analysis (3 units)

Economics 320 Intermediate Macroeconomics Analysis (3 units)

Economics 340 Economic Research Methods (3 units)

Information Systems/Decision Sciences 361A Quantitative Business Analysis:
Probability and Statistics (3 units)

Economics Electives (15 units)

Choose 15 units of upper-division economics electives, six units of which must be 400.

Please refer to the Department of Economics section of the university catalog for a complete list of elective courses, and additional requirements regarding other subjects, grades and residence. For information on special electives offered by the Department of Economics, please call the department's office at (714) 278- 2228, or visit the department's website at <http://business.fullerton.edu/economics/>.

Second Language Graduation Requirement

Students in the Bachelor of Arts in Economics program who enter Cal State Fullerton as first-time freshmen in fall 2006, or who enter a community college in fall 2006 with intent to transfer to Cal State Fullerton, will be required to show proficiency in a second language as a condition of graduation with a bachelor's degree. (See "Graduation Requirement for a Bachelor's Degree" in the 2005-2007 University Catalog.)

Minor in Economics

The economics minor is an excellent supplement to several majors. It covers the basics in the discipline of economics and gives students the opportunity to explore personal interests through electives. Students need to earn a grade of at least "C" (2.0) in each course listed below.

Required Lower-Division Courses (6 units)

Economics 201 Principles of Microeconomics (3 units)

Economics 202 Principles of Macroeconomics (3 units)

Required Upper-Division Courses (9 units)

Business Administration 301 Advanced Business Communication (3 units)

OR equivalent

Economics 310 Intermediate Microeconomic Analysis (3 units)

OR Economics 315 Intermediate Business Microeconomics (3 units)

Economics 320 Intermediate Macroeconomic Analysis (3 units)

Electives (9 units)

Choose nine units of upper-division economics electives.

How can I obtain a teaching credential?

For students interested in a teaching credential, the Department of Economics offers courses that may be included in Subject Matter Preparation Programs and Supplementary Authorization Programs for elementary and secondary teaching.

For further information on the requirements for teaching credentials, call the department office at (714) 278-2228, or call the Department of Secondary Education at (714) 278-3411, for information on attending an orientation meeting.

How can I get involved?

The Economics Association is an active student organization that hosts social events and a speaker series that deals with academic topics, career information and current events. It is an avenue that provides active networking in the field of economics to supplement the degree program. In addition, the association sponsors professional development activities such as trips to the Los Angeles Federal Reserve Bank and the Pacific Stock Exchange, which provide an inside look at the opportunities available to individuals with an economics degree.

Where can I learn more?

Academic advisement for all undergraduate economics students can be obtained in the Business Advising Center. Information is available on admission requirements, curriculum and graduation requirements and transfer course requirements. The center is located in Langsdorf Hall 731, and is open Monday through Thursday on a walk-in basis. For further information and specific hours, call (714) 278-2211, or e-mail at bizdoc@fullerton.edu.

Who advises me?

For additional information on careers, or specific questions about courses or specialization within the economics program, you may contact the faculty career path adviser, Professor Bhattacharya at rbhattacharya@fullerton.edu.