ECONOMICS

College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies

Program Description

Economics is a social science that examines the functioning of markets, the determination of prices and distribution of income, and the determination of the overall level of income and rates of unemployment and inflation. In addition, Economics deals with various social problems. The Economics major at Sacramento State is designed to provide students with a liberal education with special emphasis on the economic aspects of society, on familiarization with techniques for the analysis of contemporary economic problems, developing the ability to think critically, and to conceptualize and to possess the communication and computer skills to evaluate private and public policy issues.

The Economics program is appealing to students due to the quality of its faculty, the breadth of its course offerings, and the amount of choice it offers the student in planning his or her coursework. In addition to training in the traditional economics areas, the program offers such diverse courses as the California economy, state and local finance, energy, environmental and resource economics, and urban economics. Students find the Department of Economics congenial to their educational and career objectives.

A minor in Economics may be especially attractive to students majoring in Business Administration, Government, and Environmental Studies or in one of the other Social Science disciplines. The Economics minor adds both theoretical and analytical depth. In addition, it provides the historical and institutional background important to an understanding of contemporary economic issues. It offers students in other majors a broader-based undergraduate education while widening the choice of job possibilities. Employers view the minor in Economics favorably.

Degree Programs

BA in Economics (http://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/social-sciences-interdisciplinary-studies/economics/ba-in-economics/)

Minor in Economics (http://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/social-sciences-interdisciplinary-studies/economics/minor-in-economics/)

Certificate in Economics Education (http://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/social-sciences-interdisciplinary-studies/economics/certificate-in-economics-education/)

MA in Economics (http://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/social-sciences-interdisciplinary-studies/economics/ma-in-economics/)

Special Features

- Students in the Sacramento State Economics program benefit from a wide range of opportunities to work in the private and public sectors. The Economics Department offers internships for academic credit to students who are interested in the application of economics in the private and public sectors. This kind of practical experience enhances employment opportunities after graduation.
- Former Sacramento State Economics students are working at all levels of government and in many private businesses in the fields of finance, real estate, professional services, etc. Some are in the teaching profession, K-12 and community colleges, while others have continued their studies toward a Masters degree or a Ph.D. at such institutions as Notre Dame, Washington University at St. Louis, the University of Pittsburgh, University of California, Santa Cruz, Johns Hopkins University, and University of California, Davis.
- The Sacramento State Economics faculty is diverse in areas of specialization and draws upon both its advanced academic training and practical experience. Faculty members have published articles, papers, and books, and enjoy reputations as experts in their fields. Besides providing a reputable and experienced faculty, the Economics Department offers personal advising for students in the planning and meeting of academic and career goals.

Pre-Major Requirements

Freshman or transfer students interested in the Economics Major are admitted as Pre-Major Economics students.

To change to an Economics major, all students are required to complete the following grade and course requirements and submit a Declaration of Major form to the Economics Department along with transcript copies:

1. An overall GPA of 2.0 and be in good academic standing.
2. Completion of the Pre-Major Required Courses with a “C” or better in each course. Only first or second attempts will be considered.

Career Possibilities

Actuary · Advertising Executive · Auditor · Bank Officer · Bond Trader · Budget Analyst · Business Forecaster · Business Manager · College Professor · Commodity Price Forecaster · Cost Analyst · Credit Analyst/Loan Officer · Demographer · Economic Forecaster · Energy Economist · Entrepreneur · Estate Planner · Financial Analyst/Planner · Financial Officer · Government Administrator · Healthcare Administrator · Human Resources Administrator · Industrial/Institutional Buyer · Industry Analyst · Information Scientist · Insurance Salesperson · Intelligence Agent · International Trade Specialist · Journalist · Labor Relations Specialist · Lawyer · Litigation Analyst · Management Consultant/Analyst · Market Research · Analyst · Natural Resource Economist · Policy Analyst · Politician · Public Utilities Manager · Real Estate Agent/Broker · Sales Manager · Securities Salesperson/Broker · Statistician · Teacher · Technical Writer Transportation Specialist · Underwriter · Urban/Regional Planner

Contact Information

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www.csus.edu/econ (http://www.csus.edu/econ/)

Faculty

BURGHART, DANIEL

CHALMERS, KATHERINE

DUBE, SMILE

FORD, TIMOTHY

GABRIEL, HANNAH

GALLEY, CRAIG

KAPLAN, JONATHAN

LANG, DAVID
LI, HERMAN
O’KEEFE, SUZANNE
PEREZ, STEPHEN
SIEGLER, MARK
TADLE, RAUL
VAN GAASBECK, KRISTIN
WANG, TA-CHEN

ZHOU, YAN

ECON 1A. Introduction to Macroeconomic Analysis. 3 Units
General Education Area/Graduation Requirement: GE AREA D
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Introductory inquiry into the workings and interrelationships of the aggregate economic system. The primary focus is on total production and its distribution, employment and price levels, and the forces influencing them. Other considerations are the roles of government, the monetary sector, and related areas.

ECON 1B. Introduction to Microeconomic Analysis. 3 Units
General Education Area/Graduation Requirement: GE AREA D
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Introductory microeconomic analysis of the workings of supply and demand in the determination of price, resource allocation, and distribution. Markets are analyzed as they affect economic efficiency and income distribution.

ECON 100A. Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1A, ECON 1B, and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Analysis of the determinants of the aggregate level of output, income, employment and prices.

ECON 100B. Intermediate Microeconomic Theory. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1B and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Analysis of household and firm behavior as the foundation of supply and demand.

ECON 101. History of Economic Thought. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1A, ECON 1B.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Analysis of the development of economic theory from the predecessors of Adam Smith through John Maynard Keynes. The contributions made to the discipline by its principal figures are compared and evaluated.

ECON 104. Introduction to the United States Economy. 3 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

One semester survey of the principles of economics, basic methods of economic analysis, and their application to public policy and current events.

Note: Not open to students who have had ECON 1A or ECON 1B or those majoring in economics.

ECON 105. Analytical Economics. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1A and ECON 1B, or ECON 104.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Analysis and evaluation of the economic forces and institutions shaping economic thought from the development of Adam Smith to the present.

ECON 106. Behavioral Economics. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1A and ECON 1B.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Analysis of decision-making behavior and the psychological and social factors that influence individual and aggregate economic choices.

ECON 107. Money, Banking, and Financial Markets. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1A, ECON 1B, and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Analysis of monetary and financial institutions, the causes of inflation, money demand and supply, interest rates, and the role of money in aggregate demand.

ECON 108. Labor Economics. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1A, ECON 1B, and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Analysis of labor markets, labor supply, labor demand, and the role of government in labor market intervention.

ECON 109. Urban Economics. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1A and ECON 1B, or ECON 104.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Analysis of the economics of urban areas, including housing, transportation, and environmental issues.

ECON 110. Cost Benefit Analysis. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1B and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Examines the rationale for government provision of goods and services and presents cost-benefit analysis as a method to evaluate public participation in a market economy.

ECON 112. European Economic History. 3 Units
General Education Area/Graduation Requirement: Humanities (Area C2)
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Analysis and evaluation of the economic forces and institutions shaping European economic development through the present period. Attention will be paid to the relationship between changes in the economic environment and attendant cultural, political, and ideological developments in the stages of tribalism, slavery, feudalism, capitalism, and socialism.

ECON 113. Economic History of the United States. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1A or ECON 104.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Consideration of the economic growth and development of the U.S. with emphasis on a theoretical analysis of the economic factors shaping the national destiny.

ECON 114. The California Economy. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1A and ECON 1B, or ECON 104.
Term Typically Offered: Fall only

Examination of the process of the development of the State's economy as well as analysis of the various public economic issues that are of contemporary concern to Californians.

ECON 120. Economics and Environmental Degradation. 3 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Analyzes environmental issues as economic issues. Economics as both a cause and cure for environmental destruction.

ECON 123. Resource Economics. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1B and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Analyzes the economic based problem of exhaustion in both renewable and non-renewable resources. Emphasis is given to the optimal use of these resources over time and the effects that various market and non-market factors have on their future availability.

ECON 126. Public Finance. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1A, ECON 1B, and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade; ECON 100B recommended.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Economics analysis of the public sector and its impact on the allocation of resources and the distribution of income. Emphasis given to the economics of government expenditure and taxation.

ECON 132. State and Local Government Finance. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1A, ECON 1B, and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade.
Term Typically Offered: Fall only

Analysis of the economics of state and local government finance, with an emphasis on California's fiscal system.
ECON 135. Money and Banking. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1A and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Examines the role of financial markets, the banking system, and the Federal Reserve System in the economy. Included are an introduction to present value and the behavior of interest rates, analysis of money creation, and evaluation of monetary policy.

ECON 138. Monetary and Fiscal Policy. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1A, STAT 1, and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade; ECON 100A and ECON 140 recommended.
Term Typically Offered: Spring only

Analyzes the policies of central banks and fiscal authorities as they relate to the stability and growth of the macroeconomy. Examines the theoretical and empirical literature regarding the conduct of monetary and fiscal policy and applies the tools of economic analysis to understand macroeconomic policy debates.

ECON 140. Quantitative Economic Analysis. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1A, ECON 1B, STAT 1, and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade.
Term Typically Offered: Fall

Examination of the basics of conducting quantitative economic analysis. Included are basic concepts and methods of data analysis and research. Students will examine economic data using spreadsheets, will develop presentation skills, and be introduced to career opportunities.

ECON 141. Introduction to Econometrics. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1A, ECON 1B, ECON 140, and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade; ECON 100A or ECON 100B recommended.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Covers the basics of regression analysis, estimation, and forecasting.

ECON 145. Economic Research Methods. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 100A, ECON 100B, ECON 140 with a minimum "C" grade; GWAR certification before Fall 09, WPJ score of 70+, or at least a C- in ENGL 109 M/W.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Covers the basics of conducting applied economic research: the selection of topic, literature survey, choice of research method, formulation of hypothesis, testing of hypothesis using empirical analysis, and summary and conclusions. Designed to enhance the students ability to integrate economic theory, quantitative research skills, and research.

ECON 150. Labor Economics. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1A, ECON 1B, and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade.
Term Typically Offered: Spring only

Economic analysis of labor markets, with special reference to employment, wage determination, and the role of government.

ECON 152. Economics of Education. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1B and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade.
Term Typically Offered: Fall only

Introduction to the various aspects of the economics of education. Applies the tools of economic analysis to education policy and problem solving. Topics include cost-benefit analysis of education, the signaling vs. human capital debate, race and gender issues in education, education production functions, and financing education at the elementary, secondary, and post-secondary levels. Emphasis placed on individual and social choice in education.

ECON 153. Health Economics. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1B and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade.
Term Typically Offered: Fall only

Introduction to the field of health economics. Applies the tools of economics to the production of health and health care. Special emphasis on health care institutions, the role of industry, health care reform, and the role of government, in addition to the public provision of care to the disadvantaged.

ECON 160. Industrial Organization. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1B and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade.
Term Typically Offered: Spring only

Analyzes firm decision-making in a variety of market settings. Topics include pricing and output decisions, entry and exit issues, marketing strategies, horizontal mergers, vertical integration, technological change, and U.S. antitrust policy.

ECON 161. Fundamentals of Game Theory. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1B, STAT 1, and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade.
Term Typically Offered: Spring only

An analysis of strategic games with sequential or simultaneous moves under complete information and uncertainty. Discussion of theory and techniques is combined with examination of specific classes of games and their application to real-world examples such as markets, voting, auctions, and international relations.

ECON 162. Energy Economics. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1B and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Analyzes the structure, conduct, and consequences of domestic and international energy markets. Particular emphasis on regulated industries including petroleum, electrical, and other power sources. The economic impact on energy markets of emerging technology is examined.

ECON 163. Behavioral and Experimental Economics. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 100B
Term Typically Offered: Fall only

Introduction to the fields of behavioral and experimental economics. Applies tools of microeconomic theory to the decisions made by individuals. Special emphasis on the utility maximization hypothesis, decision making in the face of risk and uncertainty, intertemporal choice, other regarding preferences, game theory, and neuroeconomics.
3 Units  
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1B and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade.  
Term Typically Offered: Spring only

Examination of government regulation of industry in the North American context: transportation, communication, energy, and other industries. Issues include deregulation, public ownership, pricing, and investment.

ECON 180. Urban Economics.  
3 Units  
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1B and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade.  
Term Typically Offered: Spring only

Economic analysis and appraisal of models of urban development. Includes consideration of the rise of cities, land use, unemployment, poverty, housing, urban renewal, transportation, and the local public sector.

ECON 181. Economics of Racism.  
3 Units  
General Education Area/Graduation Requirement: Race & Ethnicity
Graduation Requirement (RE), GE AREA D  
Term Typically Offered: Spring only

Economic analysis of the origins and development of racism, focusing mainly on its impact in the U.S. Differing theoretical explanations surrounding racism will be compared and evaluated.

ECON 182. Development Economics.  
3 Units  
Prerequisite(s): ECON 1A, ECON 1B and MATH 24 or MATH 26A or MATH 30 with a minimum "C" grade.  
Term Typically Offered: Spring only

An analysis of the factors involved in the growth of economies. The focus is on the application of development economics and growth theory to the process of economic growth in developing countries. Particular attention is given to variables that explain growth, namely, technological progress, population growth, saving, trade, human capital and education, and the role of institutions.

ECON 195. Economic Internship.  
1 - 3 Units  
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Supervised economic-related work experience, research, or teaching assistance to provide an opportunity for the student to apply principles and theories learned in the classroom to the "real world." Credit/No Credit

ECON 197A. Economics Exchange Mentee.  
1 Unit  
Prerequisite(s): Instructor permission.  
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Provides opportunity for lower division students, transfer students, and newly declared majors to be mentored by more advanced upper division students or graduate students. The peer mentoring will help students meet academic deadlines, achieve academic success, become engaged in campus activities and get integrated into the Economics Department.  
Note: Units may not be applied toward unit requirement of the Economics major.

ECON 197B. Economics Exchange Mentor.  
1 - 3 Units  
Prerequisite(s): Upper division or graduate student standing and instructor permission.  
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Provides opportunity for advanced upper division students or graduate students to mentor lower division students. The peer mentoring will help students meet academic deadlines, achieve academic success, become engaged in campus activities and be integrated into the Economics Department.  
Note: Units may not be applied toward unit requirement of the Economics major; May be repeated for up to 3 units credit from ECON 197A & ECON 197B combined.  
Credit/No Credit
ECON 198. Tutoring in Economics. 1 - 3 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Supervised tutorials at educational institutions including Sacramento State where and when appropriate arrangements can be made. Prior approval for tutoring must be obtained from the Economics Department. Emphasis is on the development of effectiveness in the teaching of economics. Credit/No Credit

ECON 199. Special Problems. 1 - 3 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Individual projects or directed reading. Admission requires approval of the faculty sponsor and the Department Chair. Credit/No Credit

ECON 200A. Advanced Macroeconomic Theory. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 141 and ECON 200M.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Theories of the determinants of aggregate income, employment and prices. May be taken independently of ECON 200B.

ECON 200B. Advanced Microeconomic Theory. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 200M.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Theories of the consumer, producer, and market structure. May be taken independently of ECON 200A.

ECON 200C. Advanced Applied Economics. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 200A, ECON 200B, and ECON 241.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Applies empirical analysis to topics in microeconomics and macroeconomics. Topics may include stationarity, vector autoregression, vector error correction models, calibration, fixed effects, instrumental variables, multinomial logit, and duration models. Students implement these models using econometric software. Students will write an empirical paper intended to become a prospectus for the master’s thesis.

ECON 200M. Mathematics for Economists. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 100A, ECON 100B, MATH 26A.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Equips students with the mathematical techniques necessary for the study of economics and econometrics at the graduate level. Covers linear algebra, derivatives, comparative static analysis, optimization, integrals, and differential equations, with specific applications from economic and econometric theory.

ECON 204. Business Economics. 3 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Intensive one-semester course covering both macroeconomics and microeconomics. Emphasis is on economic analysis and policy. Designed for graduate students who have not taken ECON 1A and ECON 1B or their equivalents.

ECON 213. U.S. Economic Development in Historical Perspective. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): Admission to MA program in Economics.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Introduction and analysis of American economic development from a historical perspective, focusing on the trajectory of American economic development from recent advances in theoretical and empirical economics literature. Cover topics on long-term economic growth, technological change, business cycles and fluctuations, financial markets, labor markets, and economic impacts of social change.

ECON 230. Public Finance. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 200B.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
An analysis of the allocation and distribution effects of government expenditures and taxation.

ECON 238. Monetary and Fiscal Policy. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 200A.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Analyzes the policies of central bank and fiscal authorities as they relate to full employment and stability of the national economy.

ECON 241. Applied Econometric Analysis. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): ECON 141
Corequisite(s): ECON 200M
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Applied econometric analysis with emphasis on the use of econometric techniques in economic research settings, expressing economic theory in the form of econometric models, data collection, estimation, and interpretation of results. Students work individually or as a team on a current research topic from various fields of economics preselected or approved by instructor.

ECON 251. Urban Problems, Economics and Public Policy. 3 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Historical development, economics and possible policy solutions of the most pressing problems facing central cities and urban areas in the U.S. are presented. Problems discussed include poverty, crime, urban abandonment/suburban sprawl, edge cities, deteriorating infrastructures, and fiscal stress. Cross Listed: PPA 251; only one may be counted for credit.

ECON 260. Industrial Organization and Performance. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): Classified graduate status in Economics or instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
A modern analysis of industry structure, conduct, and performance. Emphasis is placed on the use of game theory to address firm behavior, including price and output decisions, entry and exit, horizontal mergers, technological change, and marketing issues.
ECON 263. Food Economics. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing or instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Introduction to advanced economic theory and econometric methods applied to the economics of food with emphasis on food consumption and the complexity of individual food choices. Utilizing cost-benefit analyses and concepts like constrained utility maximization, household production, opportunity costs of time, and information search, implications for a global food system will be derived. We will apply learned concepts to health and environmental concerns by discussing the recent applied economics and policy evaluation literature.

ECON 265. Cost Benefit Analysis. 3 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Examination of the theories, foundations, and philosophies of economic welfare. Specifically, the basic techniques of cost-benefit analysis will be presented and applied to various policy issues.

ECON 290. International Trade. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): Classified graduate status in Economics or instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Analysis of modern trade theories, their empirical relevance, and the role of multinational firms in the evolution of international trade patterns. Discussion focuses on theoretical and empirical evaluation of trade policy instruments. Various trade agreements are also discussed in the context of economic integration and globalization. Attention is also given to foreign direct investment as a vehicle of globalization and the challenges it poses to both multinational firms and host countries.

ECON 295. Economic Internship. 1 - 3 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Supervised work experience or research on economic topics in government, financial, business, charitable or other kinds of institutions to provide an opportunity for the student to apply principles and theories learned in the classroom to the "real world." Partial supervision may be supplied by persons in the institution under study.

Credit/No Credit

ECON 298. Tutoring In Economics. 1 - 3 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Supervised tutorials at educational institutions including Sacramento State where and when appropriate arrangements can be made. Prior approval for tutoring must be obtained from the Economics Department. Emphasis is on the development of effectiveness in the teaching of economics.

Credit/No Credit

ECON 299. Special Problems. 1 - 3 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Individual projects or directed reading. Admission requires approval of the faculty sponsor and the Department Chair.

Credit/No Credit

ECON 500. Master's Thesis. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): Advanced to candidacy and chair permission of his/her thesis committee.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Completion of a thesis approved for the Master's degree. Should be taken in final semester prior to the completion of all requirements for the degree.