B.A. in Economics—Applied Economics

Economics is the study of how individuals and societies organize the production and distribution of goods and services. Economics is also concerned with the historical development of economies along with how various groups and classes interact within the economy.

All policy issues in modern societies have an economic dimension, and so the study of economics provides students the ability to understand many of the fundamental problems faced by society. Further, because economics emphasizes systematic thinking and the analysis of data, training in economics offers excellent preparation for careers in industry, nonprofits, and government. Economics also provides excellent preparation for many professions including law, education, public administration, and management.

OVERVIEW OF MAJOR

The B.A. in Economics: Applied Economics provides the student with rigorous training in economic theory, data analysis, and the analysis of public policy. It also allows the student to gain a background in skills relevant to the business world.

The major involves a consideration of how individuals, firms, and governments balance costs and benefits to achieve their goals. Further, the major considers the larger institutional and macroeconomics structures that shape the decisions of economic and non-economic actors.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A major in economics provides a solid foundation for a wide variety of careers. It can be used as an entry into business, government, and non-profits. The economics major also provides excellent preparation for law school, MBA programs, and, of course, graduate study in economics. For instance, students majoring in economics consistently receive among the highest scores on the LSAT (the admission exam for law school).

Careers pursued by those majoring in economics include:
- Financial Analyst
- Insurance Underwriter
- Union Campaign Researcher
- Securities Trader
- Compensation Manager
- Lawyer
- Personal Financial Advisor
- Labor Specialist
- Loan Officer
- Policy Analyst
- Mortgage Loan Associate
- Manager
- Investment Analyst
- Banker
- Economic Consultant
- Economist
- Real Estate Analyst/Appraiser
- Business Owner
- Healthcare Analytics Specialist
- Supply Chain Analyst
- Operations Research Analyst
- Credit Analyst
- Market Research Analyst
- Portfolio Manager
- Management Consultant
- Urban Planner

SALARY OUTLOOK

What you major in has a bigger impact on your future earnings than what school you attend. For instance, surveys show that those who major in economics earn, on average, more both in their first jobs and in mid-career than those who major in almost all other majors, including Finance, Business, Mathematics, Sociology, Political Science, and Psychology.

The likely reasons for these higher earnings include that economics majors can go into many different fields and receive analytical training that is valued highly by many employers.

SPECIAL FEATURES

- Outstanding, student-oriented faculty
- Small upper-division classes
- A balanced program of study, which includes economic theory, quantitative economics, political economy, applied economics, economic history, and policy analysis
- Special scholarships available only to economics majors

ECONOMICS FACULTY

Yasemin Dildar (Ph.D. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2015), Feminist Economics, Development.

Daniel MacDonald, (Ph.D. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2013), Labor, Economic History.

Eric Nilsson (Ph.D. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 1989), Political Economy, Climate Economics.

Thomas Pierce, Teaching Emeritus (Ph.D. University of Notre Dame, 1976), Macroeconomics, Monetary Policy.

Abhilasha Srivastava (Ph.D. American University, 2017), Feminist Economics, Political Economy.

Mayo Toroño, Teaching Emeritus (Ph.D. University of California, Riverside, 1983), History of Political Economic Ideas, Political Economy of Latin America.
The B.A. in Economics: Applied Economics Concentration provides rigorous training in economics combined with coursework in business-related fields such as accounting and finance.

The major provides excellent training for jobs in non-profits, the private sector, and government. Students majoring in Applied Economics might also consider pursuing a minor from the College of Business and Public Administration.

Lower-division requirements (15-17 units)
- ECON 2000 The Economy: Problems & Perspectives
  or both of the following:
  - ECON 2201 Principles of Microeconomics
  - ECON 2202 Principles of Macroeconomics
- ADMN 2100 Applied Business Statistics
- ACCT 2110 Introductory Accounting I
- ACCT 2120 Introductory Accounting II
One course chosen from:
- MATH 1301 Modeling with Functions
- MATH 1401 Accelerated Preparation for Calculus
- MATH 1601 Modeling with Calculus
- MATH 2210 Calculus I

Upper-division requirements (33 units)
Three units chosen from:
- ECON 3312 Firms and Markets
- ECON 3314 Public Economics
- ECON 3316 Labor Economics
- ECON 3318 International Economics
- ECON 3400 Money, Banking, & Financial Markets
- ECON 3500 Tools of Economic Analysis
- ECON 3900 Writing in Economics
- ECON 4100 Intermediate Microeconomics
- ECON 4200 Intermediate Macroeconomics
- ECON 4700 History of Economic Thought
- FIN 3001 Finance I
Three units chosen from:
- ECON 4300 Econometrics
- ECON 4400 Quantitative Methods in Economics
- ECON 4525 Mixed Methods Research
- ECON 4550 Advanced Tools of Econ Analysis
Three units chosen from:
- ECON 3105 Political Economy
- ECON 3109 Political Economy of Women
- ECON 3125 Economic History of the US
- ECON 3730 Economic Development
- ECON 3750 Origins of Political Economy
- ECON 3790 Post-Keynesian Economics
- ECON 4815 Global Inequality and Growth
Three additional units of upper-division economics courses

Where to find us:
https://www.csusb.edu/economics/
Economics Department office: SBS 327
or send an e-mail to: economics@csusb.edu