

# B.A. in Political Economy

Political Economy studies how economies develop and how various groups and classes of people shape—and in turn are shaped by—the economy. Political Economy allows students to investigate how gender, race, ethnicity, and class shape the social world, including the economy.

The Political Economy major combines course work from Economics and other disciplines to create a coherent program investigating the behavior of the economy and society using a broader and more inclusive framework than found in standard economics programs. This program is an innovative blend of coursework from mainstream economics, heterodox economics, and non-economics disciplines.

## OVERVIEW OF MAJOR

The B.A. in Political Economy provides students with a knowledge of contemporary issues and policy along with a set of practical skills preparing them for employment in community groups, unions, non-profits, government, and private businesses. This program also equips students to enter professional schools along with graduate schools in various disciplines.

The program provides students with great flexibility, and the ability to take courses from several different disciplines. Students will gain, however, the skills necessary to perform research and data analysis. Further, students will gain additional practical skills such as writing for the public, accounting, and geographic information systems.

Importantly, the program gives students the option to systematically investigate gender, race, and ethnicity.

Indeed, a partial overlap exists between the B.A. in Political Economy and the following programs:

- Ethnic Studies
- Gender and Sexuality Studies
- GE Minor in Diversity and Social Justice
- Sociology

Because of this overlap, students can easily combine the B.A. in Political Economy with one or more of the above programs through a double major or minor. Further, students completing the B.A. in Political Economy will meet the requirements of the Minor in Economics.

To promote student engagement with the community, the program has a service-learning course.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A major in political economy provides a solid foundation for a wide variety of careers.

Among the potential careers political economy majors can pursue include:

Union Campaign Researcher	Community Organizer
Policy Analyst	Union Organizer
Lawyer	Teacher
Legislative Aid	Market Analyst
Affirmative Action Counselor	Political Organizer
Program Manager	Policy Director
Communications Coordinator	Social Media Coordinator
Voter Contact Organizer	Field Data Manager
Speechwriter	Legislative Representative
Policy Advocate	Tenant Organizer
Community Care Advocate	Research Associate

## ECONOMICS FACULTY

Yasemin Dildar (Ph.D. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2015); Feminist Economics, Development. Daniel MacDonald, (Ph.D. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2013); Labor Economics, Economic History. Eric Nilsson Teaching Emeritus, (Ph.D. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 1989); Political Economy, Climate Economics.

Teresa Perry (Ph.D. Colorado State University, 2022); Health Economics, Applied Microeconomics. Doğuhan Sündal (Ph.D. University of Utah, 2022); Industrial Organization, Political Economy.

# B.A. in Political Economy

## ☆Political Economy☆

The B.A. in Political Economy provides the student with the skills and background needed to promote positive social change.

The major provides excellent preparation for a variety of jobs in local communities, nonprofits, unions, government, as well as the private sector. It also provides preparation for numerous graduate and professional schools.

Where to find us:

<https://www.csusb.edu/economics/>

Economics Department office: SBS 327

or send an e-mail to: [dmacdonald@csusb.edu](mailto:dmacdonald@csusb.edu)

Lower-division requirements (12-13 units)

ECON 2000 The Economy: Problems & Perspectives

Three units chosen from:

MATH 1201 Introduction of Statistical Thinking

MATH 2265 Statistics with Applications

ADMN 2100 Applied Business Statistics

Three units chosen from:

MATH 1301 Modeling with Functions

MATH 1401 Accelerated Preparation for Calculus

MATH 1601 Modeling with Calculus

One course chosen from

ACCT 2110 Introductory Accounting I

COMM 2301 Newswriting and Reporting

ENG 2400 Writing in the Public Sphere

GEOG 2250 Introduction to GIS and Cartography

Upper-division requirements (31 units)

ECON 3105 Political Economy

Three units chosen from:

ECON 3314 Public Economics

ECON 3316 Labor Economics

ECON 3400 Money, Banking, & Financial Markets

ECON 3500 Tools of Economic Analysis

ECON 3900 Writing in Economics

ECON 4525 Mixed Methods Research

ECON 5601 Service-Learning in Political Economy

Six units chosen from:

ECON 3101 Political Economy of Southern California

ECON 3103 Environmental Economics

ECON 3109 Political Economy of Women

ECON 3125 Economic History of the United States

ECON 3720 Behavioral Economics

ECON 3750 Origins of Political Economy

ECON 3790 Post-Keynesian Economics

ECON 4700 History of Economic Thought

ECON 4815 Global Inequality and Growth

Six units chosen from:

ANTH 3603 Gendered Worlds: Power, Difference, & In/equality

GEOG 3050 Economic Geography

GEOG 3501 Environmental Sustainability

GSS 4200 Feminist Theory

GSS 4250 Women as Agents of Social Change

GSS 4500 Queer Theory

HIST 3230 Introduction to Public and Oral History

PHIL 3330 Social and Political Philosophy

PSCI 3300 State and Local Politics

PSYC 3354 Organizational Psychology

SOC 4100 Sociology of Race and Ethnicity

SOC 4200 Social Movements

SOC 4220 Sociology of Work

SOC 4340 Community Organization

SOC 4440 Sociology of Sex and Gender

SSCI 3160 Race and Racism

SSCI 3390 Climate Change