

ECONOMICS

Bachelor of Arts degree

with a major in Economics—with pathways in Analytical Tools & Methods; Business Economics; Economics, Politics, & Society; Environmental & NR Resource Planning & Policy; Individually Designed

Minor in Economics

Department Chair

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Department of Economics

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See what our students, faculty and alumni have to say about our program at: www.humboldt.edu/~econ/students.html.

The Program

The Economics major at Humboldt State University is distinguished by its hands-on approach and close faculty-student relationships. Our “small urban” environment is a wonderful place for Economics majors to learn and make a difference in the community through our many research and service learning opportunities. Examples include calculating the economic impact of our annual Oyster Festival, helping prepare the City of Arcata’s development strategy, and preparing monthly estimates for the Humboldt Economic Index. Students have published papers with faculty on the local gasoline market and local fisheries market, and have researched sustainable energy and real estate.

The Economics faculty is committed to student learning as their first priority. We don’t teach classes in large lecture halls and even our introductory economics classes are small. Advanced computer technology is used throughout the curriculum. In the liberal arts tradition, we emphasize learning, critical thinking, and development of the whole individual within the context of a rapidly changing world. Our faculty’s teaching and research interests include exciting new areas such as Sports Economics, Environmental and Natural Resource Economics, Real Estate Economics, and Sustainable Development.

Economics is essential for recommending the best policy option for some of today’s major issues, including environmental protection, globalization, poverty, and sustainable energy supplies. The Economics curriculum includes both microeconomic and

macroeconomic issues. Microeconomics is about the rationing of scarce resources. All human societies confront this fundamental problem, so economics is of central importance. Macroeconomics is about understanding why some countries are rich and some are poor, and about maintaining high employment and low inflation. Students learn to make sense of a large and complex economy and they critically evaluate the impact that different economic policies have on their lives.

Many of our graduates attend law school, earn an MBA, or pursue an advanced graduate degree in economics. Economics students typically earn high starting salaries and pursue a diverse range of career tracks including banking, government, advocacy organizations, consulting, brokerage, and sales. We have a strong record of helping students realize their career aspirations, whether that be through job placements or preparation for graduate and professional school. Economics majors at Humboldt State University are in the top ten percent in terms of shortest time to graduation.

We believe that 21st century academic training must move toward a more interdisciplinary, team problem-solving approach. Our major has pathways that require students to take minors in mathematics, political science, natural resources planning, computer information systems, business, and other related disciplines.

Preparation

High school students should take college preparatory courses, including English, writing, social science, and economics (if available). Math (including calculus) is recommended.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR

Students must earn a minimum grade of C- in all required courses for the major and the minor.

Common Core

Taken in all pathways: 37-38 units.

ECON 210 Principles of Economics
ECON 310 Intermediate
Microtheory & Strategy
ECON 311 Intermediate
Macroeconomics

STAT 108 Elementary Statistics **or**
BA 232 Introductory Business
Statistics

STAT 333 Intermediate Statistics **or**
BA 332 Intermediate Business
Statistics

MATH 115 Algebra & Elementary
Functions **or**

MATH 109 Calculus I **or**
MATH 106 Calculus for Business
& Economics

ECON 490 Capstone Experience

Plus three additional 4-unit upper division economics courses.

PATHWAY 1:

Analytical Tools & Methods

CIS=53-56 units, including core; Math= 63-66 units, including core.

For students who want access to more technically demanding careers requiring extensive knowledge of computers or mathematics. This pathway will appeal to someone planning to enter a graduate program.

- Take a minor in either CIS (18 units) or applied math (26-28 units). Minor advisor approval required.
- STAT 108 and MATH 109 in the common core double-count toward the applied math minor.

PATHWAY 2:

Business Economics

55-56 units, including core.

This pathway is designed for the student with career goals that demand specialized business training. Students choose courses in finance, accounting, management, marketing, or business law. This pathway will appeal to someone planning to enter business or

an MBA program. This pathway can fulfill the requirements for the Minor in Business Administration.

- Take eighteen units of Business Administration courses (minimum of nine upper-division) that can count as a minor in business administration. Minor advisor approval required.
- One of the upper-division electives in the common core must be ECON 435 (Money & Banking).

PATHWAY 3:

Economics, Politics, & Society

59-60 units, including core.

Develop skills appropriate for careers in law, business, government and public affairs, advocacy and interest groups, and other nonprofits. Gain an appreciation for the relationship between economics and governance/political systems.

- Take a minor in government and politics (22 units). Minor advisor approval required.
- SOC 282 (Sociological Statistics) may substitute for STAT 108 or BA 232 in the core.
- SOC 382 (Introduction to Social Research) may substitute for STAT 333 or BA 332 in the core.

PATHWAY 4:

Environmental & Natural Resource Planning & Policy

58-59 units, including core.

Provides a strong economics background for industry representatives, advocates, consultants, and government planners working on environmental and natural resource issues.

- Take a minor in natural resources planning (15 units). Minor advisor approval required.
- Two of the upper division electives in the common core must be ECON 309 (Economics of a Sustainable Society) and ECON 423 (Environmental & Natural Resources Economics).
- CIS 110 Intro. to Computers
- Take the following:

NRPI 325	Environmental Law & Regulation
NRPI 360	Natural Resource Planning Methods

NRPI 425	Environmental Impact Assessment
NRPI 465	Rural Community Planning

Note: NRPI 325, 360, and 425 double-count toward the natural resources planning minor.

PATHWAY 5:

Individually Designed

With approval from one's academic advisor and the Department Chair, students with a good academic record and a clear concept of their personal goals can develop an individually designed pathway. Individually designed pathways will include an embedded minor (or equivalent) plus other relevant course work totaling at least 15 units that reflect a rigorous depth of study from a related academic discipline. Students may also build a pathway around increased depth of study within economics. Students must write a memo that outlines the purpose of the individually designed pathway, including intended learning and career outcomes.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MINOR

ECON 210 Principles of Economics

In consultation with an economics advisor, select an additional 12 units of upper division economics electives (with the exception of ECON 320). Receive approval from the economics advisor before completing two courses in the program.

