

What is Economics?

The Economics major emphasizes critical thinking and the understanding of basic economic principles. The program offers three degrees: the B.A., the B.A.-quantitative emphasis, and the B.S. The B.A., which this page describes, gives students a solid background in economics, is the least quantitative of the three majors, and provides excellent preparation for students interested in working immediately after graduation or considering law school. The B.A.-quantitative emphasis adds basic quantitative training (in calculus, linear algebra, and econometrics) and best suits students considering graduate work in business administration. The B.S. is for students interested in graduate study in economics or in a career where quantitative economic analysis plays a significant role. The strong quantitative component in this degree emphasizes multivariate calculus, linear algebra, and econometrics. Students choose from courses in comparative economic systems; economic theory; econometrics; economic development; game theory; industrial organization; costbenefit analysis; environmental, financial, international, mathematical, monetary, public, and labor economics.

What are the major requirements?

Go to www.catalogs.umn.edu/programs.html and select “undergraduate majors.”

How do I declare a Economics major?

You will be required to declare a major by the time you have completed 60 credits.

1. Learn more about the major and its requirements by talking with the department peer adviser, by going to 1073 Heller Hall, calling 625-5893 or e-mailing econugra@econ.umn.edu. You can also check the department website at <http://www.econ.umn.edu>; click on Undergraduate Programs for details about our three undergraduate majors and their requirements.
2. When you decide upon an Economics major, meet with the peer adviser from the department to complete a Major Program form.
3. Bring a copy of the form or plan to your CLA student community.
4. If you decide to change your major, contact your student community to learn more about your new major’s declaration process.

What can I do with a major in Economics?

Skills

Economics majors develop skills that are applicable to a wide variety of careers.

These skills include:

- Analytical thinking and problem solving skills
- Independent, self-motivated work ethic
- Ability to formulate clear and persuasive messages
- Listening, clarifying, questioning and responding skills
- Ability to work well with diverse groups

For more information:

About the Economics major:

Undergraduate Advising
1073 Heller Hall
(612) 625-5893
<http://www.econ.umn.edu>

About CLA requirements, graduation, and other information about majors:

CLA Social Sciences Student Community
575 Heller Hall
(612) 626-7714
<http://socsci.class.umn.edu>

or

CLA Martin Luther King, Jr. Program
19 Johnston Hall
(612) 625-2300
<http://www.class.umn.edu/mlk/mlk@class.cla.umn.edu>

About careers, internships, and community learning opportunities in this major and others:

Career and Community Learning Center
135 Johnston Hall
(612) 624-7577
www.cclc.umn.edu
cclc@class.cla.umn.edu

About graduation with honors:

CLA Honors Division
20 Nicholson
(612) 624-5522
www.cla.umn.edu/honors/honors@class.cla.umn.edu

Employment

Common areas of employment for this major include but are not limited to:

- Finance—banking, insurance, securities, analyst, mortgage
- Other business—market research, sales, consulting, human resources, manager
- Government—public information, campaigns, research, economist, planner, foreign affairs
- Education—teaching, research, student affairs
- Nonprofit—fundraising, programming, management

Today's workplace requires individuals with interpersonal skills, the ability to communicate effectively, an ability to solve problems, and adaptability. CLA graduates find that they are well-prepared in all these areas and that their education—especially when combined with experience gained through internships, volunteer positions, past jobs, and other collegiate involvement—makes them competitive.

The **Career & Community Learning Center** provides students with the tools to identify and pursue potential careers. An extensive resource room, career courses and workshops, and a helpful staff are just some of the ways we can help.

Remember!

You have not declared a major until you have:

- completed a Major Program form with your major adviser,
- filed a copy with the major department,
- and filed a copy with your CLA student community.

Don't forget: keep a copy for yourself!