
Economics

In the College of Arts and Letters

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Faculty

Emeritus: Anderson, Babilot, Barckley, Clement, Gifford, Green, Hambleton, Jencks, Leasure, Madhavan, Nam, Popp, Poroy, Sebold, Steinberg, Stewart, Turner, Venieris

Chair: Thayer

Professors: Adler, Boddy, Frantz, Gerber, Grossbard-Shechtman, Kartman, Thayer

Associate Professors: Amuedo-Dorantes, Brunner

Assistant Professors: Balsdon, Bansak, Imazeki, Mundra, Puttitanun

Offered by the Department

Master of Arts degree in economics.

Major in economics with the B.A. degree in liberal arts and sciences.
Emphasis in international economics.
Emphasis in preprofessional studies.

Minor in economics.

The Major

Economics is the science which studies the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. Economics majors explore how producers, distributors, and consumers make their decisions. Majors also analyze the events that shape and result from these decisions. Inflation, unemployment, taxation, money and banking, efficiency, international exchange, and growth are some of the many parts of this complex system studied through the economics major at SDSU.

The Department of Economics offers two emphases which students may select to satisfy a wide range of career goals: (1) International Economics, where students can focus on worldwide economic policy and global business; and (2) Preprofessional Studies, in which students prepare for graduate study in law school, health administration, and business administration. A specialization in Quantitative Analysis is also offered which focuses on developing analytical and mathematical skills for conducting economic research. A fourth option is the comprehensive program offered in the general economics major, which provides breadth by covering areas from the emphases and specialization.

Economics majors may find employment in government, financial institutions, business, and international agencies. The combination of an economics major with a business minor provides a foundation for a variety of careers. And, students interested in studying the developing nations, the environment, government policies, or population will find that economics is a useful approach.

Many entry-level positions in business and government are available to students with a bachelor's degree in economics. A graduate may find employment as a research, statistical, data, or pricing analyst. There are management trainee positions with banks, savings and loan associations, or other lending institutions. Economics majors may also be employed as sales representatives for firms which produce both "high tech" and consumer-related goods. A student contemplating graduate study in the field of economics should consider a career as an economics consultant, or as an economist for banks, investment companies or industry.

Impacted Program

The economics major is an impacted program. To be admitted to the economics major, students must meet the following criteria:

- Complete with a grade of C or higher: Economics 101, 102; Accountancy 201; Economics 201 or Statistics 119 or 250; one course selected from Mathematics 120, 121, or 150; Information and Decision Systems 180, or Social Science 201C and two units from Social Science 201A, 201B, 201D. These courses cannot be taken for credit/no credit (Cr/NC); except for courses taught as Cr/NC only;
- Have a cumulative GPA and SDSU GPA of 2.40 or higher;
- To be admitted to the emphasis in international economics (major code 22042), students must, in addition to satisfying the criteria above, also satisfy the language requirement for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences.

To complete the major, students must fulfill the degree requirements for the major described in the catalog in effect at the time they are accepted into SDSU (assuming continuous enrollment).

Advising

All College of Arts and Letters majors are urged to consult with their department adviser as soon as possible; they are required to meet with their department adviser within the first two semesters after declaration or change of major.

Economics Major

With the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences (Major Code: 22041)

All candidates for a degree in liberal arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog on "Graduation Requirements." No more than 48 units in economics courses can apply to the degree.

A minor is not required with this major.

Graduation Survey. All majors will complete an online survey assessing their experiences in the department and educational outcomes in the major. Students answer the survey online at the Department of Economics webpage. **The survey must be completed during the student's final semester.**

Preparation for the Major. Economics 101, 102; Accountancy 201; Economics 201 or Statistics 119 or 250; one course selected from Mathematics 120, 121, or 150; Social Science 201A; Information and Decision Systems 180 or the combination of Social Science 201C and either Social Science 201B and 201D, or a computer course of at least two units. (19-21 units)

Language Requirement. Competency (successfully completing the third college semester or fifth college quarter) is required in one foreign language to fulfill the graduation requirement. Refer to section of catalog on "Graduation Requirements."

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. Completing one of the approved upper division writing courses (W) with a grade of C (2.0) or better or passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above.

Major. A minimum of 27 upper division units to include Economics 301, 320, 321, and 18 units selected from the groups below.

Institutions and Methods of Economics: Six units selected from Economics 311, 330, 338, 422, 441, and 507.

International Economics: Six units selected from Economics 336, 360, 365, 464, 465, 489, 561, 565, and 592.

Economic Issues: Six units selected from Economics 380, 382, 401, 452, 453, 454, 458, and 490.

Economics 496 or 596 and a maximum of three units of Economics 499 (Readings) may be substituted in an area as appropriate with approval of an adviser. A maximum of three units of Economics 495 (Internship) may be substituted in any one group.

Emphasis in International Economics (Major Code: 22042)

Graduation Survey. All majors will complete an online survey assessing their experiences in the department and educational outcomes in the major. Students answer the survey online at the Department of Economics webpage. **The survey must be completed during the student's final semester.**

Preparation for the Major. Economics 101, 102; Accountancy 201; Economics 201 or Statistics 119 or 250; one course selected from Mathematics 120, 121, or 150; Social Science 201A; Information and Decision Systems 180 or the combination of Social Science 201C and either Social Science 201B and 201D or a computer course of at least two units. (19-21 units)

Language Requirement. Successful completion of a course in a foreign language at the fourth semester or higher level, that is, one course beyond the B.A. language requirement. Students who have graduated from high school in another country where the language of instruction is not English have met the language requirement for this major.

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. Completing one of the approved upper division writing courses (W) with a grade of C (2.0) or better or passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above.

Study/Internship Abroad Requirement. Completion of a study abroad or internship abroad of at least 12 units of coursework or six units of the internship course in another nation. Students may also choose to complete a combination of nine units of study and three units of the internship abroad. Students who have graduated from high school outside the U.S. meet this requirement by studying at SDSU.

Major. A minimum of 33 upper division units (27 units in economics and six to seven units from the College of Business Administration) to include Economics 301, 320, 321, 490; three units selected from Economics 360, 561, 592; six units selected from Economics 336, 464, 465, 565; three units from Economics 330, 365, 489; three units selected from Economics 382, 441, 453, 454; six units selected from Finance 323 and 329 or six units from Management 350 and 357 or seven units from Marketing 370 and 376. Three additional units from Economics 360, 561, and 592 may substitute for upper division economics courses except for Economics 301, 320, 321, 490. Economics 496 (3 units) or 596 may be substituted in like manner with the department's approval of its international content. A maximum of three units of Economics 495 (Internship) and a maximum of three units of Economics 499 (Special Study) may be applied to this major with relevant content approved by the department.

Emphasis in Preprofessional Studies (Major Code: 22041)

Graduation Survey. All majors will complete an online survey assessing their experiences in the department and educational outcomes in the major. Students answer the survey online at the Department of Economics webpage. **The survey must be completed during the student's final semester.**

Preparation for the Major. Economics 101, 102; Accountancy 201; Economics 201 or Statistics 119 or 250; one course selected from Mathematics 120, 121, or 150; Social Science 201A; Information and Decision Systems 180 or the combination of Social Science 201C and either Social Science 201B and 201D, or a computer course of at least two units; Communication 160. (22-24 units)

Language Requirement. Competency (successfully completing the third college semester or fifth college quarter) is required in one foreign language to fulfill the graduation requirement. Refer to section of catalog on "Graduation Requirements."

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. English 508W or 584W, or Linguistics 305W, or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 500W or 503W with a grade of C (2.0) or better.

Major. A minimum of 30 upper division units in economics to include Finance 323, Economics 301, 320, 321, either 311 or 338, and 15 units selected from the following areas:

Business and Government (Analyzes legal implications of business regulation and corporate theory): Six units selected from Economics 380, 401, 422, 490.

International: Three units selected from Economics 360, 365, 464, 465, 561 or 592.

Applications (Explores market outcomes and alternative solutions): Six units selected from Economics 330, 382, 441, 452, 453, 454, 458, 489, or three units of 495 (relevant content of the internship subject to departmental approval).

Three units of Economics 499 (Special Study), plus either Economics 496 or 596 may be substituted in an area as appropriate with the approval of an adviser.

Specialization in Quantitative Analysis

Graduation Survey. All majors will complete an online survey assessing their experiences in the department and educational outcomes in the major. Students answer the survey online at the Department of Economics webpage. **The survey must be completed during the student's final semester.**

Preparation for the Major. Economics 101, 102, and either Economics 201 or Statistics 119 or 250; Accountancy 201; Mathematics 150; Social Science 201A; Information and Decision Systems 180 or the combination of Social Science 201C and either Social Science 201B and 201D, or a computer course of at least two units. (21 units)

Language Requirement. Competency (successfully completing the third college semester or fifth college quarter) is required in one foreign language to fulfill the graduation requirement. Refer to section of catalog on "Graduation Requirements."

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. Completing one of the approved upper division writing courses (W) with a grade of C (2.0) or better or passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above.

Major. A minimum of 27 upper division units in economics to include Economics 301, 320, 321, 441, 507, and 12 units of upper division economics electives, with six units at the 400 or 500 level. Three units of Economics 499 (Special Study), plus either Economics 496 or 596 may be substituted with the approval of the adviser. A maximum of three units of Economics 495 (Internship) may be substituted with the approval of the adviser.

Economics Minor

The minor in economics consists of a minimum of 15 units in economics to include Economics 102, either 320 or 321, and nine units selected from one of the following tracks:

Public Economy: Economics 311, 330, 380, 382, 401, 452, 453, 454, 458, 490.

Trade and Commerce: Economics 336, 338, 360, 365, 422, 453, 464, 465, 489, 490, 561, 565, 592.

Quantitative Economics: Economics 301, 320 or 321 not taken above, 441, 507.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

Courses (ECON)

LOWER DIVISION COURSES

ECON 100. Contemporary Economic Problems (3)

Investigates economic bases for such current problems as inflation, unemployment, economic power, consumer protection, poverty, discrimination, urban and environmental deterioration, and international domination. Examines such policies as fiscal-monetary policy, tax reform and government controls and provision of services.

ECON 101. Principles of Economics (3) I, II, S (CAN ECON 2)

Principles of economic analysis, economic institutions, and issues of public policy. Emphasis on macroanalysis including national income analysis, money and banking, business cycles, and economic stabilization.

ECON 102. Principles of Economics (3) I, II, S (CAN ECON 4)

Principles of economic analysis, economic institutions, and issues of public policy. Emphasis on direction of production, allocation of resources, and distribution of income, through the price system (microanalysis); and international economics.

ECON 201. Statistical Methods (3) I, II

Prerequisites: Course in intermediate algebra, satisfaction of the Entry-Level Mathematics requirement, and qualification on the Mathematics Departmental Placement Exam, Part 1A.

Introduction to descriptive statistics, statistical inference, regression and correlation. Students with credit or concurrent registration in the following lower division statistics courses will be awarded a total of four units for the two (or more) courses: Economics 201; Biology 215; Civil Engineering 160; Political Science 201; Psychology 270; Sociology 201; Statistics 119 or 250.

ECON 296. Experimental Topics (1-4)

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES (Intended for Undergraduates)

ECON 301. Collection and Use of Data in Economics (3)

Prerequisites: Economics 101 and 102; Economics 201 or Statistics 119; and Information and Decision Systems 180 or Social Science 201C.

Economic data gathering via Internet and other sources, data entry into spreadsheets and graphing techniques, statistics using spreadsheets, and introduction to basic regression.

ECON 311. History of Economic Thought (3)

Prerequisites: Economics 101 and 102.

The development of economics. Contributions of schools of thought and individual writers are examined with regard to their influence on economic theory and policy.

ECON 320. Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory (3) I, II

Prerequisite: Economics 101 or Economics 100 with approval of department. Recommended: Mathematics 120 or 121 or 150.

Determination of output, income, unemployment, and inflation. Policies for economic stabilization and growth in an open economy.

ECON 321. Intermediate Microeconomic Theory (3) I, II

Prerequisite: Economics 102 or Economics 100 with approval of department. Recommended: Mathematics 120 or 121 or 150.

Behavior of consumers, firms and industries with respect to product and input markets. Price system and other models of economic decision making. Economic efficiency and welfare; property rights and externalities.

ECON 330. Comparative Economic Systems (3)

Prerequisites: Six units of economics to include Economics 102; and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences. General Education prerequisite not required for Economics majors.

Current economic systems from primarily laissez-faire to state-controlled market economies with a focus on nations of Asia, Europe and Latin America; Soviet-style economic planning and transition to a market economy.

ECON 336. Economic History of Emerging Nations (3)

Prerequisite: Six units of economics to include Economics 101.

Evolution of economic organization, institutions, and policies of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Regional emphasis will vary. Maximum credit six units.

ECON 338. Economic History of the United States (3)

Prerequisite: Six units of economics to include Economics 101.

American economic development and national legislation. Studies of agriculture, industry, the labor force, and national output.

ECON 360. International Economic Problems (3)

Prerequisites: Economics 101 and 102.

International problems, economic communities, organizations, and other selected topics.

ECON 365. Economics of Underdeveloped Areas (3)

Prerequisite: Six units of economics to include Economics 101.

The nature and causes of economic underdevelopment. Problems of and policies for the economic development of underdeveloped areas of the world.

ECON 380. Labor Economics (3)

Prerequisite: Six units of economics to include Economics 102.

Labor force and mobility, human capital, labor demand, discrimination, determination of compensation and employment, productivity, impact of labor organizations, labor disputes, and social legislation.

ECON 382. Economics of Work, Marriage, and Family (3)

Prerequisite: Economics 102.

Economic analysis of marriage and labor supply; family-related changes in work behavior; gender differences in occupations and earnings; welfare, work and family policies in the U.S. and internationally; macroeconomic analysis of household structure and economy.

ECON 401. Public Finance (3)

Prerequisites: Economics 101 and 102.

Principles and practices of taxation and public expenditures. Economic effects of public spending, debts and taxation. Financing social security and other services. Fiscal policy and prosperity. Relation to inflation and deflation. Special emphasis on social problems involved.

ECON 406. Economics of Sports (3)

Prerequisite: Economics 102.

Economic issues in professional and college team sports. Emphasis on monopoly and monopsony behavior by sports leagues and teams, public subsidies for sports facilities, ticket pricing, and NCAA rules and regulations.

ECON 422. Business Cycles (3)

Prerequisites: Economics 101 and 102.

Fundamental factors in economic fluctuations. Examination of business cycle theories, and various policy proposals for economic stabilization. A consideration of current economic conditions and an examination of methods employed in preparing national economic forecasts.

ECON 441. Introduction to Econometrics (3)

Prerequisites: Economics 301; Mathematics 120 or 121 or 150; Recommended: Economics 320 or 321.

Econometric techniques with emphasis on single-equation models. Applied skills learned through computer assignments.

ECON 452. Economics of Energy Resources (3)

Prerequisite: Six units of economics.

Economic structure of energy supply in the United States: electric power, fossil fuels, nuclear energy. Economic potential of alternative energy sources. Public policy issues: oil imports and self-sufficiency; energy costs, conservation, and curtailment; energy growth and its environmental impact.

ECON 453. Environmental and Natural Resource Economics (3)

Prerequisites: Economics 101 and 102.

Relation of ecological problems to basic economic institutions. Examination of the apparent conflict between economic needs and ecological requirements. Economics of air, fresh water, ocean and land pollution, overpopulation and natural resource utilization. Investigation of possible solutions.

ECON 454. Economics of the Ocean (3)

Prerequisites: Economics 101 and 102.

Economic analysis of fisheries, seabed resources, shipping lanes, allocation of the coastal zone, and ocean pollution. Economic implications of alternative legal arrangements concerning the ocean.

ECON 458. Urban Economics (3)

Prerequisites: Economics 101 and 102.

Major influences on economic conditions of urban areas; specific urban issues including growth and housing. Discussion of San Diego issues.

ECON 464. Economic Problems of Latin America (3)

Prerequisites: Six units of economics to include Economics 101; and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences. General Education prerequisite not required for Economics majors.

Economic development, institutions, and problems of Latin America in the context of a global economy.

ECON 465. Economic Problems of South and East Asia (3)

Prerequisites: Six units of economics to include Economics 101; and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences. General Education prerequisite not required for Economics majors.

Economic development, institutions, and problems of China, India, and other developing countries in the region.

ECON 489. Economics and Population (3)

Prerequisites: Six units of economics to include Economics 102; and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences. General Education prerequisite not required for Economics majors.

Relation of fertility, marriage, migration, and other dimensions of population to various economic factors affecting household behavior. Demographic measures and projections, application to product markets and to policies of developed and less developed countries.

ECON 490. Money and Banking (3) I, II

Prerequisites: Economics 101, 102, and Accountancy 201.

Money's measurement and use; monetary theory and policy; returns on financial instruments; international payments and foreign exchange; evolution of banking institutions, and global competition.

ECON 495. Economics Internship (3) Cr/NC/RP I, II, S

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Internship with business firms, nonprofit organizations and government agencies. Work done under joint direction of activity supervisor and instructor. Project report and internship conferences required. Maximum credit six units.

ECON 496. Experimental Topics (1-3)

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Selected topics in economics. May be repeated with approval of the instructor. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree. Maximum credit six units.

ECON 499. Special Study (1-3) I, II

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Individual study. May be repeated for a maximum of six units. Maximum credit six units.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES
(Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)

ECON 507. Mathematical Economics (3)

Prerequisite: Mathematics 121 or 150. Recommended: Economics 320 or 321.

Mathematical concepts as tools in understanding, developing, and illustrating economic theories. Applications of calculus and linear equations to constrained optimization, macro models, elasticity, general equilibrium, and input-output analysis.

ECON 561. International Trade (3)

Prerequisites: Economics 320 and 321.

Theory and policy of international trade with examples drawn from current issues. Models of determinants of trade. Free trade and protectionism. Trade and economic development. Trading blocs, the European community, GATT and U.S. trade policy.

ECON 565. North American Economic Relations (3)

Prerequisites: Economics 101 and 102. Recommended: Economics 360.

Socioeconomic development of U.S., Mexico, and Canada since World War II. Issues affecting the three countries' relations, including trade investment, technology, and international organizations and agreements.

ECON 592. International Monetary Theory and Policy (3)

Prerequisite: Economics 320 or 490.

International monetary spillovers from domestic macroeconomic policies. Foreign exchange markets and balance of payments. Fixed, flexible and managed exchange rates. Bretton Woods, international monetary fund, and world debt crisis.

ECON 596. Experimental Topics (3)

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Intensive study in specific areas of economics. Topics to be announced in the Class Schedule. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree. Maximum credit of six units of 596 applicable to a bachelor's degree. Maximum combined credit of six units of 596 and 696 applicable to a 30-unit master's degree.

GRADUATE COURSES
Refer to Bulletin of the Graduate Division.