
Economics

In the College of Arts & Letters

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Faculty

Mark A. Thayer, Ph.D., Professor of Economics,
Chair of Department
Renatte K. Adler, Ph.D., Professor of Economics
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Roger S. Frantz, Ph.D., Professor of Economics
James B. Gerber, Ph.D., Professor of Economics
Louis C. Green, Ph.D., Professor of Economics
Shoshana A. Grossbard-Shechtman, Ph.D., Professor of Economics
Arthur E. Kartman, Ph.D., Professor of Economics
Dean O. Popp, Ph.D., Professor of Economics,
Associate Vice President for Faculty Affairs
John W. Hambleton, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Economics
Catalina Amuedo-Dorantes, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Economics
Edmund M. Balso, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Economics
Cynthia A. Bansak, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Economics
Eric J. Brunner, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Economics
(Graduate Adviser)
Jennifer Imazeki, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Economics
Kusum Mundra, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Economics

Associateships

A number of teaching and research associateships are available for qualified students. Appointments permitting up to 20 hours of service per week are available. In addition, students interested in pursuing teaching careers at the community college level may apply for a teaching apprenticeship position. Application forms and additional information may be obtained from the graduate student coordinator of the Department of Economics.

Scholarships

The Department of Economics administers two scholarship programs that are available to qualified students. Incoming students may apply for a Terhune scholarship. Terhune Scholarships are designed to cover tuition and fees for the first year of graduate study. The Center for Public Economics annually awards several scholarships ranging from \$300 to \$1,500 in the Spring semester. Application forms and additional information for these programs may be obtained from the graduate student coordinator of the Department of Economics.

General Information

The Department of Economics offers a Master of Arts degree in economics. The program provides students with advanced training in decision-making techniques and quantitative analysis by building on a core of applied microeconomic and econometric classes. Students learn to apply analytic methods to business and policy issues, use advanced econometric methods and computer software. An internship program provides students with valuable work experience. The program is designed to (1) prepare students for careers in consulting, domestic and multinational firms and government agencies, (2) provide students with university-level teaching experience and access to community college teaching positions, and (3) provide advanced training in economics for students planning on entering a Ph.D. program.

Admission to Graduate Study

Admission to the Master of Arts program in economics is a three-step process.

Step 1. Students applying for admission should electronically submit the University application available at www.csumentor.edu.

Step 2. The following materials should be submitted as a complete package directly to the Department of Economics:

- (1) Two sets of official transcripts (in sealed envelopes);
- (2) Two letters of recommendation;
- (3) A personal statement of no more than 750 words that describes why you wish to pursue graduate study in economics;

Mail or deliver your complete admissions package to:

Graduate Admissions Coordinator
Department of Economics
San Diego State University
5500 Campanile Drive
San Diego, CA 92182-4485

Step 3. Have GRE test scores sent to SDSU (SDSU code: 4682). If you are an international student whose postsecondary instruction is in a language other than English you must have TOEFL test score sent to SDSU. International students interested in applying should first contact the International Student Center.

Advancement to Candidacy

In addition to the general requirements for advancement to candidacy described in Part Two of this bulletin, the student must have completed Economics 630, 631, 640, and 641 with at least a 3.0 (B) average and no individual core course grade lower than a 2.7 (B-). Deficiencies may be addressed by retaking core courses.

Specific Requirements for the Master of Arts Degree

(Major Code: 22041)

In addition to meeting the requirements for classified graduate standing and the basic requirements for the master's degree described in Part Two of this bulletin, the student must complete an approved graduate program of at least 30 units. Each program must include Economics 630, 631, 640, 641, 740, and 795. No program may contain more than nine units of approved courses outside economics. In addition, no program may contain more than six units of 500-level courses.

A written comprehensive examination covering the core fields of microeconomics and econometrics is required for Plan B students. Students selecting Plan A must include Economics 799A in their program and complete a master's thesis.

As an alternative to electing a general program, the student may choose to specialize in Latin American Policy Studies or Urban and Regional Policy. The specialization in Latin American Policy Studies with its applied and interdisciplinary focus, is designed to provide students with advanced training in Latin American policy issues. The specialization in Urban and Regional Policy, with its applied and interdisciplinary focus, is designed to provide students with advanced training in urban and regional policy issues.

Specialization in Latin American Policy Studies

Economics 720. Seminar in Latin American Economies (3)
Latin American Studies 601. Seminar on Methodology of Latin American Studies (3)

One course selected from the following:

History 555. Modernization and Urbanization in Latin America (3)
History 558. Latin America in World Affairs (3)
Political Science 566. Political Change in Latin America (3)
Political Science 567. Political Systems of Latin America (3)

Specialization in Urban and Regional Policy

Economics 710. Seminar in Urban and Regional Economics (3)

At least one course selected from the following:

City Planning 620. Seminar in Urban Planning Methodologies (3)
City Planning 625. Quantitative Techniques in Urban Planning (6)
Geography 584. Geographic Information Systems Applications (3)
Geography 683. Advanced Geographic Information Systems (3)

One course selected from the following:

City Planning 650. Seminar in Urban Theory (3)
City Planning 665. Seminar in Urban and Regional Planning Analysis (3)
Geography 596. Advanced Topics in Urban and Regional Policy (3)
Geography 685. Advanced Quantitative Methods in Geography (3)
Geography 780. Seminar in Techniques of Spatial Analysis (3)

Courses Acceptable on Master's Degree Programs in Economics (ECON)

UPPER DIVISION COURSES

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. Not open to students with credit in Economics 307 or 610.

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.

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.

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.

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

603. Economic Analysis (3)

Prerequisite: Classified graduate standing.

Economic analysis of the firm in a market economy and the economics of national income determination. Not open to students with credit for Economics 320 or 321. Not applicable to a master's degree in economics.

630. Microeconomic Theory (3)

Prerequisite: Economics 321.

Theories of the consumer, the firm, and the market. Topics in welfare and general equilibrium. Duality and uncertainty.

631. Applied Microeconomic Methods (3)

Prerequisite: Economics 630.

Decision-making techniques in applied microeconomics including cost-benefit analysis, choice under uncertainty and applied game theory techniques.

640. Econometrics (3)

Prerequisites: Economics 321; Mathematics 120 or 121 or 150.

Measurement in economics. Use of economic models involving multiple regression analysis, simultaneous equation systems, and time series analysis.

641. Applied Research in Econometrics (3)

Prerequisite: Economics 640.

Econometric applications and techniques including discrete choice, panel data simultaneous equations and time series. Data analysis and statistical software training in STATA, SAS, and SPSS.

696. Experimental Topics (3)

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Intensive study in specific areas of economics. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master's degree. Maximum combined credit of six units of 596 and 696 applicable to a 30-unit master's degree.

700. Seminar in Microeconomic Applications (3)

Prerequisites: Economics 630 or classified graduate standing in another department and consent of instructor.

Microeconomic applications to individual, firm, or government. Maximum credit six units of Economics 700 applicable to a master's degree. See Class Schedule for specific content. Seminar topics include:

Seminar in Industrial Organization and Firm Behavior
Seminar in Labor Economics
Seminar in Economic Issues in Demography
Seminar in Experimental Economics

710. Seminar in Public Economics (3)

Prerequisites: Economics 630 or classified graduate standing in another department and consent of instructor.

Government in a market economy. Impact on individual and firm behavior. Maximum credit six units of Economics 710 applicable to a master's degree. See Class Schedule for specific content. Seminar topics include:

- Seminar in Environmental Issues
- Seminar in Public Expenditures
- Seminar in Urban and Regional
- Seminar in Regulation
- Seminar in Tax Policy

720. Seminar in Development and Planning (3)

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Development process and policies. Planning techniques. Relations among developing and developed countries. Maximum credit six units of Economics 720 applicable to a master's degree. See Class Schedule for specific content. Seminar topics include:

- Seminar in Development Economics
- Seminar in Development Planning
- Seminar in International Trade and Commercial Policy

730. Seminar in Macroeconomic Policy (3)

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Applications of macroeconomics to open economics. Maximum credit six units of Economics 730 applicable to a master's degree. See Class Schedule for specific content. Seminar topics include:

- Seminar in National Monetary Institutions
- Seminar in International Monetary Policy
- Seminar in Business Cycles
- Seminar in Macroeconomic Modeling and Prediction

740. Seminar in Applied Economic Research (3)

Prerequisites: Advancement to candidacy and consent of graduate adviser.

Advanced treatment of research design and methodology. Application of empirical techniques to selected problems. (Formerly numbered Economics 740A.)

750. Seminar in Economic History and Institutions (3)

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Economic development in historical perspective. Maximum credit six units of Economics 750 applicable to a master's degree. See Class Schedule for specific content. Seminar topics include:

- Seminar in U.S. Economic History
- Seminar in Economic Growth in Historical Perspective
- Seminar in Contemporary Economic Systems

795. Internship in Economics (3) Cr/NC

Prerequisites: Economics 630, 640, and approval of graduate adviser.

Students will be assigned to various jobs in which economic theory can be applied to decision making. Supervision will be shared by the graduate adviser and on-the-job supervisor.

797. Research (3) Cr/NC/RP

Prerequisites: Classified graduate standing and consent of instructor.

Independent research project in an area of economics.

798. Special Study (1-3) Cr/NC/RP

Prerequisite: Consent of staff; to be arranged with department chair and instructor.

Individual study. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master's degree.

799A. Thesis (3) Cr/NC/RP

Prerequisites: An officially appointed thesis committee and advancement to candidacy.

Preparation of a project or thesis for the master's degree.

799B. Thesis Extension (0) Cr/NC

Prerequisite: Prior registration in Thesis 799A with an assigned grade symbol of RP.

Registration required in any semester or term following assignment of RP in Course 799A in which the student expects to use the facilities and resources of the university; also student must be registered in the course when the completed thesis is granted final approval.
