

Economics



ECONOMICS

Economics, a social science, is the study of how society, businesses, organizations and individuals produce, exchange, buy and sell goods and services. It provides the means to collect and analyze data, monitor trends and develop economic forecasts that relate to such areas as housing, employment, energy, health care and government. An understanding of economics provides a thorough, objective approach to solving such contemporary quandaries as the nature of business cycles in the global marketplace, the effects of inflation on a nation's economy, or how changes in tax revenues influence unemployment rates.

Economics incorporates a variety of sampling techniques and mathematical models to reach viable conclusions and forecasts.

Those with degrees in the field lead careers throughout the public and private, profit and nonprofit sectors of society. They contribute their skills and knowledge to a long list of established and growing enterprises — from federal, state and local governments and financial institutions to high-technology and management consulting firms.

DEGREE PROGRAM AT UA

As a University of Akron graduate, you'll enter the business world or graduate degree program with a rock-solid understanding of basic and advanced economic principles. The program teaches you about economic concepts and how to apply them to actual fiscal problems and conditions.

You will develop analytical and problem-solving skills while exploring theories of economic systems and their applications as they apply to a number of fields — from finance and international trade to poverty reduction and environmental problems.

The bachelor of arts program consists of a core of courses in theory and in quantitative and computer methods, as well as a number of economic electives. You can specialize your program by selecting electives geared toward a particular career track — business, banking and international economics, public policy or graduate school.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THESE WEB SITES:

Department of Economics: <http://www.uakron.edu/colleges/artsci/depts/econ/>

Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences: <http://www.uakron.edu/colleges/artsci/>

The University of Akron: <http://www.uakron.edu>

Office of Admissions: <http://www.uakron.edu/admissions/>

Honors College: <http://www3.uakron.edu/honors/>

Center for Career Management: <http://www.uakron.edu/ccm/>

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics: <http://www.bls.gov/>

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational

Outlook Handbook: <http://www.bls.gov/oco>

The culmination of your program is a senior project in economics where you will have the opportunity to demonstrate your abilities and apply what you have learned, both analytically and quantitatively.

You may want to consider pursuing a dual major. By adding a limited number of credit hours, you can earn a dual major; thus expanding your career specializations and opportunities. The analytical skills that you learn in economics will complement those that you learn in other fields. Prospective employers seek job applicants with such skills.

An economics degree is an excellent background for graduate programs. About half of economic majors earn advanced degrees in business administration, economics or law. They often become leaders in economic and business research or they teach in colleges and universities.

As with other fields of study, technology plays a significant role in the economics program. The department has a computer laboratory for faculty and students. It is equipped with the latest equipment, running in a Windows environment. In addition, the department has a variety of software, including economic tutorials, word processing programs, SAS/MVS, SAS/VM, and SAS/PC.

Network access allows students to search for books, journal articles, the latest economic data, etc., remotely from either Ohio Link or the World Wide Web. The lab is located near the faculty offices, which facilitates interaction between faculty and students, and enhances the students' educational experiences.

One of The University of Akron's greatest strengths is the diversity of its faculty. Economics professors come from all parts of the globe and provide an international perspective on economic issues.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Economists and market/survey researchers work in economic and market research firms; banks; management consulting firms; securities and commodities organizations; computer and data processing companies. They work for government agencies and serve as consultants.

Federal government economists often study economic conditions in the United States and abroad. They might analyze how the dollar's fluctuation against foreign currencies affects import and export levels, for example, or study the production, distribution and consumption of commodities overseas. Economists working for state and local governments might analyze data on population and unemployment to forecast spending needs.

Because they give reports using statistical charts and tables, and because their research is often directed toward making policies within an organization, economists are skillful writers and speakers.

The job market is strong for those with degrees in economics. According to government reports, the best opportunities are expected to be in private industry, especially in research, testing and consulting firms. In addition, job prospects are especially good for those with advanced degrees.

AKRON ADVANTAGE

The college offers job-related services through its A&S Careers Program, which creates links between students, alumni and local professionals. As a Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences student, you have access to its lending library with up-to-date, career-related publications; a computer workroom for resume writing and employment research; volunteer, paid and for-credit internship placement on and off campus; and department-specific mentoring arrangements.

You are encouraged to gain important practical professional experience through the University's optional cooperative education program. Participating in the program gives you firsthand, professional experience in the economics field of your choice. You will have the chance to put your classroom experience to practice. Through co-op, you'll alternate semesters of work and school. As an added benefit, you'll earn a competitive salary.

Our students have participated in co-op assignments with the Central Intelligence Agency, Walt Disney World, The Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, BFGoodrich, Lubrizol Corp., the city of Akron and the Akron Beacon Journal.

Classroom instruction is enhanced through student activities. As an economics major, you might be interested in the Economics Club or Financial Management Association. Participation in student organizations provides valuable experience and an opportunity to interact with other economics majors and professionals.

HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school students considering the economics program at The University of Akron are encouraged to follow the college prep curriculum while in high school. This includes four years of English, three years each of math, natural science and social science, and two years of foreign languages. Clear, concise writing skills also are imperative. If you have not completed the recommended courses, you may be required to take University courses to meet the basic criteria.

THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON

You may already know that The University of Akron is the public research university for Northern Ohio. But we're much more than labs and lasers.

Our 24,700 students choose from approximately 300 academic programs and areas of study, from accounting to zoology. Many of our undergraduate programs have gained

national recognition, including psychology, sales and marketing, dance, global business and gerontological nursing.

About 7,000 students live in our 12 residence halls or just a short walk from campus. When they aren't hitting the books, thousands take advantage of the University's fraternities, sororities and more than 200 student organizations, from gospel choir and alpine skiing to career-building professional and academic societies. We also offer 17 intramural sports and clubs, from bowling to cardio kickboxing.

The University's ongoing, major campus renovation campaign that began in 2000, the "New Landscape for Learning," has added 11 new structures, including two classroom buildings, as well as 30 acres of green space and numerous additions. This transformation continues today — UA's first on-campus football stadium is scheduled to be completed in time for the Zips' 2009 home opener.

Here's more of what you'll find at the new UA:

- Student Recreation and Wellness Center, a massive structure with ball courts, fitness facilities, rock climbing wall and a recreational pool that includes a 30-seat spa, "lazy river" and fountain.
- Student Union, containing a movie theatre, billiards/bowling room, food court, Starbucks, bookstore and headquarters for student organizations.
- Honors Complex with combination residence hall and academic facilities.
- Gardens, lawns, amphitheatre and tree-lined pathways.

You'll also discover a campus retooled for your academic success. We are Ohio's most wired-for-wireless public university, and can provide you reduced-rate, high-speed Internet access off campus.

ADMISSION INFORMATION

The Office of Admissions
330-972-7100 or 800-655-4884
<mailto:admissions@uakron.edu>
<http://www.uakron.edu/admissions/>

Sample Curriculum

Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics

First year:		Third year:	
English Composition I, II	7	Intermediate Microeconomics	3
Social Science requirement	3-4	Intermediate Macroeconomics	3
Beginning Foreign Language I, II	8	Applied Econometrics	3
Physical Education/Wellness	1-3	Department electives	6
College Algebra	3-4	Area Studies	15-21
Natural Science requirement	3-4	Total	30-36
Calculus for Business Applications or Concepts of Calculus I	4	Fourth year:	
Total	29-34	Senior Project in Economics	3
		Department electives	6
Second year:		Area Studies	22
Principles of Microeconomics	3	Total	31
Principles of Macroeconomics	3		
Intermediate Foreign Language I, II	6	You may want to follow a particular career-oriented track in your economic electives. The department offers eco- nomic options in business (15 credits), banking & international economics (15 credits), public policy (18 credits) and graduate school (18 credits). Choosing a track is not required.	
Natural Science requirement	3-4		
Introductory Statistics I, II	4		
Humanities in Western Tradition I	4		
Introduction to Public Speaking or Effective Oral Communications	3		
Humanities course	3		
Computer Skills for Economic Analysis	3		
Total	32-33		