



Undergraduate Degrees in Economics



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“Lionel Robbins described economics as ‘a science which studies human behaviour as a relationship between ends and scarce means which have alternative uses.’ From the growth of economies to public finance, and from labor economics to international finance and decision theory, economics covers a broad terrain. Economists use an analytic approach derived from the implications of scarcity to study these subjects; as a consequence, the economics student develops tools that are useful in a variety of areas. Our economics curriculum is designed to teach you how to use these tools as effectively as possible—and to employ this engine of analysis in your chosen field.”

—Dr. Barry Ickes
Associate Head
Department of Economics



PennState
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A leader in online learning since 1998

To learn more about programs
in economics, visit:
worldcampus.psu.edu/economics

Online Programs in Economics

Penn State's economics programs join interdisciplinary study with fundamental components of mathematics and statistics. This combined approach can give you an understanding of how society and organizations work, especially in interaction with their external environment.

A degree in economics can give you the skills to think critically, simplify complex data, analyze and understand trends, and allocate resources efficiently. These skills are directly

applicable to jobs in many industries, such as banking, manufacturing, insurance, research, and government. Many employers seek candidates with these qualifications and value the skills of economics graduates.

Our program portfolio includes:

- › Bachelor of Arts in Economics
- › Bachelor of Science in Economics
- › Economics Minor



Bachelor of Arts in Economics

If you want to focus on the qualitative aspect of economics, the Bachelor of Arts in Economics is best suited for you. The program places a stronger emphasis on social behavior, culture, international relations, and foreign languages to prepare you for work in national or international organizations.

As a graduate of this program, you can be prepared to work in the private or public sector, nationally or internationally. If you choose to continue your education, this program is an excellent stepping-stone to study economics at the graduate level or attend law school.

You may be best suited to work in positions that place emphasis on social behavior, culture, international relations, and foreign languages, such as:

- › economic consultant for businesses and nonprofits
- › information analyst
- › management analyst or consultant
- › public and environmental policy analyst
- › budget analyst for charities and nonprofits
- › political and social researcher

Bachelor of Science in Economics

The Bachelor of Science in Economics can help you develop solid analytical skills, especially in mathematic theory, research, and computer programming.

In this program you can acquire the strong quantitative knowledge you need to understand and interpret individual and group behavior through numerical concepts and models. The main benefit of the bachelor of science is its strong analytical curriculum that can help you develop the skills most sought after by employers. This program can also prepare you for a graduate-level degree in economics or urban and regional planning—or continue your education with a Master of Business Administration, if you apply

and are accepted into the program.

While you may employ the skills learned in this degree in a variety of industries and positions, job placements for a graduate of this program can include:

- › financial examiner, analyst, or adviser
- › accountant or auditor
- › investment banker
- › market research analyst
- › operations research analyst
- › statistician
- › financial, securities, or commodities sales agent

Program Curriculum

The Bachelor of Arts and the Bachelor of Science in Economics programs share a core curriculum designed to teach you the fundamental concepts of economics. The core classes are:

Introductory Microeconomic Analysis and Policy

Methods of economic analysis and their use; price determination; theory of the firm; distribution.

Introductory Macroeconomic Analysis and Policy

National income measurement; aggregate economic models; money and income; policy problems.

Statistical Foundations for Econometrics

Basic statistical concepts used in economics. Topics include probability distributions, expectations, estimation, hypothesis testing, correlation, and simple regression.

Intermediate Microeconomic Analysis

Allocation of resources and distribution of income within various market structures, with emphasis on analytical tools.

Intermediate Macroeconomic Analysis

Analysis of forces that determine the level of aggregate economic activity.

Introduction to Econometrics

The implementation of statistical techniques to analyze data and

address economic questions.

Econometric results are produced and assessed.

To deepen your knowledge in the field, you may also choose from courses in:

- › labor economics
- › public finance
- › international economics
- › growth and development
- › money and monetary theory

In addition to the core courses, you must successfully complete General Education courses, electives, and other supporting courses to fulfill the 120-credit requirements for either the bachelor of arts or the bachelor of science.



Why Penn State?

Experience in Distance Education

As a distance education pioneer, Penn State has developed a nationally recognized support system for students who are geographically removed from campus. With our professional team of Penn State instructors, academic advisers, technical support experts, and student support representatives, we'll help you get where you want to go—successfully—through distance education.

Library Services

As a Penn State World Campus student, you will have access to one of the top 10 largest research library collections in North America—the Penn State University Libraries system, which holds more than 800 online research databases, 110,000 scholarly journals, and 1 million electronic books. You can search the online catalog and review databases as if you were sitting at a terminal in any Penn State library.

Military and Veteran Students

We have aligned our online programs, student support services, policies, and procedures to support military personnel, veterans, and military family members.

An Exceptional Student/Alumni Body

Whether you take our courses online or in a traditional classroom, you become a “Penn Stater,” who is part of:

- › an institution with more than 150 years of excellence in teaching, research, and service
- › a proud network of more than 692,000 alumni located around the world, with representation in hundreds of professions. Take advantage of our vast alumni network to help you advance your career.

Networking Opportunities

Interact with dedicated, goal-oriented peers from around the world, creating a network of great ideas. As you communicate regularly with other classmates and faculty members, you'll gain insights that you can apply to your job immediately.

Student Support

We support our students with a variety of e-learning opportunities, including those that allow for real-time online interaction with classmates and professors. We also offer various kinds of help for students, from financial support to a learning center for writing support, as well as support with internships.

Begin Your Application Today

How to Begin

1. Visit: worldcampus.psu.edu/economics
2. Click on the “Apply Now” button to access your application; admissions requirements are the same for the Bachelor of Arts and the Bachelor of Science programs.

Deadlines

Please visit your program’s “How to Apply” page for application deadlines.

Application Materials

- › online application and fee
- › official high school transcripts or GED transcript
- › official college or university transcripts if you attended another institution
- › official military transcripts (if applicable)
- › TOEFL or IELTS scores, if applicable

To apply or for more information about these application materials, visit:
worldcampus.psu.edu/economics

Did You Know?

- › According to *The Wall Street Journal*, students who major in economics will receive a higher salary than their college counterparts all throughout their careers.
- › Studies by the American Economic Association show that economics majors have among the highest scores on the LSAT.
- › For students applying to an MBA program, economics ranks as one of the most valued undergraduate majors, following engineering.

Contact Us

Admissions Questions

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