Economics

Courses

ECON 1000 Economics in Everyday Life: 3 semester hours
This course is an introduction to economic concepts, analysis, and issues for non-majors. ECON 1000 does not substitute for ECON 1001 or ECON 1002. Students who have already completed ECON 1001 or ECON 1002 may not take ECON 1000 for credit.

ECON 1001 Principles of Microeconomics: 3 semester hours
Prerequisite: MATH 1030. Introduction to the determinants of household demand, production and cost, and market prices. Applies the principles of individual decision-making behavior to understanding goods, services and resource markets.

ECON 1002 Principles of Macroeconomics: 3 semester hours
Prerequisite: MATH 1030 and ECON 1001. Introduction to the determination of levels of and changes in aggregate income, output, employment and prices. Applies economic principles of choice to the formulation and achievement of public policies that affect national employment, income distribution, and economic growth.

ECON 1005 Family Economics and Household Development: 3 semester hours
Provides social service professionals that work with low income individuals and families with an understanding of the principles of personal financial management. Case studies are used to apply course content and to develop training strategies for clients to improve household financial management. The role of financial institutions and government policies as well as their impact on low income families is also examined. Resources to use with clients will be identified. ECON 1005 does not count toward a major or minor in Economics.

ECON 1052 Microeconomics for the School Curriculum: 3 semester hours
Analysis of market forces, with emphasis on business firms, households, and productive-factor markets, price determination and resource allocation. Special reference to topics included in elementary and secondary school social science curricula. ECON 1052 may not be used by Economics majors to meet degree requirements.

ECON 1500 Entertainment Economics: The Movie Industry: 3 semester hours
Same as MEDIA ST 1500. This survey course examines the interrelationships between economics and the movie industry. It explores the impact of economic factors on the production, distribution and exhibition of movies, focusing on the rise and fall of the studio system, role of technological change in the evolution of cinematography and the movie marketplace, financing and market segmentation, globalization and changing industrial structure within which films are produced. To the extent that movies reflect and contribute to popular economic perspectives, this course also evaluates the soundness of the movie industry’s depiction of a variety of economic doctrines. Classes will consist of lecture, discussion, and brief film screenings. This course does not count towards the hours required for an economics major.

ECON 1010 The Business Firm: History, Theory, and Policy: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 1000 or ECON 1001 or consent of instructor. This course presents a history of the development of modern business firms and examines the evolution of the economic theory of the firm. Special attention is paid to the role that firms play in fostering social and economic development. The ultimate objective of the course will be to provide students with a deeper understanding of firms so they can make better policy decisions as firm owners, managers, lawmakers, regulators, and voters.

ECON 2410 Work, Families, And Public Policy: 3 semester hours
Same as GS 2410. Prerequisites: ECON 1000 or ECON 1001. This course compares the economic behavior of women and men in both the labor market and the household. Topics include: the family as an economic (production) unit, gender differences in labor force participation, occupations and earnings; the effectiveness of human capital theory and labor market discrimination in explaining the male-female wage gap; remedies for reducing the wage gap; family structure and economic well-being; and alternative policies to alleviate poverty. Students who have completed ECON 3400 may not take ECON 2410 for credit.

ECON 2610 The Economics of Professional Sports: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 1000 or ECON 1001 or consent of instructor. This course will survey the economic organization of professional sports teams industries and the relationship of sports teams to their employees, fans, and governments. Economic issues relating to salaries and labor disputes, monopoly practices, cartels and pricing, team location decisions, and public subsidies for professional sports teams will be analyzed.

ECON 2800 History of American Economic Development: 3 semester hours
Same as HIST 2800. Prerequisites: ECON 1000 or ECON 1001 or consent of instructor. Uses economic concepts to explain historical developments in the American economy, beginning with the hunter-gatherers who crossed the Bering land bridge around 12,000 BC. Main topics include the Native American economies, European exploration and conquest, the colonial economies, indentured servitude, the American Revolution, the US Constitution, westward expansion, transportation, the Industrial Revolution, state banking and free banking, slavery, the Civil War, post-bellum agriculture, the rise of big business and anti trust, banking panics, the Federal Reserve Act, the First and Second World Wars, the New Deal, and the growth of government in the postwar economy.

ECON 3001 Intermediate Microeconomics: 3 semester hours
Prerequisite: MATH 1030 and ECON 1001. Analysis of prices in terms of equilibrium of the business firm and consumer demand in markets of varying degrees of competition.

ECON 3002 Intermediate Macroeconomics: 3 semester hours
Prerequisite: MATH 1030, ECON 1001 and ECON 1002; ECON 3200 is recommended. Study of national income, expenditure and the forces determining the level of economic activity. Special emphasis on the theory of income determination and its application to public policy.

ECON 3003 Game Theory and Strategic Decision Making: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 1001. When the best course of action depends on the decisions made by others, strategy becomes important. Game theory provides the tools for analyzing such strategic decision making. Strategic behavior is analyzed in the context of business, logistics, biology, war, government, politics, and everyday life. A wide variety of in-class experiments are used to illustrate key concepts.
ECON 3055 Economic Issues for the School Curriculum: 1-3 semester hours
Prerequisites: Junior standing and consent of instructor. An analysis of selected economic issues appropriate to instruction in secondary and elementary schools. May be taken more than once for credit, provided the topic of the course is different each time. May not normally be used by economics majors to meet degree requirements. This course does not fulfill the undergraduate economics requirement for education majors.

ECON 3100 Economic Statistics: 3 semester hours
Prerequisite: MATH 1030, ECON 1001, and ECON 1002. Introduction to economic data sources, data interpretation and statistical inference as used in economic analysis. Emphasizes the testing of economic hypotheses and the development and estimation of economic models. Introduces the use of statistical software used in economics.

ECON 3200 Money, Banking And Monetary Theory: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 1001 and ECON 1002. Factors influencing bank reserves and the money supply. Ability of the Federal Reserve System and the Treasury to control these factors. Introduction to monetary theory: integration of monetary phenomena with national income theory. Analysis of current policy issues.

ECON 3300 International Economic Analysis: 3 semester hours
Prerequisite: ECON 1001. Introduction to the theories of international trade and factor movements including determinants of trade, the effects of trade on sectors and on overall economic performance, trade restrictions, and balance of payments and exchange rates. Discussion of current institutions and economic developments in the global economy.

ECON 3320 Economic Development: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 1001 and ECON 1002. Survey of economic growth as applied to developed and underdeveloped countries. Analysis of development policies with Emphasis on case studies. Case studies may include the United States, Western Europe or Latin America.

ECON 3400 Labor Economics: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 1001. Examines the labor market in the economy, considers the theories of labor supply, labor demand, and market determination of wages. Other topics include noncompetitive markets, international labor markets, the theory of human capital, compensating wage differentials, labor market discrimination, unions and collective bargaining, unemployment, and poverty and the distribution of income.

ECON 3450 Labor in the Global Political Economy: 3 semester hours
This course will examine current issues, trends, and developments which are shaping labor in today's global economy. Students will analyze the shifting balance of power between labor and capital, the role of government, and evaluate the strategic options for workers and unions operating in a global environment. ECON 3450 may not be used by economics majors to meet degree requirements.

ECON 3500 The Economics of Government Spending and Taxation: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: MATH 1030 and ECON 1001. Analysis of the role of government expenditures and taxation. Topics include: (1) analysis of public goods and externalities, models of collective choice, elements of benefit-cost analysis the theory of bureaucracy, governments as agents in markets; and (2) analysis of the economic role of governments, subsidies and taxes in the federal system, criteria for tax evaluation, the nature of tax legislation, private decision making under different tax institutions, and government borrowing.

ECON 3600 Market Structure, Strategy, and Pricing: 3 semester hours
Prerequisite: ECON 1001. A theoretical and empirical analysis of the actions of firms under alternative forms of market organization. The role of economies of scale, product differentiation, mergers, and advertising in affecting industry structure and the impact of the resulting industry structure on pricing, output, promotion, and technology decisions of firms.

ECON 3900 Selected Topics in Economics: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 1001 and ECON 1002. Analysis of a selected economic topic. The topic selected will vary from semester to semester. This course may be taken for credit more than once so long as the topic discussed in each semester is different.

ECON 4030 Managerial Economics: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 3001; MATH 1800 or MATH 1100 recommended. Application of microeconomic theory to decision-making process in the business firm. Topics include pricing and profit strategy, cost analysis, decision making under uncertainty, technology, innovation, and productivity growth, and the structure and organization of firms. Problem-solving and case-study approach used.

ECON 4040 Analysis of Business Cycles: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 3002, ECON 3100, and ECON 3200 or equivalent. This course focuses on the empirical regularities in macroeconomics commonly referred to as the business cycle. It examines the variability and co-movements of aggregate economic variables and explores alternative theoretical explanations of these phenomena.

ECON 4100 Introduction to Econometrics: 4 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 1001 and ECON 1002; ECON 3100 or MATH 1320 or SCMA 3300; MATH 1800 or MATH 1100. An introduction to quantitative analysis of economic behavior. The ordinary least squares technique and the assumptions underlying it are developed. Methods designed to detect and correct for the violations of these assumptions are examined. Special emphasis is given to the practical application of the procedures discussed through the use of computer exercises.

ECON 4110 Applied Econometrics: 4 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 4100 or equivalent. Concepts, techniques, & advanced applications of econometrics. Emphasis on developing a critical understanding of the appropriateness and limitations of a variety of state-of-the-art techniques used to model economic or political processes. Topics will include joint tests of hypotheses, estimation of lagged effects, models of qualitative choice, simultaneous systems, and outlier diagnostics. This course includes laboratory work in quantitative economic analysis.

ECON 4120 Time Series Econometrics for Economics and Finance: 4 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 4100 or equivalent and a solid foundation in statistics. Introduction to application of econometric methods to time-series data. Emphasis on model specification as it appears to macroeconomic or financial data. Topics include: Stationary and non-stationary time-series, seasonality, random walks, unit roots, Dickey-Fuller tests, cointegration, ARCH/GARCH models, and general to specific modeling (ADLs). Specific applications to macro-economics, international economics and/or financial markets.
ECON 4130 Business and Economic Forecasting: 4 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 4100 or equivalent. Alternative forecasting methodologies for economic time series will be analyzed and discussed. The focus of the course will be: (1) the development of time-series (ARIMA) models and their application to forecasting; (2) the use of standard econometric models for forecasting; and (3) evaluation and comparison of these methods and the conditions under which each is the appropriate methodology. This course includes laboratory work in quantitative economic analysis.

ECON 4150 Mathematical Economics: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: MATH 1800 or MATH 1100; ECON 3001 or BUS AD 5000 or BUS AD 5001. This course uses calculus and other mathematical tools to analyze economic phenomena. In addition to exploring techniques used to solve unconstrained and constrained optimization problems, the course also examines how matrix algebra is used in economic modeling. This course allows students to mathematically analyze economic models which receive graphical treatment in lower level courses.

ECON 4160 Geospatial Analysis in the Social Sciences: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: Junior standing, ECON 1001 or consent of instructor. Analysis of geospatial data relating to a variety of social phenomena using geographic information systems (GIS) software. Students will learn how geospatial analysis can be integrated into research projects and presentations (e.g., creating maps to present and analyze social, political, and economic data). Students will also learn how criminal activity, economic activity, voting patterns and other social behavior are spatially correlated with demographic data. As a culminating project, students will learn how to apply GIS techniques, including but not limited to sophisticated spatial modeling of social behavior.

ECON 4170 Fundamentals of Cost-Benefit Analysis: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 3001 or equivalent. The purpose of this course is to provide a systemic and rigorous way of thinking about the measurement of benefits and costs when evaluating public projects, programs or regulations. Cost-benefit analysis has wide application, including: environmental resource use, highway construction projects, safety regulations, taxation of cigarettes, and investment in higher education. Given the prevalence of cost-benefit analysis in government budgetary processes, this course will develop critical appraisal skills to evaluate the appropriateness of these analyses.

ECON 4210 Financial Markets And Institutions: 3 semester hours
Prerequisite: ECON 3200. Demand, supply and flow of funds in the macrofinancial system, including money, capital, futures and foreign exchange markets. Examines types and historical development of domestic and international financial intermediaries operations within these markets, decision-making within individual intermediaries, their regulatory environment, and how their portfolio decisions affect flows of funds in the financial system.

ECON 4510 Public Choice: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 3001 or consent of instructor. Public choice is the analysis of government and governmental institutions through the logic of economics. It assumes the same principles that economists use to analyze actions in the marketplace, and applies them to actions made in collective decision-making. Topics include: the efficiency of democracy, voting methods, the incentives of legislators, bureaucrats and lobbyists, political competition, and public institutions and economic growth.

ECON 4550 Natural Resource Economics: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 1001 or consent of instructor; junior standing. The relationship between human activity and the world's natural resources requires choices. This course uses an economics perspective to study these choices. This perspective uses the view of the environment as an asset for its starting point. Issues concerning the optimal and sustainable use of natural resources are examined in this context. Special emphasis is given to potential policy responses to environmental problems.

ECON 4900 Advanced Topics in Economic Analysis: 3 semester hours
Prerequisite: ECON 3001 or ECON 3002 or consent of instructor. Study of a specific topic in Economics that may vary from semester to semester. May be taken for credit more than once if the topics are different.

ECON 4980 Special Readings: 1-6 semester hours
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor; grade point of 3.0 or higher in Economics. Unscheduled, independent directed readings on topics mutually acceptable to student and instructor. Maximum credit limited to six hours.

ECON 4990 Internship in Applied Economics: 2-6 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 3001, junior standing and consent of instructor. Independent study involving work with an appropriate private firm or public agency. A maximum of six hours may be earned, only three of which may be applied to the Economics major.

ECON 4995 Internship in Actuarial Science: 1-3 semester hours
Same as MATH 4995. Prerequisites: Junior standing and consent of program director. Supervised off-campus training in a private or public sector position in which the student applies the knowledge and skills learned in their actuarial science coursework. The internship is monitored by a faculty member and the student must provide a written report at the end of the project. This course may be repeated for a maximum of 6 credit hours.

ECON 5001 Microeconomic Analysis: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 3001 or BUS AD 5001; ECON 3002 or BUS AD 5002; ECON 4150. Survey of Microeconomic comparative statistics. Detailed examination of demand and supply, product and factor markets. Partial equilibrium in competitive, imperfectly competitive and monopolistic markets.

ECON 5002 Macroeconomic Analysis: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 3200; ECON 3001 or BUS AD 5001; ECON 3002 or BUS AD 5002; and ECON 4150. Aggregate economic theory, including analysis of the determinants of income, output, employment, and prices. Employment and price-level effects of consumer and investment demand, the money supply and interest rates, and government policies.

ECON 5010 Microeconomics for Policy Analysis: 3 semester hours
Same as P P ADM 6080. Prerequisite: Graduate Student Standing. This course introduces microeconomic analysis of consumers, firms, and government, with an emphasis on policy applications. It assumes no prior training in economics and is appropriate for graduate students in public policy administration, nonprofit management, political science, gerontology, criminology and criminal justice, and other related fields. This course may not be used by economics students to meet M.A. degree requirements.
ECON 5051 Macroeconomics for the School Curriculum: 1-3 semester hours
Prerequisite: Junior standing. Analysis of forces affecting the national economy, with emphasis on income determination, employment, money and banking, and international trade and finance. Special reference to topics included in elementary and secondary school social science curricula. ECON 5051 may not be used by Economics majors to meet degree requirements.

ECON 5052 Microeconomics for the School Curriculum: 1-3 semester hours
Prerequisites: Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution or consent of instructor. Analysis of market forces, with emphasis on business firms, households, productive factor markets, price determination and resource allocation. Special reference to topics included in the elementary and secondary school social science curricula.

ECON 5055 Economic Issues for School Curriculum: 1-3 semester hours
Prerequisite: Junior standing and consent of instructor. An analysis of selected economic issues appropriate to instruction in secondary and elementary schools. May be taken more than once for credit provided the topic of the course is different each time. May not normally be used by economics majors to meet degree requirements.

ECON 5100 Econometric Theory and Methods: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 3001 or BUS AD 5001; ECON 3002 or BUS AD 5002; ECON 4100; ECON 4150 or equivalent. A rigorous review of statistical models and methods relevant to the estimation and testing of economic relationships. Emphasis on the theoretical underpinnings of techniques commonly used for multivariate regression analysis and hypothesis testing. Topics include ordinary least squares, generalized least squares, and instrumental variables estimation.

ECON 5110 Topics in Applied Econometrics: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 4100, or ECON 5100 or SCMA 5300. Concepts and application of advanced econometric techniques. Students will develop a thorough understanding of the appropriateness and application of a variety of state-of-the art techniques. Topics will include specification tests, polynomial distributed lags, discrete choice, pooled time-series cross-section, simultaneous equations and outlier detection.

ECON 5120 Advanced Topics in Time Series Econometrics: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 4100 or equivalent and a solid foundation in statistics. Application of econometric methods to time-series data. Emphasis on model specification as it applies to macroeconomic or financial data. Advanced topics include: Stationary and nonstationary time-series, seasonality, random walks, unit roots, Dickey-Fuller tests, cointegration, ARCH/GARCH models, and general to specific modeling (ADLs). Specific applications to macro-economics, international economics and/or financial markets.

ECON 5130 Advanced Topics in Business and Economic Forecasting: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 3001 or BUS AD 5001; ECON 3002 or BUS AD 5002; ECON 4150; ECON 4100 or SCMA 5300. This course develops the alternative techniques which are used to forecast economic time series. Each forecasting technique will be evaluated in terms of its theoretical soundness and predictive track record. Students will also learn to use these techniques to differentiate among competing economic models.

ECON 5200 Monetary Theory and Policy: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 3200; ECON 3001 or BUS AD 5001; ECON 3002 or BUS AD 5002; and ECON 4150. An examination of how monetary policy has affected the economy in the past and how it can improve economic performance in the future. Topics include: the origins of money, money supply, money demand, the determinants of real and nominal interest rates, the term structure of interest rates, the impact of discretionary monetary policy on the domestic economy and foreign exchange markets, and the relationship between monetary policy and federal government deficits.

ECON 5210 Financial Markets: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 3001 or BUS AD 5001; ECON 3002, and ECON 3200. Demand, supply, and flow of funds in allocating credit and distributing risk in the macrofinancial system. The saving investment process, the rationale for financial markets, and the role of financial intermediaries are studied within the framework of the flow of funds accounts. Special attention is given to the operation of money, capital, futures, and foreign financial markets and the impact of public policy on the structure and performance of financial markets.

ECON 5300 International Trade: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 3001 or BUS AD 5001. Survey of the modern theories of international trade and their applications including factor endowments and other, trade restrictions, foreign investment, trade and economic development, and balance of payments and exchange rates. Discussion of current institutions and economic developments in the global economy.

ECON 5301 International Monetary Analysis: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 3200 and ECON 3002 or BUS AD 5002. Application of macroeconomic theory to the international monetary system. Topics include the balance of payments, exchange rates, international linkages, world inflation, capital flows, and the gold standard.

ECON 5400 Labor Economics: Theory and Public Policy: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 3001 or BUS AD 5001. This course examines labor supply, labor demand, and market determination of wages. Topics covered include the effect of technological change on employment, trends in labor force participation, the impact of government taxes and transfers on labor supply, poverty, and its economic consequences, the human capital model and its implications for investment in education and on-the-job training, and theories of economic discrimination and empirical measurement issues. Throughout the course, current public policy debates are examined using the theoretical models developed.

ECON 5500 Public Sector Microeconomics: 3 semester hours
Same as P P ADM 6210. Prerequisites: ECON 3001 or BUS AD 5001 and P P ADM 6080. Application of tools of intermediate microeconomics to address public sector issues. Special emphasis is placed on critically analyzing current public policy debates using the models developed. Topics covered include: cases in which competitive market fails to allocate resources efficiently (e.g. externalities and public goods), importance of property rights, incentive effects of the tax and transfer system, and the fundamentals of cost-benefit analysis.

ECON 5510 Public Choice: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 3001 or consent of instructor. Public choice is the analysis of government and governmental institutions through the logic of economics. It assumes the same principles that economists use to analyze actions in the marketplace, and applies them to actions made in collective decision-making. Topics covered include: the efficiency of democracy, voting methods, the incentives of legislators, bureaucrats and lobbyists, political competition, and public institutions and economic growth.
ECON 5630 Economics of Telecommunications: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: ECON 3001, BUS AD 5000 or BUS AD 5001; and ECON 4150. Application of economic theory and techniques to the telecommunications industry. Topics include demand theory for telephone access and use, consumer surplus models for subscription choice, nonlinear pricing strategies including pure and mixed bundling and multi-part tariffs, the incentives of the firm under various regulatory regimes, a comparison of rate-of-return regulation and incentive (price cap) regulation, and the impact of carrier-of-last-resort responsibilities.

ECON 5900 Advanced Topics in Economic Analysis: 3 semester hours
Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor. Study of a specific economics topic, which may vary from semester to semester. May be taken more than once if the topic is different.

ECON 5980 Directed Readings: 1-6 semester hours
Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor. Independent study through readings, reports, research projects, and conferences.