UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

STUDYING ECONOMICS

Economics studies the institutions and arrangements that are used to create, protect, and allocate scarce resources that have alternative uses. It advances our understanding of the behavior of individuals, firms, governments and other organizations. Economics’ deep intellectual roots, rigorous analytic methods, and powerful ability to explain and evaluate social phenomena make it an exceptionally rewarding field of study.

The Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Economics is for students who are intrigued by economic problems and questions and are attracted to economists’ challenging and analytical approach to explaining social phenomena. The BA provides an excellent preparation for employment in the private and public sectors, and for graduate study in a variety of fields, such as law and business.

The Bachelor of Science with a Major in Economics requires a more intensive background in math and statistics, reflecting the distinctive quantitative character of modern economics. It is especially suitable for students intending to go on to graduate study in economics and related fields such as finance.

Special programs for undergraduates include a departmental honors program; study abroad programs in France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Japan, and Thailand; a mentorship program; and certificate programs in four areas of specialization: international economics, economic theory and quantitative methods, quantitative managerial economics, and environmental and natural resource economics.

For more information, see our department learning goals and attend a Prospective Student Information Session.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPDATE ON DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS GRADUATION CELEBRATION

We will be hosting a virtual department graduation celebration, which will be posted at 12pm on Friday, June 12. For information, visit: https://econ.washington.edu/department-economics-graduation-celebration.

ACADEMIC ADVISING UPDATES

In accordance with the UW advisory to suspend all in-person activities and gatherings, the Department of Economics’ academic advisers are shifting all in-person operations to virtual spaces (email and Zoom, mainly) until further notice. Please do not visit the UW, Savery Hall, or the Department of Economics in-person at this time.

Click here for academic advising availability.

For the latest information regarding the UW's news response to COVID-19/coronavirus, please see uw.edu/coronavirus.

Thank you for your cooperation.