

Economics

The Department of Agricultural Economics and Economics is situated jointly within MSU's College of Letters and Science and the College of Agriculture.

The department offers a unique opportunity for students with diverse interests to learn skills in:

- Critical analysis
- Logical problem solving
- Data and policy analysis
- Written and oral communication
- Business management

Undergraduate Programs of Study:

- Economics
- Agricultural Business (through the College of Agriculture)

Graduate Programs of Study:

- Master of Science in Applied Economics

Faculty:

The department is staffed by an award-winning, highly ranked faculty, all of whom are actively engaged in the classroom. For a list of current faculty please see: www.montana.edu/econ/people.html

For additional information, contact:

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www.montana.edu/econ/

College of Letters and Science

Our Focus: Learning for a Lifetime

Economics is the study of critical decision-making behavior. Although economics programs teach people how society distributes scarce resources, such as land, labor, raw materials and machinery, economics is about much more than this. Using the tools of economics, students can understand all kinds of choices, questions and outcomes, including:

- Why are some activities publicly provided and others privately provided?
- Why do societies allow crime to persist?
- How are economic institutions related to individual freedom?
- Why are some people rich and others poor?
- Why do some government policies work and others do not?
- How can we use our resources to make the world a better place?

The study of economics has widespread application. The ability to think critically and carefully, the ability to quickly learn new things, and the ability to solve complex problems are skills that employers greatly value. Some vocations may require very specific skills (for example, knowledge of a particular computer software package). However, skill requirements change over time. The need for people who can think, learn and solve problems is timeless. The study of economics hones these time-honored abilities.

Our program focuses on teaching students to think, to use logic and reason, and to organize their thoughts in order to solve problems rather than simply memorize and recite the subject matter. The courses also focus on instilling in students a desire to learn, so that they will leave our courses prepared and eager for lifelong learning.



MONTANA
STATE UNIVERSITY



What can I do with a degree in Economics?

Because of its flexibility, the economics program offers the opportunity to acquire a rigorous university education coupled with the necessary preparation for many careers.

Students with degrees in economics are often employed in the financial, retailing and industrial sectors of the economy. Economics majors also work in such diverse fields as actuarial science, elementary and secondary education, journalism, investment banking, securities analysis, corporate finance, insurance, law, politics and environmental regulation, as well as in government and academia.

What you can do with an education in economics is unlimited!

In addition to employment as an economist, students with degrees in economics are employed in the following occupations:

- Actuary
- Auditor
- Budget Analyst
- Buyer & Purchasing Agent
- Consultant
- Cost Estimator
- Demographer
- Political Scientist
- Research Worker
- Entrepreneur
- Environmental Analyst
- Environmental Consultant
- Financial Manager
- Financial Planner
- Foreign Service Officer
- Lawyer
- Loan Officer
- Manager
- Policy Analyst
- Scientific Linguist
- Statistician
- Teacher
- Urban Planner

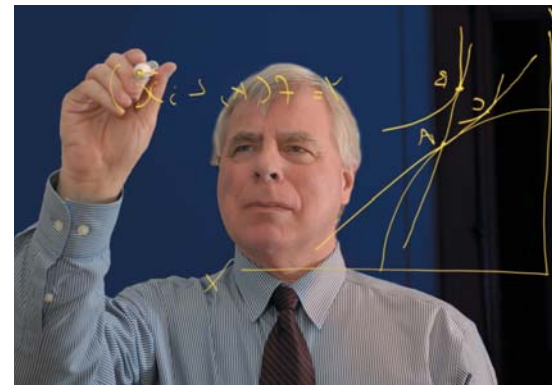
Graduate schools regard a degree in economics as excellent preparation for advanced work toward a degree in law, as well as a Ph.D. in a number of social science fields such as economics, international relations, public policy and political science. Economics is also an excellent undergraduate major for students seeking an MBA. The department has established tracks of undergraduate courses for students interested in environmental science, law school or graduate study in economics:

Environmental Science

This track of courses is designed for students who want to couple their training in economics with additional studies in environmental science. Students in this track complement their economics major with a minor concentration in the physical sciences.

Law School

Research shows that economics majors score at the top of the LSAT compared to other disciplines. We have developed this track of courses specifically for students interested in attending law school.



Economics

Although economics graduate programs have varying admissions requirements, graduate training in economics is highly mathematical. This track includes 1-2 mathematics courses each semester.

*Middle photo by Kelly Gorham, MSU News.
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