Economics, B.A.

The B.A. in economics incorporates a balance of economic theory, mathematical tools, and field applications. Students majoring in economics choose one of two tracks: business or policy. They complete three sets of requirements for the major: mathematics and statistics courses that provide the skills needed for understanding economic theory and data; economic theory courses that provide the tools needed for analyzing economic issues; and field courses that apply economic tools to business, social, or specialized analytical issues. The applied field course requirement varies, depending on a student’s choice of track.

The Bachelor of Arts degree is awarded by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in economics requires a minimum of 120 s.h. of coursework, including 32 s.h. of coursework for the major. To graduate, students must have a cumulative g.p.a. of at least 2.00 in all college coursework attempted, all coursework attempted at the University of Iowa, all college economics coursework attempted, and all economics coursework attempted at the University of Iowa. Coursework in the major may not be taken pass/nonpass. Students also must complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core.

The major requires a set of courses in mathematics and statistics (11 s.h.) and a set of courses in economic theory (6 s.h.). It also requires applied field courses (15 s.h.) in one of two tracks: business or policy.

Students may be able to count a limited amount of transfer credit toward the economics major, but they are required to complete the following courses at the University of Iowa: ECON:3100 Intermediate Microeconomics, ECON:3150 Intermediate Macroeconomics, and three of the applied field courses required for their track.

The business track is designed for students who seek employment in the private sector or who plan to earn the M.B.A. degree after gaining necessary experience. The policy track is designed for students interested in a decision-making or advocacy position in the public or private sector or who plan to earn a law degree or a graduate degree in a discipline that is not highly quantitative. Students are required to select one of the two tracks when they declare the economics major.

Students should pay close attention to the order in which they take courses, since some courses are prerequisites for others.

The B.A. with a major in economics requires the following coursework.

### Mathematics and Statistics Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All of these:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3300</td>
<td>Introduction to Econometrics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH:1350</td>
<td>Quantitative Reasoning for Business</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAT:1030</td>
<td>Statistics for Business</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Economic Theory Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Both of these (must be taken at the University of Iowa):</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3100</td>
<td>Intermediate Microeconomics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3150</td>
<td>Intermediate Macroeconomics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Applied Field Courses

Students complete a total of five applied field courses (15 s.h.); three of the applied field courses must be taken at the University of Iowa.

#### Business Track

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Five of these:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3325</td>
<td>Personnel Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3335</td>
<td>Money, Banking, and Financial Markets</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3345</td>
<td>Global Economics and Business</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3350</td>
<td>Industry Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3355</td>
<td>Economic and Business Forecasting</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3380</td>
<td>Business and Government</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCT:2200</td>
<td>Managerial Accounting</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MGMT:2100</td>
<td>Introduction to Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Policy Track

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Four of these:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3345</td>
<td>Global Economics and Business</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3620</td>
<td>Economic Growth and Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3625</td>
<td>Environmental and Natural Resource Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3640</td>
<td>Regional and Urban Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3650</td>
<td>Policy Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3690</td>
<td>Sports Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3750</td>
<td>Transportation Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3760</td>
<td>Health Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3800</td>
<td>Law and Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3850</td>
<td>Behavioral Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3875</td>
<td>Topics in Policy Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

And:
One additional economics course numbered ECON:3325 through ECON:4700, excluding ECON:3870 and ECON:4050

**Analytical Track**

The Department of Economics is not admitting students to the analytical track at this time.

**Teacher Licensure**

Students interested in teaching in elementary and/or secondary schools should seek admission to the Teacher Education Program (TEP) in the College of Education.

To qualify for licensure in secondary teaching, students in the TEP complete a degree in education as well as a related College of Liberal Arts and Sciences degree. See Teacher Education Program Application and Admission on the College of Education website for details on requirements and deadlines for applying to the College of Education and about TEP choices of majors leading to licensure.

**Combined Programs**

**B.A./M.S. in Business Analytics (Career Subprogram)**

Students majoring in economics who are interested in earning a master’s degree in business analytics with a career subprogram may apply to the combined B.A./M.S. program offered by the Department of Economics and the Department of Business Analytics. The program enables students to begin the study of business analytics before they complete their bachelor’s degree. Students are able to complete both degrees in five years rather than six.

Separate application to each degree program is required. Applicants must be admitted to both programs before they may be admitted to the combined degree program. For information about the business analytics program, see the M.S. in business analytics (career) in the Tippie College of Business section of the Catalog.

**B.A./M.S. in Finance**

The Department of Economics and the Department of Finance offer a combined Bachelor of Arts in economics/Master of Science in finance program. The combined program permits students to count some credit toward both degrees, allowing them to begin graduate study before they complete their bachelor's degree.

Separate application to each program is required. Applicants must be admitted to both programs before they may be admitted to the combined degree program. For more information about the M.S. degree, see the M.S. in finance (Tippie College of Business) section of the Catalog.

**Honors**

**Honors in the Major**

Graduation with honors in economics recognizes high scholastic achievement based on grades and on completion of academic work beyond the requirements of the economics major. Students must have a cumulative g.p.a. of at least 3.50 in all college coursework attempted, all coursework attempted at the University of Iowa, all college economics coursework attempted, and all economics coursework attempted at the University of Iowa. They also must successfully complete an honors thesis under the supervision of a faculty member.

Students begin by completing BUS:1999 Introduction to Research in Business at least three semesters prior to graduation. This course introduces students to research in the college and provides an opportunity to develop thesis questions and meet Tippie College of Business faculty members engaged in research. They also must complete ECON:3100 Intermediate Microeconomics, ECON:3150 Intermediate Macroeconomics, and ECON:3300 Introduction to Econometrics before commencing thesis work.

After identifying a faculty member to advise them on their thesis and completing the coursework listed above, students register for ECON:4999 Honors Thesis in Economics for two semesters while they complete their research and write their thesis. In the second semester of their thesis, students present their research in a poster format at the Undergraduate Research Festival.

Students interested in graduating with honors in economics should visit the department's honors advisor at least three semesters prior to graduation.

**University of Iowa Honors Program**

Completing the economics honors requirements also satisfies the experiential learning requirement for the University of Iowa Honors Program. To learn more about graduating with honors through the UI Honors Program, visit the Honors at Iowa website.

Membership in the UI Honors Program is not required to earn honors in the economics major.

**Career Advancement**

The Bachelor of Arts degree provides an excellent educational background for a variety of positions in business and government. Graduates find employment in banking, financial institutions, industrial firms, and trade organizations and in federal, state, and local government agencies dealing with economic policy, regulation, and analysis. An undergraduate degree in economics also prepares students for the study of law and for graduate study in fields such as economics, public policy, business management, public administration, hospital and health administration, planning and public affairs, transportation, journalism, political science, and statistics.

Over 90 percent of students reported that they found permanent employment, were accepted to graduate school, or were not seeking employment within six months of graduation.

The Pomerantz Career Center offers multiple resources to help students find internships and jobs. For more information about careers, visit the Pomerantz Career Center website.

**Academic Plans**

**Four-Year Graduation Plan**

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters in order to stay on the University's Four-Year Graduation Plan.

**Before the third semester begins:** at least one-quarter of the semester hours required for graduation.
**Before the fifth semester begins:** at least half of the semester hours required for graduation.

**Before the seventh semester begins:** ECON:1100 Principles of Microeconomics, ECON:1200 Principles of Macroeconomics, ECON:3100 Intermediate Microeconomics, ECON:3150 Intermediate Macroeconomics, MATH:1350 Quantitative Reasoning for Business, STAT:1030 Statistics for Business, ECON:3300 Introduction to Econometrics, and at least three-quarters of the semester hours required for graduation.

**Before the eighth semester begins:** at least two major track courses.

**During the eighth semester:** all remaining coursework in the major, all remaining GE CLAS Core courses, and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate.

**Sample Plans of Study**
Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

**Economics, B.A.**
- Business Track (p. 3)
- Policy Track (p. 4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business Track Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>First Year</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON:1100</td>
<td>Principles of Microeconomics</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL:1200</td>
<td>The Interpretation of Literature</td>
<td>3 - 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or RHET:1030</td>
<td>or Rhetoric</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level</td>
<td>4 - 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proficiency b</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSI:1600</td>
<td>Success at Iowa</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective course c</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Hours</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>16-18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Spring**
- ECON:1200 Principles of Macroeconomics a 4
- MATH:1350 Quantitative Reasoning for Business 4
- ENGL:1200 or RHET:1030 The Interpretation of Literature 3 - 4
- GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency b 4 - 5
- Elective course c 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Year <strong>Fall</strong></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECON:3150</td>
<td>Intermediate Macroeconomics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ECON:3100</td>
<td>or Intermediate Microeconomics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAT:1030</td>
<td>Statistics for Business a</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level</td>
<td>4 - 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proficiency d</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE CLAS Core: Diversity and Inclusion f</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Hours | 16-17 |

**Third Year**
- Fall
  - Major: required track course g 3
  - GE CLAS Core: World Languages Fourth Level Proficiency b 4
  - GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences with Lab f 4
  - Elective course c 2

| Hours | 16-17 |

**Fourth Year**
- Fall
  - Major: required track course g 3
  - GE CLAS Core: Values and Culture f 3
  - Elective course c 3
  - Elective course c 3
  - Elective course c 3

| Hours | 16-17 |

**Spring**
- Major: required track course g 3
- GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues f 3
- Elective course c 3
- Elective course c 3
- Elective course c 3

| Hours | 16-17 |

**Total Hours** 124-130

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a. Fulfills a major requirement and may fulfill a GE requirement.
b. Students who have completed four years of a single language in high school have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course.
c. Students may use elective courses to earn credit towards the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.
d. Enrollment in math courses requires completion of a placement exam.
e. Both ECON:3100 and ECON:3150 must be completed at the University of Iowa.
f. GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.
g. At least three of the five required track courses must be completed at the University of Iowa.
**Policy Track**

**Course** | **Title** | **Hours**
--- | --- | ---
**First Year**
**Fall**
ECON:1100 | Principles of Microeconomics | 4
RHET:1030 or ENGL:1200 | Rhetoric or The Interpretation of Literature | 3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level Proficiency | 4 - 5
CSI:1600 | Success at Iowa | 2
Elective course | 3

**Hours** | 16-18

**Spring**
ECON:1200 | Principles of Macroeconomics | 4
MATH:1350 | Quantitative Reasoning for Business | 4
RHET:1030 or ENGL:1200 | Rhetoric or The Interpretation of Literature | 3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency | 4 - 5
Elective course | 1

**Hours** | 16-18

**Second Year**
**Fall**
ECON:3150 or ECON:3100 | Intermediate Macroeconomics | 3
STAT:1030 | Statistics for Business | 4
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency | 4 - 5
GE CLAS Core: Diversity and Inclusion | 3
Elective course | 2

**Hours** | 16-17

**Spring**
ECON:3150 or ECON:3100 | Intermediate Macroeconomics | 3
ECON:3300 | Introduction to Econometrics | 3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Fourth Level Proficiency | 4 - 5
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences with Lab | 4
Elective course | 2

**Hours** | 16-17

**Third Year**
**Fall**
Major: required track course | 3
Major: required track course | 3
GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives | 3
Elective course | 3
Elective course | 3

**Hours** | 15

**Spring**
Major: required track course | 3
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences without Lab | 3

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a Fulfills a major requirement and may fulfill a GE requirement.
b Students who have completed four years of a single language in high school have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course.
c Students may use elective courses to earn credit towards the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.
d Enrollment in math courses requires completion of a placement exam.
e Both ECON:3100 and ECON:3150 must be completed at the University of Iowa.
f GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.
g At least three of the five required track courses must be completed at the University of Iowa.
h Please see Academic Calendar, Office of the Registrar website for current degree application deadlines. Students should apply for a degree for the session in which all requirements will be met. For any questions on appropriate timing, contact your academic advisor or Graduation Services.