Economics, B.A.

The B.A. in economics incorporates a balance of economic theory, mathematical tools, and field applications.

Students who major in economics 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 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 40 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.

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.

The major requires courses in mathematics and statistics, economic theory, and in applied field courses. 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mathematics and Statistics Courses</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Economic Theory Courses</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Applied Field Courses</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>40</strong></td>
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Mathematics and Statistics Courses

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All of these:</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>
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Economic Theory Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All of these (ECON:3100 and ECON:3150 must be taken at the University of Iowa):</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON:1100</td>
<td>Principles of Microeconomics</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
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Applied Field Courses

Students complete five applied field courses (15 s.h.) selected from economics courses numbered ECON:3325 to ECON:3875, excluding ECON:3870 Federal Reserve Challenge. Three of the applied field courses must be taken at the University of Iowa.

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 Apply 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.

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 eighth semester begins: at least two applied field 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 Plan 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.
GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues\(^g\) 3
Elective course\(^d\) 3
Elective course\(^d\) 3

**Fourth Year**

**Fall**

Major: applied field course\(^h, i\) 3
GE CLAS Core: Values and Culture\(^g\) 3
Elective course\(^d\) 3
Elective course\(^d\) 3
Elective course\(^d\) 3

**Hours** 15

**Spring**

Major: applied field course\(^h, i\) 3
GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts\(^g\) 3
Elective course\(^d\) 3
Elective course\(^d\) 3
Elective course\(^d\) 3

Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall)\(^l\)

**Hours** 15

**Total Hours** 122-128

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a Sustainability must be completed by choosing a course that has been approved for Sustainability AND for one of these General Education areas: Natural Sciences; Quantitative and Formal Reasoning; Social Sciences; Historical Perspectives; International and Global Issues; Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts; or Values and Culture.
b Fulfills a major requirement and may fulfill a GE requirement.
c 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.
d 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.
e Enrollment in math courses requires completion of a placement exam.
f Both ECON:3100 and ECON:3150 must be completed at the University of Iowa.
g 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.
h At least three of the applied field courses must be completed at the University of Iowa.
i Students must complete five ECON courses (15 s.h.) numbered 3325-3875 with the exception of ECON:3870.
j 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.