

Department of Economics

Undergraduate Program

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I- The University of Houston Department of Economics

Economics is the study of how a society chooses to allocate its finite resources among the infinite demands of its members. This includes analysis of the decisions made by households and firms about production and consumption of finished goods, inputs to production, and labor services, in addition to analysis of the impact of public policies on these decisions and on the economic well-being of society and its members. Specific subject areas studied in economics include aggregate analysis of business cycles and economic growth (macroeconomics), analysis of labor markets, public finance and taxation, industrial organization, international trade, and the economics of money and banking.

The academic programs of the Department of Economics seek to develop students' capacity to think systematically and analytically about social issues. These analytical abilities give our graduates a strong fundamental background for success in professional life. The department's graduate programs prepare students for careers as economists in business, government, and the academic community. The undergraduate program has been designed to allow students maximum flexibility to orient their curriculum either toward preparation for graduate study in law, business, or economics, or toward professional courses and career placement.

II- General Requirements for Core Curriculum - College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

- Minimum 120 semester hours (36 advanced)
- 2.00 GPA in major and in all work at UH
- Last 30 hours must be taken in residence (completed at UH)

General Requirements – 42 semester hours – Certain courses have been approved to satisfy the following requirements. Students should review the University Catalog and Class Schedules for courses approved to satisfy each area. For additional information, consult an advisor.

Communications – 6 semester hours

Mathematics – 3 semester hours

Math/Reasoning – 3 semester hours

Humanities – 3 semester hours

Visual and Performing Arts– 3 semester hours

Natural Sciences – 6 semester hours

Social Sciences – 6 semester hours

History – 6 semester hours

Government – 6 semester hours

College Requirements

Class Requirement - 9 semester hours in three of the following fields of study African American Studies (AAS), American Cultures (AMER), Anthropology (ANTH), Art (ART), Art History (ARTH), Chinese (CHNS) , Classical Studies (CLAS), Communication (COMM), Dance (DAN), English (ENGL), French (FREN), Geography (GEOG), German (GERM), Greek (GREK), History (HIST), Honors (HON), Interdisciplinary Studies (ILAS), Italian (ITAL), Latin (LATN), Mexican American Studies (MAS), Music (MUED, MUSA, MUSI), Philosophy (PHIL), Political Science (POLS), Psychology (PSYC), Religious Studies (RELS), Russian (RUSS), Sociology (SOC), Spanish (SPAN), Theater (THEA), Women's Studies (WOST). The credit must be in a field outside of the

student's major. The credit must be in addition to that used to satisfy any core curriculum requirement.

Bachelor of Science Requirements

Formal Sciences - 6 semester hours

Natural Sciences - 2 additional semester hours

Bachelor of Arts Requirements

Foreign Language - 6 semester hours at the 2000 level in one foreign language

Major Requirements

Economics - 30 semester hours, this must include ECON 2370, ECON 3332, and ECON 3334.

Bachelor of Science candidates are required to complete 3 semester hours from the following courses - ECON 4349, ECON 4360, ECON 4362, ECON 4364, ECON 4365, as well as 12 advanced semester hours of electives

Bachelor of Arts candidates will complete 15 advanced semester hours of electives

Requirements for Honors

There is a requirement of 72 hours (or 60 advanced hours to be complete at this university. GPA is based on the University of Houston hours only).

III- Departmental Requirements

A minimum of 120 hours is required to obtain the degree in Economics. In addition to the 87 designated hours for the Bachelor of Arts, or the 89 designated hours for the Bachelor of Science, the student will also need to complete 33/31 semester hours of electives, respectively.

One of the following requirements must be satisfied: (Please note: if properly outlined, completion of the following requirement will not reflect additional hours to your degree.)

- a second major
- an approved minor
- a senior honors thesis
- the Professional Development Sequence in Education
- a senior recital in Music
- a second bachelor's degree *(this does require additional hours)

The remaining hours may be taken in any area offered by the University of Houston. It is your responsibility to make sure that you meet the requirements to enroll in any of the classes you select as elective hours. You should also pay close attention to the number of advanced hours required for your degree (36 minimum) and make sure that you meet the requirement through a wise selection of your elective hours.

An official degree plan needs to be filed upon completion of 60 hours (minimum 12 hours of Economics) and prior to graduation. Students must have a 2.00 grade point average in order to file for the degree plan. The approved minor degree plan should be submitted with the application for the degree plan.

IV- Honorary Scholastic Organization

Membership in Omicron Delta Epsilon, an international honorary society, is open to junior and senior qualified students interested in economics. To qualify one must have completed 12 hours of Economics course work with at least a 3.00 grade point average. Student must also have a 3.00 grade point average in overall course work completed. In addition to social activities, the chapter sponsors programs and discussions on topics in economics.

V- Advanced Programs

The college offers the Master of Arts degree in anthropology, economics, political science, psychology, public administration, and sociology; and the Doctor of Philosophy degree in economics, political science, and psychology. For more information on graduate and professional programs and a listing of courses, refer to the appropriate department, or the Graduate and Professional Students catalog.