

What Can I Do With a Major In...

Economics

<http://www.unt.edu/pais/insert/uecon.htm>

Majoring in Economics

At its heart, economics is the study of decision making. Many decisions focus on the production, distribution and consumption of goods and services. Based on our understanding of how people make decisions, you will learn how to analyze the effects of changes in technology, government policy and other factors on households, businesses, income and industries. In the introductory courses, you will learn the basics of the market process and how income, inflation and unemployment are determined at the national level. Other areas you will explore include:

- the effects of free trade and protectionism
- economic issues of the developing world
- the development of economic thought since the middle ages
- why cities exist and their development
- the decisions that allow firms to maximize profit
- how non-renewable resources can be efficiently managed
- the effects of governmental health care policies
- why markets fail and strategies to correct for that failure
- how to get the most useful information out of economic data

The Department of Economics offers a bachelor of science and a bachelor of arts with a major in economics. You will benefit from the personal attention of the faculty members who will help you develop the skills necessary for a career in business and economic analysis. Faculty members are well-known experts in their fields. They have written hundreds of articles and books on general economics topics and their specific fields of study. Several faculty members have received university teaching awards and one faculty member was awarded the Kenneth G. Elzinga Distinguished Teaching Award.

You are encouraged to join the UNT Economics Club and, if you qualify, the Omicron Delta Epsilon, an international economics honor society. If you wish to teach economics in secondary schools in Texas, you must complete the state's teacher certification requirements. Students preparing to take the ExCET (Examination Certification for Educators in Texas) exams should take courses on the principles of macroeconomics and microeconomics, the economics of Consumption, and international trade.

General information on Careers in the Major:

Economics majors begin careers in business and government, both in the United States and overseas. These jobs are interesting and financially rewarding. The average starting salary of students with a bachelor's degree in economics is more than \$45,000. University of North Texas economics majors hold positions in a variety of areas.

More than 42 percent of the nation's economists work for private firms in fields such as banking, consulting, finance, financial services, health care, insurance, international trade, labor relations and marketing. Some recent graduates are employed by Allstate, American Airlines, Fidelity Investments, Goldman Sachs, Merrill Lynch, Poly-America, Rapp Collins Worldwide, SAS software company, Standard and Poor's, Texaco and Verizon, among others.

Economics will also prepare you for work in government for a federal agency such as the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Census Bureau, the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Trade Commission and the Treasury Department. Some of our graduates work for the Office of the Attorney General of Texas, the Texas Workforce Commission, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Economics may be a good major if you would like to live and work overseas. More than 40 percent of international jobs available in the federal government, the United Nations, international organizations, nonprofit organizations and international business and banking firms are held by employees with backgrounds in economics.

Economics is also helpful if you want to enter law school. Research from the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) has shown that, among majors with 2,200 or more students taking the LSAT exam, economics students had the highest scores.

If you wish to become a research economist working at a university or for a consulting firm, you will need a master's degree and possibly a doctoral degree.

The economics department emphasizes job placement and has designated a faculty member as a placement officer. The placement officer locates job openings, helps prepare students for interviews and develops internships for economics majors with private and public institutions in the Dallas-Fort Worth region.

***For more information about specific classes and requirements for students beginning in 2014-2015 follow the links provided below.**

- Economics,
BS http://catalog.unt.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=11&poid=2717&returnto=725
- Economics,
BA http://catalog.unt.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=11&poid=2715&returnto=725

Related Career Titles

Entry-Level (Bachelor's Degree):

- Agricultural Researcher
- Economist
- Consumer Affairs/Services
- Employment Forecaster
- Financial Economist
- Financial Planner
- Investment Analyst
- Price Economist
- Statistician
- Systems Analyst
- Tax Economist
- Consultant
- Educator
- Fund Raiser
- Hospitality
- Peace Corps Member
- Placement Directors
- Retail
- Human Resources
- Occupational Analyst
- Employee Assistance Plan Manager
- Accountant
- Auditor
- Employee Benefits Manager
- Industrial Labor
- Relations Director
- Intelligence Specialist
- Internal Revenue Investigator
- Legislative Analyst
- International-Trade
- Economist
- Security and Finance Services
- Special Agent/FBI
- Loan Officer
- Loan Processor
- Loan Review Officer
- Manager of Financial Institute
- Purchasing Agent
- Regulatory Analyst
- Treasurer
- Bank Manager
- Bank Officer
- Budget Consultant
- Financial Manager

Jobs Requiring Additional Experience (Master's, Doctorate, Certifications)

Actuary
College or University Professor/Lecturer
Community College Professor
Lawyer

Possible Work Settings

- Insurance Firms
- Private Business Owner
- Bureau of Labor Statistics
- Brokerage Firms
- Commercial Banks
- Insurance Companies
- Private Consulting
- Data-processing services
- Business Corporations
- Commercial Banks
- Consulting Firms
- Department Stores
- Operations
- Other Financial institutions

- Regional Banks
- Savings & Loan Associations
- Colleges/Universities

Examples of Employers Recruiting Economics Majors:

ACNielsen	Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
Allstate	Intuit
American Airlines	Javelin Direct
American Eurocopter LLC	JCPenney, Inc
Americredit Financial Services	JPS Health Network
Ameritrade	KDFW Fox 4
AMX Corporation	Merril Lynch
Atmos Energy Corporation	Neiman Marcus
AXA Advisors, LLC	New York Life
Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF)	Northwestern Mutual Financial Network
Buxton	RadioShack Corporation
Citigroup Countrywide Home Loans	Texaco
Deloitte	Thomas Weisel International
FedEx Kinko's	UPS
Fidelity	Washington Mutual
Goldman Sachs	Whitley Penn
	World Economic Development Alliance

Skills Used and Developed by Economics majors

Problem Solving	Assessing Performance
Computer Literacy	Active Learning
Mathematics	Critical Thinking
Economics	Diverse Learning Strategies
Accounting	Judgment and Decision Making
Research Skills	Oral Expression
Administration and Management	Speech Clarity
Reading Comprehension	Oral Comprehension
Systems Analysis	Written Comprehension
Preparing and Writing Reports	Written Expression
Deductive and Inductive Reasoning	Speech Recognition

Websites for Exploring Economics Careers

Career Overview, <http://www.careeroverview.com/economist-careers.html>
What Can I do With this Major, <http://whatcanidowiththismajor.com/major/economics/>
Careers in Insurance, <http://www.careeroverview.com/insurance-careers.html>
Business and Finance Careers, <http://www.khake.com/page13.html>
AEA Econ Careers, <http://www.aeaweb.org/students/Careers.php>
IPFW Economics Careers, <http://www.ipfw.edu/offices/career/students/whatmajors/economics-skills-and-related-careers.html>

Economics Job Search Sites

American Economic Association Job Openings, <http://www.aeaweb.org/joe/>
Econ-Jobs, <http://www.econ-jobs.com/>

Student Organizations at UNT- (Learn more at UNT [ORGSYNC](#))

UNT Economics Group	Omicron Delta Epsilon International
Student Investment Group	Economics Honor Society
Moot Court (Pre-law mock trials)	
Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Fraternity	

Professional Organizations

American Economic Association, <http://www.aeaweb.org/>
American Agricultural & Applied Economic Association, <http://www.aaea.org/>
The American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association, <http://www.areuea.org/>
Southern Agricultural Economics Association, <http://www.saea.org/>
Economic History Association, <http://eh.net/eha/>
National Association of Economic Educators, <http://www.naee.net/home.shtml>
Association for Evolutionary Economics, <http://www.afee.net/>
National Association for Business Economics, <http://www.nabe.com/>

Prudential Financial, <http://www.prudential.com/view/page/public>

South Carolina Economic Developer's Association, <http://www.sceda.org/>

National Association for County Community and Economic Development, <http://www.nacced.org/>

Association of Southeast Asian Nations, <http://www.asean.org/>

National Federation of Independent Business, <http://www.nfib.com/>

International Health Economics Association, <https://www.healthconomics.org/>

Additional Resources

Occupational Outlook Handbook: <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>

O*NET OnLine: <http://www.onetonline.org/>

Eagle Network: http://careercenter.unt.edu/eagle_network.html

LinkedIn: <http://university.linkedin.com/linkedin-for-students.html>

mySkills myFuture: <http://www.myskillsmyfuture.org/>

USAjobs: <https://www.usajobs.gov/StudentsAndGrads>

CareerOneStop: <http://www.careeronestop.org/>

CareerRookie: <http://www.careerrookie.com/>

Need help figuring all this out? Call the Career Center and make an appointment with your Career Advisor! You can also get help with resume and cover letter writing and interview skills preparation.

**Information for this handout compiled from the following Career Services Departments:*

Central Washington University: <http://www.cwu.edu/career/>

Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne: <http://www.ipfw.edu/offices/career/>

Texas State University: <http://www.careerservices.txstate.edu/>

University of North Carolina Wilmington: <http://www.uncw.edu/career/index.html>

University of North Texas: <http://careercenter.unt.edu/>

University of Tennessee-Knoxville: <http://career.utk.edu/>

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire: <http://www.uwec.edu/Career/index.htm>