BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA) DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN ECONOMICS

Program Learning Outcomes for the BA Degree with a Major in Economics

Upon completing the BA degree with a major in Economics, students will be able to:

1. Learn various statistical and econometric skills, including a thorough knowledge of applied econometrics and the ability to use statistical software packages to analyze economic data and interpret statistical results.
2. Learn the core principles of microeconomics, including supply and demand, utility maximization by consumers and profit maximization by firms, and equilibrium market structures, as well as advanced topics in microeconomics, especially economic applications of game theory.
3. Learn the core principles of macroeconomics, including the macroeconomic effects of monetary and fiscal policy, the nature of the business cycle, and the determinants of growth, and learn alternative approaches to analyzing the performance of the macroeconomy.
4. Learn how the basic economic principles that have been absorbed in the core courses are utilized in economic analyses of critical policy issues in a wide variety of applied subject areas.

Additionally, students pursuing the two-semester honors program will:

1. Learn how to conduct economic research, beginning with framing of a research idea and progressing to a critical review and evaluation of the relevant literature, the construction of an economic model to analyze the issue under consideration, the identification of testable hypotheses, the collection of data and econometric testing of their hypotheses, the presentation of a research paper that presents those results.

Requirements for the BA Degree with a Major in Economics

For general university requirements, see Graduation Requirements (ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements). Students pursuing the BA degree with a major in Economics must complete:

- A minimum of either 14 or 15 courses (44 or 47 credit hours) to satisfy major requirements.
- A minimum of 120 hours to satisfy degree requirements.
- A minimum of 60 credit hours outside of major requirements.
- A minimum of 5 courses (15 credit hours) taken at the 300-level or above.

The courses listed below satisfy the requirements for this major. In certain instances, courses not on this official list may be substituted upon approval of the major’s academic advisor (or official certifier). Students and their academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.

Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Credit Hours Required for the Major in Economics</td>
<td>44-47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Credit Hours Required for the BA Degree with a Major in Economics</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Degree Requirements

Core Requirements

Mathematics and Statistics

Select 1 from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATH 101</td>
<td>SINGLE VARIABLE CALCULUS I</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 111</td>
<td>CALCULUS: DIFFERENTIATION AND ITS APPLICATIONS</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 112</td>
<td>CALCULUS: INTEGRATION AND ITS APPLICATIONS</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 102</td>
<td>SINGLE VARIABLE CALCULUS II</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 307 / STAT 310</td>
<td>PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Economics and Econometrics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECON 100</td>
<td>PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMICS</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 200</td>
<td>MICROECONOMICS</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 203</td>
<td>MACROECONOMICS</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 209</td>
<td>APPLIED ECONOMETRICS</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 300</td>
<td>GAME THEORY AND OTHER MICRO TOPICS FOR ECON MAJORS</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Elective Requirements

Select 3 courses from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECON 210</td>
<td>BEHAVIORAL ECONOMICS</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 239</td>
<td>LAW AND ECONOMICS</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 343-ECON 495</td>
<td>Courses between ECON 343-ECON 495</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 498</td>
<td>HONORS PROGRAM IN ECONOMICS-I</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select 3 courses from ECON 410-ECON 495 and ECON 498.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECON 410-ECON 495</td>
<td>HONORS PROGRAM IN ECONOMICS-I</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credit Hours Required for the Major in Economics

1. Includes coursework completed as distribution credit, FWIS, LPAP, upper-level, residency (hours taken at Rice), 60 hours outside of the major (if applicable), and any additional academic program requirements. The “hours outside of the major” requirement may include all of the above university requirements.

Footnotes and Additional Information

* As specified in their course descriptions, the following courses do not satisfy the Electives requirement for the major in Economics: ECON 101, ECON 103, ECON 111, ECON 113, ECON 260, ECON 265, ECON 270, ECON 275. In addition, BUSI 343 may be substituted for ECON 343, and STAT 449 may be substituted for ECON 449.
After matriculation: In some cases, transfer credit may be awarded by
the economics department for courses completed at other schools
after the the student has matriculated at Rice. Students may present
a maximum of 2 such transfer courses in fulfilling the mathematics
and statistics core requirements, and a maximum of 3 such transfer
courses in fulfilling the economics/econometrics core requirements
and elective requirements combined. (Additional transfer courses
may count toward meeting university graduation requirements, but
not toward fulfillment of requirements for the major.)

Before matriculation: Credits awarded to transfer students for
courses taken prior to matriculation at Rice are not counted against
the departmental limit on transfer courses, but all students must
complete more than half of their upper-level major coursework (300-
level and 400-level courses) at Rice.

Opportunities for the BA Degree with a
Major in Economics

Academic Honors
The university recognizes academic excellence achieved over an
undergraduate's academic history at Rice. For information on university
honors, please see Latin Honors (ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/
honors-distinctions/university) (summa cum laude, magna cum laude, and
cum laude) and Distinction in Research and Creative Work (ga.rice.edu/
undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university). Some
departments have department-specific Honors awards or designations.

Requirements for Departmental Honors
1. To earn departmental honors in economics, students must earn
a grade of B+ or better in the department's two-semester honors
program, ECON 498 and ECON 499.
2. The honors program is available to both ECON and MTEC majors.
3. To be admitted to the honors program, students:
   a. must have a GPA of 3.67 or better in all courses taken toward
      fulfilling their departmental major requirements at the beginning
      of the academic year in which they enter the honors program;
   b. must have completed all of the core requirements for their major;
   c. must have completed the 400-level course or courses most
      closely related to their area of research, and
   d. must be accepted to the honors program by the professor
      supervising the program.
4. For additional information, consult the Economics Department
Honors' Program at http://economics.rice.edu/undergraduate-
program/honors-program.

For additional information, please see the Economics website: https://
economics.rice.edu/.