ECONOMICS

Program Objectives

The undergraduate program in economics provides practical preparation for a variety of careers as well as for graduate study in economics, business administration, public policy, and law. Economics is a social science and as such is best studied in the context of broader exposure to the liberal arts and sciences.

The Department offers two different undergraduate degree programs (Bachelor of Arts; Bachelor of Science), which allow students to choose the combination of courses most appropriate for their future plans.

Economics is a marketable liberal arts degree. Liberal arts majors (social sciences and humanities) develop excellent writing and research skills, and increase a student’s knowledge of the world. These majors also help students build a stronger and more informed sense of identity and values. Economics at USM also provides students critical thinking and analytical (including statistical) skills.

Degrees & Concentrations Offered

Graduation Planner: usm.maine.edu/advising/degreeplanning
Degrees Offered: Bachelor of Arts; Bachelor of Science
Major Offered: Economics
Minor Offered: Economics
For more information, visit: usm.maine.edu/eco/degrees

Department of Economics
Portland Campus, 11 Chamberlain Avenue
(207) 780-5502
Email: economics@usm.maine.edu
Web: usm.maine.edu/eco
Facebook: facebook.com/usmeconomics

Career Possibilities*

Actuary
Appraiser
Auditor
Bank Administrator
Budget Analyst
Business Teacher, secondary
Business/Government Consultant
Business/Government Researcher
Economics Teacher, secondary
Education Administrator
Farm and Home Management Advisor
Financial Analyst
Financial Examiner
Industry Analyst
Insurance Administrator
Market/Survey Researcher
Policy Analyst
Public Policy Researcher
Social Studies Teacher, secondary

* Additional education, training or experience may be required.

Acquired Transferable Skills

Analytical Thinking
Complex Problem Solving
Critical Thinking
Learning Strategies
Problem Assessment
Quantitative Decision Making
Statistical Analysis
Reading Comprehension
Written and Oral Communication

For more information on transferable skills go to: usm.maine.edu/community-engagement-career-development/career-tools
## What can I do with this major?*

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<th>AREA</th>
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| **Economic Research & Consulting** | Market research firms, Unions, Manufacturing firms, Cooperative Associations, Trade or Industry Associations | • Supplement curriculum with courses in statistics, research design, survey design, computer science, business, and political science.  
• Intern or volunteer at a local cooperative enterprise or trade/industry association.  
• Earn a graduate degree for an advanced research and consulting position. |
| **Government: Federal/State** | USDA, Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Labor and Statistics, Economic Planning or Dev. Town or City Planning | • Become active in student government.  
• Intern in a government agency.  
• Earn a graduate degree in economics, statistics, or public administration.  
• Become familiar with government hiring practices. |
| **Economic Development** | United Nations, World Bank, International Monetary Fund | • Study abroad and travel.  
• Join various international clubs on campus, including Model UN.  
• Become fluent in a foreign language. |
| **Public Policy** | Economic Policy Institute, ME Center for Economic Policy, Coastal Enterprises Inc., Maine Women’s Policy Center | • Develop a solid background in economics, including macroeconomics, cost-benefit analysis, accounting, survey techniques, and finance.  
• Gain experience through positions in public policy firms.  
• Study labor markets, poverty, tax policy, women’s issues, discrimination, debt, and political economy. |
| **Banking, Finance & Insurance** | Banks, Credit Unions, Savings and Loan Associations, Insurance firms | • Develop a solid background in economics, including macroeconomics, accounting, money and banking, and finance.  
• Earn a business minor.  
• Gain experience through positions in financial service firms. |
| **Healthcare** | US Dept. of Health Hospitals Reg. Health Planning Agencies Centers for Disease Control | • Earn a master’s degree in public health or hospital administration.  
• Gain experience in healthcare through internships.  
• Study comparative health care systems.  
• Intern with a local organization focused on health care reform. |

*To learn about these areas and much more visit: whatcanidowiththismajor.com/major • © 2011 What Can I Do With This Major

### Enrichment Opportunities

- **Internships**: For more information contact the Criminology Department. usm.maine.edu/cecd  
- **Study Abroad**: For more information contact the USM Office of International Programs. usm.maine.edu/international/study-abroad  
- **Clubs & Organizations**: Students of Economic Interest, Summer Undergraduate Research Fellows, Students in Free Enterprise. For a complete list of student organizations: webapp.usm.maine.edu/pathways/list  
- **USM Corporate Partners**: The USM Corporate Partners are over 350 business people, from nearly 100 companies. usm.maine.edu/corporatepartners

### Helpful Career Links

- **USMCareerConnections**: USM’s career network for job and internship searches. usm.maine.edu/community-engagement-career-development/usmcareerconnections  
- **O*NET OnLine**: Learn more about a career opportunity by researching it with O*NET. onetonline.org  
- **Occupational Outlook Handbook**: Learn more about a career opportunity by researching it with OOH. bls.gov/ooh  
- **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS To name a few**... National Association of Business Economics  
  American Economic Association  
  Association for Social Economics  
  National Economists Club  
  International Economic Development Council