

Economics

Get to Know

ECONOMICS

Economics is the scientific study of how people and institutions make choices concerning the use of society's scarce resources. Economics is a broad social science that shares common interests with both the behavioral sciences (e.g. sociology and psychology) and the decision sciences (e.g. finance and management).

The importance of economic analysis is recognized by being the only social science in which a Nobel Prize is awarded. Economics students receive training in the methods and uses of economic analysis as applied to households, businesses, and governments.



Macroeconomics focuses on the economy as a whole. Students learn what causes recessions and what drives employment, household consumption, inflation, and interest rates. Other topics include business investment, foreign trade, fiscal policy, and monetary policy. Microeconomics focuses on the individual decisions of consumers and the firm. Students learn about the forces that shape demand and supply and what influences consumer behavior and the profit-maximizing decisions of firms. Other topics include costs, resources, externalities, and monopoly power.

An economics degree helps prepare students for careers in business, government, consulting, and law. In the corporate world, economists analyze financial data and make economic forecasts to help businesses make better decisions. In consulting, economists provide market analysis or policy evaluations to private firms or government agencies. In the public sector, economists research markets or develop policies for such agencies as the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Federal Reserve, or state and local governments. Economists are also sought out as analysts for the State Department and the Central Intelligence Agency. The flexibility of the economics major across a wide variety of industries is reflected in the relatively high starting salaries and lifetime earnings of economists.

Flexible CHOICES

Undergraduates at Mississippi State University may pursue an economics major through either the College of Business (BBA degree) or through the College of Arts and Sciences (BA degree). Business Economics majors at Mississippi State University can enhance their degree by pairing it with other majors in the College of Business. Combining economics with accounting enhances employability and prepares students for potential roles in budgeting and compliance. A finance minor prepares students for banking, investing, or consulting roles. These combinations allow students to customize their education and expand their career opportunities.

Course HIGHLIGHTS

In advanced coursework, economics majors at Mississippi State University are exposed to some of the most popular fields in economics including labor economics, public finance, and international economics. Economics majors complete the program with a capstone course in econometrics, where they learn how to use statistics and other data analytic techniques to examine economic data. These courses offer a well-rounded education for diverse career opportunities. Students can enhance their experience by participating in the Economics Club, where they can learn about job opportunities and discuss current economic events and issues with prominent guest speakers.

Degree OPTIONS

Bachelor of Business Administration in Economics

Minor and Concentration OPTIONS

Popular Minors: Accounting and Finance

Concentration: International Business

2025-2026

Economics MAJOR MAP

Bachelor in Business Administration in Economics



	1ST YEAR	2ND YEAR	3 RD YEAR	4 TH YEAR
GET THE COURSES YOU NEED	Take courses ACC 2013, BIS 1012, EC 2113, EC 2123, EN 1103, EN 1113, MA 1313, MA 1613	Take courses ACC 2023, BQA 2113, BL 2413	Take courses EC 3113, EC 3123, BIS 3233, BQA 3123, FIN 3113, FIN 3123, MGT 3114, MGT 3213, MKT 3013	Take courses BUS 4853, EC 4643, EC Electives
GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE	Join the Economics Club to learn about career paths and hear from prominent guest speakers	Explore internship opportunities for the summer Seek leadership roles in extracurricular activities	Explore internship opportunities for the summer Apply for undergraduate research positions	Participate in mock student interviews Present work at the Undergraduate Research Symposium and Showcase
GET ENGAGED WITH THE COMMUNITY	Find volunteer opportunities through Cowbell Connect	Volunteer with community organizations such as Starkville Strong or Habitat for Humanity	Attend alumni networking events	Become a student member of the American Economic Association to connect with peers and gain access to career resources
GET ENGAGED GLOBALLY	Learn about Global Game Changers Consider a concentration in International Business	Study Abroad	Study Abroad	Study Abroad
GET CAREER READY	Explore Connections, the Career Center's online job board Create a LinkedIn account and follow the College of Business Attend Career Fairs	Meet with COB liaison to the Career Center to improve your resume and refine your LinkedIn profile Take the Strong Interest Inventory online assessment to explore your career interests Attend Career Fairs	Research full-time employment options and graduate schools Attend Career Fairs	Work with the COB liaison to the Career Center to polish your resume and begin applying for jobs Use VMock to hone your interview skills

Knowledge & Workplace Skills

Your time in the Mississippi State University Economics program will equip you with valuable skills to boost your employability, including:

- Fundamental skills to understand the economic system, market dynamics, and decision-making under uncertainty
- Critical thinking and problem-solving skills necessary to simplify complex issues and make reasoned judgements
- Quantitative skills and the application of mathematics and statistical analysis to test theories and predict economic outcomes
- Technological proficiency using Excel techniques and data visualization
- Ethics of the decision-making process
- Verbal and written communication skills necessary to articulate complex economic concepts to businesses and government agencies
- Ability to collaborate effectively and work in team settings

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ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES



Career **POSSIBILITIES**

Graduates of the Economics program at Mississippi State University can pursue careers in:

- Business Consulting
- Sales Forecasting
- Market Research
- Investment Counseling
- Economic Analysis
- Business Law
- Attorney
- Behavioral Economist
- Labor Economist
- Stockbroker/Trader
- Account Representative
- Global Sourcing Associate
- Junior Financial Consultant

Major Hiring **FIRMS**

All based on 2023-24 Data

- Airbus
- Compass Global Logistics/Freight Compass
- International Paper
- Quirks
- Tristate Financial Advisor

Placement **STATS**

- 92% Placement Rate

Average **STARTING SALARIES**

Based on 2023 data from the National Association of Colleges and Employers

- \$63,986

Experiential Learning Opportunities **INTERNSHIPS**

- Starkville Strong Internship: Students assist a local nonprofit that addresses food and housing insecurity through policy research, grant writing, client intake, and community organizing.

Student **ORGANIZATIONS**

- Economics Club
 - The Econ Club hosts guest speakers who discuss important economic events and relate textbook economics to the real world. Econ Club students also participate in regular field trips to the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis and the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta.

Career **READY**

- Risk Management and Insurance Career Fair
 - Showcases job opportunities across all sectors of the insurance industry, including underwriting, insurance agencies, and both retail and wholesale brokerage.
- Banking Career Exchange
 - Connects students to industry employers from banks of all sizes as well as regulatory agencies.