Economics
Chair: Arthur O’Sullivan
Administrative Assistant: Katie Sholian
The Department of Economics offers courses designed to help students understand and evaluate the ways in which human societies organize work, production, and the distribution of income. The department emphasizes the study of contemporary capitalism and the role of markets and government in the economy.

A sound understanding of economics is important for those pursuing careers in business, law, or government. Economics courses at Lewis & Clark emphasize both theory and application. Within the major, students may declare a concentration in one of three specialty areas, described below.

Resources for Nonmajors
ECON 100 Principles of Economics is an introductory survey course for all students. It explains how a market system organizes the production and distribution of goods and services; what forces shape the overall level of employment, income, and prices in the United States; and how economic policy can be used to achieve the goals the public wants to reach.

ECON 103 Statistics introduces students to the principles of statistical reasoning and their application to the social sciences. In particular, students learn methods for describing characteristics of large groups of individuals, and for empirically testing differences relevant to economic and social behavior.

ECON 210 Financial Analysis is an introductory course on the use of accounting information for financial decision making. The focus is on the understanding and use of financial statements.

Many students majoring in other disciplines take more advanced courses in the economics curriculum; these all have ECON 100 as a prerequisite. Courses designed for exploring more general interests include the following:

- ECON 215 Game Theory
- ECON 220 The Financial System and the Economy
- ECON 232 Economic Development
- ECON 235 Labor Economics
- ECON 250 Radical Political Economics
- ECON 255 Technology, Institutions, and Economic Growth
- ECON 256 The Industrial Revolution
- ECON 260 Environmental and Natural Resource Economics
- ECON 295 Political Economy of Korea

The Major Program
The core curriculum begins with the introductory ECON 100 Principles of Economics. Students are then encouraged to explore either the lower-division (200-level) electives or the other required 100- and 200-level core courses (statistics, intermediate microeconomics, and intermediate macroeconomics). Ideally, students interested in majoring in economics will have completed the lower-division core courses and declared their major by the end of the sophomore year. Students also have the option, upon completion of a specified set of electives, of earning a concentration in one of the following subfields of economics: international, public policy, or theory. The capstone experience for the economics major is the senior seminar.

Major Requirements
A minimum of 44 semester credits, distributed as follows:

- ECON 100 Principles of Economics
- ECON 103 Statistics
- ECON 291 Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory
- ECON 292 Intermediate Microeconomic Theory
- ECON 303 Econometrics
- ECON 433 Senior Seminar
- At least 20 semester credits of economics electives. If a student selects a concentration, 4 semester credits may be taken outside of the department, as noted below. At least 4 semester credits of electives must be selected from within department offerings at the 300 or 400 level.
- MATH 131 Calculus I

Students intending to pursue graduate studies in economics or careers as research economists are strongly encouraged to take additional mathematics courses, particularly calculus, linear algebra, differential equations, and statistics.

Areas of Concentration
Students may choose between a degree in general economics (with no concentration), or a degree with a concentration in one of the following fields: international, public policy, or theory. Students choosing general economics must select all 20 of their elective credits from courses offered within the Department of Economics. To qualify for a concentration, students must, in addition to satisfying the requirements for the major, take four of their five elective courses (16 of 20 elective credits) in the area of their concentration, which may include one course from outside the department.

General
All 20 elective credits from within the economics department.

International
At least 16 of 20 elective credits from the following:

- ECON 232 Economic Development
- ECON 255 Technology, Institutions, and Economic Growth
Minor Requirements

A minimum of 24 semester credits distributed as follows:

- ECON 100 Principles of Economics
- ECON 103 Statistics
- ECON 291 Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory
- ECON 292 Intermediate Microeconomic Theory
- Eight semester credits, at least 4 of which must be at the 300 level or above, selected from the following:
  - ECON 215 Game Theory
  - ECON 220 The Financial System and the Economy
  - ECON 232 Economic Development
  - ECON 235 Labor Economics
  - ECON 250 Radical Political Economics
  - ECON 255 Technology, Institutions, and Economic Growth
  - ECON 256 The Industrial Revolution
  - ECON 260 Environmental and Natural Resource Economics
  - ECON 265 Pacific Northwest Policy Issues
  - ECON 295 Political Economy of Korea
  - ECON 303 Econometrics
  - ECON 314 International Politics
  - ECON 320 Modern Money, Banking, and the Macroeconomy
  - ECON 332 Urban Economics
  - ECON 365 Public Economics
  - ECON 444 Practicum

Students seeking an economics minor must take three courses (at least 12 semester credits) that are exclusive to the minor (not used in any other set of major or minor requirements).

Honors

The department grants honors on graduation to economics majors who meet the following criteria:

- Complete one of the following with a grade of A:
  - ECON 430 History of Economic Thought
  - ECON 434 Mathematical Economics
  - ECON 491 Advanced Macroeconomics
  - ECON 492 Advanced Microeconomics
- Attain a GPA of 3.500 or higher in all economics courses completed.
- Complete ECON 433 with a grade of A.
Faculty


ECON 100 Principles of Economics
Faculty: Bekar, Bostian, Grant, Hart-Landsberg, O’Sullivan, Tymoigne.
Content: Introduction to the study of market economies. Microeconomics, including supply and demand, production theory, market structure. Macroeconomics, including economic growth, inflation and unemployment, money and banking, monetary and fiscal policy. Government regulation and policy. Discrimination and poverty, imperfect competition, environmental problems, international competitiveness. Prerequisites: None.
Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester. Semester credits: 4.

ECON 103 Statistics
Faculty: Grant.
Content: Theory and applications of statistics and probability used in the study of economics. Descriptive statistics, probability, random variables and their distributions, statistical inference. Applications of statistical inference ranging from estimating the mean from a univariate population to multiple regression analysis. Prerequisites: CS 102, MATH 055, or equivalent. Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester. Semester credits: 4.

ECON 210 Financial Analysis
Faculty: Economics Faculty.
Content: The use of accounting information for financial decision making. Understanding and use of financial statements as a primary source of accounting information. Reading and analyzing financial statements of domestic and international firms. Prerequisites: None. Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F." Usually offered: Annually, fall semester. Semester credits: 4.

ECON 215 Game Theory
Faculty: Bekar.
Content: The tools of cooperative and noncooperative game theory. Modeling competitive situations, solution concepts such as Nash equilibrium and its refinements, signaling games, repeated games under different informational environments, bargaining models, issues of cooperation and reputation, evolutionary game theory. Application to economics and other disciplines. Emphasis on quantitative modeling and analytical approaches to strategic thinking. Prerequisites: ECON 100. Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F." Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester. Semester credits: 4.

ECON 220 The Financial System and the Economy
Faculty: Tymoigne.
Content: The operation of the financial sector and its interrelationship with the productive sector. The central institutions of money and banks; the Federal Reserve System and its operation of monetary policy; financial crises. Keynesian, post-Keynesian, and monetarist theories and their policy implications. Prerequisites: ECON 100. Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F." Usually offered: Annually, fall semester. Semester credits: 4.
ECON 232 Economic Development
Faculty: Hart-Landsberg.
Content: Problems of less-developed countries and proposed solutions. Extent and nature of international poverty and inequality, national and international causes of underdevelopment, strategies for development.
Prerequisites: ECON 100.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F."
Usually offered: Annually, fall semester.
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 235 Labor Economics
Faculty: Grant.
Content: The operation and political economy of labor markets: current labor issues, employment and unemployment, supply of and demand for labor, employment wages and earnings under various market structures, discrimination, labor mobility, the role of trade unions, the nature of work.
Prerequisites: ECON 100.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F."
Usually offered: Alternate Years, spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 244 Practicum
Faculty: Economics Faculty.
Content: Opportunities for well-prepared students to put academic concepts and techniques to work in the private or public sector. Specific activities vary; usually involve work with a public agency or private group. Credit-no credit. May be repeated for credit.
Prerequisites: ECON 100 or ECON 210.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing and consent required.
Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester.
Semester credits: 1-4.

ECON 250 Radical Political Economics
Faculty: Hart-Landsberg.
Content: Critical connections among different economic structures and dynamics on the one hand, and political strategies and struggles for change on the other. Economic crisis theory, theories of the state, class and class consciousness, labor, and social-movement struggles.
Prerequisites: ECON 100.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F."
Usually offered: Annually, spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 255 Technology, Institutions, and Economic Growth
Faculty: Bekar.
Content: Emergence of modern economic growth in Europe. The roots of the Industrial Revolution over the very long term, 1000 to 1750, through the application of basic economic theory. Causes and consequences of very long-term economic growth. Specific attention paid to technology, institutions, geography, and culture as sources of economic growth. While the geographic focus is European, important cross-sectional work, especially with regard to China, is undertaken.
Prerequisites: ECON 100.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F."
Usually offered: Every third year, spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 256 The Industrial Revolution
Faculty: Bekar.
Content: Europe’s transition from an agricultural to an industrial society in the 18th century. The roots of modern economic growth in preindustrial Europe, the contributions of science and technology, trade, government, and population. Consequences of industrialization for living standards, both long-run improvements and short-run hardships. Rise of European power abroad and colonial contributions to growth. Focus on the British Industrial Revolution.
Prerequisites: ECON 100.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F."
Usually offered: Every third year, spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 260 Environmental and Natural Resource Economics
Faculty: Bostian.
Content: An analysis of environmental and resource problems ranging from hazardous-waste disposal to air pollution, species extinction to global warming, from an economic perspective. The property-rights basis of pollution problems, environmental ethics, benefit-cost analysis, regulatory policy, clean technology, population growth and consumption, sustainable development.
Prerequisites: ECON 100.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F."
Usually offered: Annually, spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.
ECON 265 Pacific Northwest Policy Issues  
Faculty: O’Sullivan.  
Content: Basic economic analysis to explore issues facing the Pacific Northwest. Diagnosis of the problem motivating a policy and evaluation of the merits of the policy solution. Potential issues: financing public education, promoting economic development, protecting natural resources, designing mass transit, providing public support for professional sports, responding to gentrification.  
Prerequisites: ECON 100.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F."  
Usually offered: Every third year, spring semester.  
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 291 Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory  
Faculty: Tymoigne.  
Content: Theories and policies of classical, Keynesian, new classical, and new Keynesian economists; national income accounting; IS-LM analysis; aggregate supply and demand; money, interest rates, and investment; government spending and taxation; fiscal and monetary policy.  
Prerequisites: ECON 100.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F."  
Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester.  
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 292 Intermediate Microeconomic Theory  
Faculty: Bostian, Grant, O’Sullivan.  
Prerequisites: ECON 100.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F."  
Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester.  
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 295 Political Economy of Korea  
Faculty: Hart-Landsberg.  
Content: Economic and political developments in South and North Korea. State and society in traditional Korea; socioeconomic legacies of colonial Korea; division of the peninsula following World War II; postwar economic experiences of the two Koreas; Asian models of capitalism and socialism; inter-Korea relations and the relationships of the two Koreas with major powers, especially the United States.  
Prerequisites: ECON 100.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F."  
Usually offered: Alternate Years, spring semester.  
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 299 Independent Study  
Faculty: Economics Faculty.  
Content: Opportunities for well-prepared students to design and pursue a substantive course of independent learning. Details determined by the student and the supervising instructor. May be repeated for credit.  
Prerequisites: None.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing and consent required.  
Usually offered: Annually.  
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 303 Econometrics  
Faculty: Bostian, Grant.  
Content: Construction and estimation of statistical models of the economy; using statistical models to test economic hypotheses. Multiple regression analysis, residual analysis, analysis of variance.  
Prerequisites: ECON 103. ECON 291 or ECON 292. MATH 131.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.  
Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester.  
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 314 International Economics  
Faculty: Hart-Landsberg.  
Content: Theoretical and practical problems of international economics; ideas and policies governing international trade and finance. Trade theory, foreign exchange markets, balance of payments, transnational corporate activity.  
Prerequisites: ECON 291 or ECON 292.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.  
Usually offered: Annually, spring semester.  
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 320 Modern Money, Banking, and the Macroeconomy  
Faculty: Tymoigne.  
Prerequisites: ECON 291.  
Corequisites: ECON 220 (recommended, not required).  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.  
Usually offered: Alternate Years, spring semester.  
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 322 Decisions  
Faculty: Economics Faculty.  
Content: Quantitative modeling tools applied to economics and management decision making. Deterministic modeling techniques include linear optimization and other techniques from operations research. Models for capturing uncertainty draw upon concepts from statistics and Monte Carlo simulation.  
Prerequisites: ECON 103.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.  
Usually offered: Annually, spring semester.  
Semester credits: 4.
ECON 323 Accounting for Financial and Managerial Decisions
Faculty: Economics Faculty.
Content: How financial accounting information is used by decision makers outside a firm to analyze the firm's performance. How managers use information to make decisions about planning, operating, and control in the firm. Emphasis on case analysis.
Prerequisites: ECON 210.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.
Usually offered: Annually, spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 332 Urban Economics
Faculty: O'Sullivan.
Content: Economic aspects of urban areas. Why cities exist and how they interact within a regional economy; the pattern of land use in modern metropolitan areas; the economic forces behind urban problems such as poverty, crime, congestion, and sprawl; evaluation of the merits of alternative policy responses to urban problems.
Prerequisites: ECON 292.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.
Usually offered: Alternate Years, fall semester.
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 358 Corporate Finance
Faculty: Economics Faculty.
Content: The role of the financial officer in fulfilling the financial goals of the firm—subject to constraints imposed by technology, market forces, and society. Short-term financial planning, selection of capital investments, capital structure planning, cost of funds to the firm. Focus on financial concepts of valuation, investment decisions, financing decisions.
Prerequisites: ECON 103. ECON 292.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.
Usually offered: Annually, fall semester.
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 365 Public Economics
Faculty: Economics Faculty.
Content: The role of government in a primarily market economy. Micro-economic issues: the provision of public goods; externality problems; the incidence, efficiency, and broader impacts of taxation policy; different approaches to defining fairness in income distribution; economic theories of public choice. Pressing current public-policy issues including health care and education policy, welfare reform, campaign finance, the social security system, defense spending.
Prerequisites: ECON 292.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.
Usually offered: Alternate Years.
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 430 History of Economic Thought
Faculty: Economics Faculty.
Content: Economic theory and analyses: how events suggested new theory and how new theoretical insights affected economic policies and trends. Economic analysts, including the mercantilists; Smith, Ricardo, and Malthus; Marx; Mill; Walras; neoclassicists; Keynesians.
Prerequisites: ECON 291. ECON 292.
Restrictions: Junior standing required.
Usually offered: Every third year, spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 433 Senior Seminar
Faculty: Bekar, Bostian, Grant, Hart-Landsberg, O'Sullivan, Tymoigne.
Content: Advanced research in economics. Production of a research paper and distribution to instructor and class members. Oral presentation of research paper to students, faculty, and the campus community. The research paper requires students to construct, research, write, and present rigorous analysis on an economic question. Topics chosen by students.
Prerequisites: ECON 103. ECON 291. ECON 292. ECON 303.
Usually offered: Annually, fall semester.
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 434 Mathematical Economics
Faculty: Grant.
Content: Mathematical models of economic behavior. Mathematics of microeconomic theory and macroeconomic theory, economic optimization, equilibrium and disequilibrium analysis, probability models, growth theory, dynamic economic modeling.
Prerequisites: ECON 103. ECON 291 or ECON 292. MATH 131.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.
Usually offered: Alternate Years, spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 444 Practicum
Faculty: Economics Faculty.
Content: Same as ECON 244 but requiring more advanced work. Credit-no credit. May be repeated for credit.
Prerequisites: ECON 103. ECON 291. ECON 292.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing and consent required.
Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 491 Advanced Macroeconomics
Faculty: Tymoigne.
Content: Topics beyond intermediate macroeconomics including alternate theories of consumption and investment, macroeconomic forecasting, the role of expectations, problems with macro measurements.
Prerequisites: ECON 291.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.
Usually offered: Alternate Years, spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.
ECON 492 Advanced Microeconomics
Faculty: Bekar, Hart-Landsberg, O'Sullivan.
Content: Microeconomic strengths and weaknesses of market-directed economic activity. Industrial policy, discrimination in labor markets, impact and role of trade unions, welfare economics.
Prerequisites: ECON 292.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.
Usually offered: Alternate Years, spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.

ECON 499 Independent Study
Faculty: Economics Faculty.
Content: Same as ECON 299 but requiring more advanced work. May be repeated for credit.
Prerequisites: None.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing and consent required.
Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.