ECONOMICS (ECO)

Economics offers a clear and logical way of thinking about complicated issues such as unemployment, inflation, pollution, and crime. The department offers broad course choices allowing students to tailor their programs to provide training for professional careers in business, teaching, government, and law. Students interested in majoring or minoring in economics should contact the undergraduate advisor in the Economics Department for more information.

Requirements for the Major in Economics

Prerequisites (State Mandated Common Prerequisites) for Students Transferring from a Community College: The State of Florida has identified common course prerequisites for the major in Economics. These courses must be completed with a minimum grade of “C” before the degree is granted. If the courses are not transferred in, they may be taken at USF.

ECONOMICS (ECO) must include:

- ECO 1000 (if taken before both ECO 2013 and ECO 2023) may be substituted for 3 hours of upper level elective credit.
- ECO 1000, if taken before both ECO 2013 and ECO 2023, may be substituted for a maximum of 3 hours of upper level elective credit.

Coursework in the Economics Major:

A student may earn a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Economics by satisfactorily completing 33 credits in Economics in addition to college requirements. The 33 credits must include:

- ECO 2013 Economic Principles: Macroeconomics (3)
- ECO 2023 Economic Principles: Microeconomics (3)
- ECO 3101 Intermediate Price Theory (3)
- ECO 3203 Intermediate Microeconomics (3)
- QMB 2100 Business and Economic Statistics I (3)
- QMB 3200 Business and Economics Statistics II (3)
- Economics electives numbered 3000 or higher (15)

ECO 3100, Managerial Economics, may be substituted for ECO 3101. Students may not take both ECO 3100 and ECO 3101 for credit.

ECO 1000 (if taken before both ECO 2013 and ECO 2023) may be substituted for a maximum of 3 hours of upper level elective credit.

Students must obtain a grade of “C” or higher in ECO 3101 or ECO 3100 in order to enroll in any course for which ECO 3101 or ECO 3100 is a prerequisite.

No more than 3 hours credit can be applied toward a major from ECO 4905 and/or ECO 4914.

At least 12 hours of upper level credit must be taken in residence at USF.

Economics majors working at the regional campuses may not be able to fulfill all economics course requirements at those campuses.

Requirements for the Minor in Economics

All students, regardless of college, can earn a minor in Economics by satisfactorily completing 18 hours in Economics including:

- ECO 2013 Economic Principles: Macroeconomics (3)
- ECO 2023 Economic Principles: Microeconomics (3)
- Economics electives numbered 3000 or higher (12)

ECO 1000, if taken before both ECO 2013 and ECO 2023, may be substituted for 3 hours of upper level electives. Before being recognized as a minor in economics a student must obtain program approval by the Economics Department Undergraduate Advisor. A grade point average of 2.0 or higher must be achieved in the minor course work at USF and in all minor courses completed at any institution. At least 9 hours must be taken in residence at USF.

The Economics Pre-Law Curriculum

Economic principles provide the foundation for much of our legal system. Economics offers a series of courses to provide the abstract and applied skills required by those seeking legal careers.


The Economics Pre-Law Curriculum fits easily within the Economics major or minor but is open to other students. The Economics Department Undergraduate Advisor has helpful advice for students taking the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) or applying for admission to law schools.

Five-year Bachelor/Master Degree Program

This program allows superior students with strong analytical skills and the ability to handle a fast paced, challenging program the opportunity to complete both the Bachelor and Master degrees in economics in five years.

The program requires the students to take two graduate level courses required for the MA degree during the last year in the Bachelor program. These 6 hours are counted as general electives (not major electives) in the undergraduate program and are also used to satisfy the requirements for the MA in economics. After completing the 120-hour Bachelor’s program, five-year students take 24 hours at the graduate level.

To be eligible for the program, a student must have completed at least 6 hours of 3000 level or above economics courses at USF (not including statistics), have an overall grade point average of 3.0 or above, and have a minimum of 3.25 cumulative grade point average in all economics courses (including statistics).

To apply for admission, send a letter to the Graduate Program Director in the Department of Economics stating your qualifications and desire to enter the program. To plan your program, or for additional information, see the Undergraduate Advisor in Economics.