

CONCENTRATION IN ECONOMICS

THE CURRICULUM

All Carroll School of Management students, regardless of their area of concentration, are required to take Principles of Economics (EC 131-132) and Statistics (EC151 or EC155) as part of the CSOM Core. Students entering Boston College as freshmen are expected to take at least two of these in the College of Arts and Sciences, although placement will be granted for students who have a four or five on the relevant Advanced Placement exam.

In addition, students from the Carroll School of Management may choose Economics as an area of concentration. Students with a serious interest in Economics are encouraged to fulfill all the requirements of the Arts and Sciences major.

Normally, students will have completed both Principles courses before taking either Theory course, although students who have finished one Principles course can take the associated Theory course concurrently with the second Principles course. For example, a student who has completed EC131 may take EC201 concurrently with EC132. Students should complete at least one Theory course before beginning the electives, although we recognize that scheduling constraints may make this difficult. Students who need to take an elective before completing a Theory course should register for a 200-level elective that has only Principles as a prerequisite. It is also possible, with permission of the professor, to take a 300-level elective concurrently with its Theory prerequisite.

General Department policy is that students take both Theory courses and at least one of the two electives in the College of Arts and Sciences. The remaining course may, subject to Department approval of the

specific course, be taken during the summer session at Boston College or another institution, during the academic year as part of a study-abroad program, or during the academic year through the Woods College of Advancing Studies. Transfer students should meet with the Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Economics Department to discuss their specific situations.

Four courses beyond the CSOM Core are required for the concentration:

- Intermediate Theory Courses
 - Microeconomic Theory (EC201 or EC203)
 - Macroeconomic Theory (EC202 or EC204)
- Field Courses
 - Two electives chosen from EC205 through EC399, except EC345 and EC380
 - For the Class of 2012 and previous classes, at least one of those courses must be chosen from EC228, EC229, EC300-399 (except EC336, EC345, EC380).
 - For the class of 2013 and following classes, at least one of those courses must be chosen from EC300-EC399 (except EC336, EC345, EC380).
 - For the Class of 2014 and following classes, at least one of the Intermediate Theory courses must be completed by the end of the junior year.
- EC201 and EC202 have a prerequisite of one semester of calculus, which is fulfilled by the University's math core requirement for CSOM students.
- EC 203 and EC204 have additional prerequisites. CSOM Honors Program students who wish to take these courses should read the information provided in the description of the A&S Economics Major.

The Department recognizes Advanced Placement courses in Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, and Statistics. Students who earn a 4 or 5 on AP Micro or Macro exams are not required to take the corresponding BC course (EC131 or EC132).

Beginning with the Class of 2011, only a score of 5 will be accepted to place out of EC151. Students in Arts & Sciences are required to complete ten courses for the major by taking additional electives.

Students who have passing scores on International Baccalaureate exams should contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies to discuss how this work can be applied to an economics major.

Knowledge of the basic elements of calculus is required of all Economics majors. No specific calculus courses are required for the major, but all majors should know how to take derivatives of simple functions and to solve maximum and minimum problems. MT100, and many high school calculus courses provide the basic elements of calculus needed for the Economics major. The Micro and Macro Theory courses and the 300-level electives may use some basic elements of calculus. Any student with a serious interest in economics should take at least one full year of calculus: MT102-MT103 (preferred), MT100-MT101 or the equivalent; additional math courses are essential for students considering graduate work in economics. The requirements for students who double major in Economics and another Arts and Sciences major are the same as for the major. With specific course approval, a maximum of one course may be "double-counted."

Study Abroad

There are many good economics programs offered through universities overseas; students are encouraged to ask their faculty advisors for details about the quality of various programs. Schools with particularly strong reputations in economics include the London School of Economics, University College London, Queen Mary and Oxford in the United Kingdom; Trinity College Dublin in Ireland; Pompeu Fabra, Madrid Autonoma, and Madrid Complutense in Spain; University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands; University of Parma and Bocconi University in Italy; and the University of Melbourne in Australia. The Office of International Programs coordinates the study-abroad option and can provide more detailed information about specific programs.

To insure that students are able to complete the requirements for the major in time for graduation, we prefer Arts & Sciences students to have five courses completed before studying abroad: Micro and Macro Principles, Statistics, and Micro and Macro Theory. Students in CSOM should have completed Micro and Macro Principles and one of the Theory courses.

Subject to Department approval of the specific courses, electives taken through study-abroad programs may fulfill requirements for the major. In general, students may take a maximum of two electives abroad, although students who have previously taken summer courses and students who have Advanced Placement should discuss their individual situations with the Director of Undergraduate Studies. Note that the Department policy on upper- versus lower-level electives applies to courses taken abroad.

Students must contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies for approval of their study-abroad applications and to plan their semester or year abroad. Those planning to participate in the Honors Program are strongly advised to identify a thesis topic and a faculty supervisor before going abroad; very tight deadlines during the fall semester of senior year make this advance planning essential. Students who are considering doing Ph.D. work in economics should plan their programs abroad with particular care.

BOSTON COLLEGE

CARROLL SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT



UNDERGRADUATE ECONOMICS CONCENTRATION

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

21 CAMPANELLA WAY

617 552-3670