Economics is the study of how and to what extent a society uses its scarce resources. At UW-Eau Claire, the Department of Economics believes that understanding economics requires both learning and applying economic theory. There are many different emphases within the Economics Department. Some of these emphases include: graduate education, applied economics, pre-law, public policy analysis (to prepare students for a career in public sector analysis), economics teaching, and business economics. The University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire also offers liberal arts and teaching minors in economics.

**Typical interests and values of economics majors:**
- Achievement
- Intellectual growth
- Interest in economic and fiscal trends
- Curiosity
- Interest in research

**Knowledge and skills gained from studying economics:**

**Knowledge:**
An economics major will study the production, consumption, and distribution of goods and services. These studies attempt to clarify how the use of natural, technological, and financial resources affects the lives of human beings. The study of economics draws upon history, philosophy, and mathematics to deal with subjects ranging from how an individual household or business can make sound decisions to societal issues such as unemployment, inflation, and environmental decay.

**Skills:**
- Conduct and clearly explain research and data
- Observe keenly and make appropriate decisions
- Thorough knowledge of statistical procedures
- Intellectual capacity
- Proficiency in oral and written communication
- Ability to extract relevant information
- Able to imagine alternatives
- Identifying and solving problems
- Making decisions
- Selling ideas or products
- Defining needs

**Related student and professional organizations:**

**Student:**
- Omicron Delta Epsilon, an Economics honor society
- Student Economics Association
- Beta Upsilon Sigma

**Professional:**
- National Association for Business Economics
- American Economic Association
- Society of Government Economists
- Council of American Survey Research Organization

**Career fields are related to economics:**

**Potential Employers:**
Because economics majors have extremely marketable skills they are able to obtain employment in diverse fields. Potential employers include economic and market research firms, banking and financial institutions, government, as well as consulting and financial corporations.

**Potential Job Titles:**
- Accountant
- Actuary
- Bank Officer
- Bond Trader
- Business Forecaster
- Business Manager
- Underwriter
- Demographer
- Economist
- Entrepreneur
- Estate Planner
- Financial Reporter
- Gov. Administrator
- Industrial Buyer
-Investment Analyst
- Litigation Analyst
-Market Research Analyst
- Teacher
-Securities Trader
-Statistician

Form # 0400010 Revision F
Jobs you Might also Consider...
Urban/Regional Planner   Budget Analyst
Claims Adjuster          Fund Raiser
Foreign Services Officer Job Analyst
Financial Aid Director  Tax Examiner
Inventory Control Specialist
Social/Community Service Manager

Sample entry level jobs held by UW-Eau Claire graduates:
- **Cost Analyst**, Lavonia Tool and Blaxer, Eau Claire, WI
- **Appraiser**, State of Wisconsin, Madison, WI
- **Realtor**, Farm Urban Realty, Black River Falls, WI
- **Staff Assistant**, Senator Norm Coleman, Maplewood, MN
- **Mutual Funds Specialist**, The Hartford, Woodbury, MN
- **Education Consultant**, Denver, CO

Learn more about economics:
Department
- Contact UW–Eau Claire’s Department of Economics, SSS 476, 836-5743

Getting started at Career Services:
- Meet with a career counselor
- Take interest inventory and self assessment tests
- Utilize Blugold Career Success Network, a database of UW–Eau Claire alumni & friends available for informational interviewing
- Utilize Blugold CareerLink, an online job search database specifically for UWEC students and alum

Resources available at Career Services:
Yellow Section-
• Sigi 3 handouts:
  - Economics     - Entrepreneur
  - Actuary       - Accountant, Public Practice
• Book sections:
  - Accounting, Finance, Banking, Insurance,
    Real Estate and Economics

Orange Section-
• “The Internship Series: The Human Rights Internship Book”

Blue Section-
• Multiple resources to help you create a resume and cover letter for a position in economics.

Opportunities to enhance skills in economics:
Internships
Internships are a way to gain hands-on experience in a position that interests you as a potential career. To find an internship in economics, visit Career Services (Schofield 230) and speak with a career associate. Contact your adviser or the Economics Department chair about enrolling in ECON 498 to obtain academic credit for your internship. ECON 494 is an “academic internship” for students thinking about graduate school.

Directed Studies or Independent Study Class
By participating in a directed studies or independent study class, students will be able to research an area that they find particularly interesting. Contact your adviser about enrolling in ECON 399, 495, 496, or 499.

Research
There are many opportunities for students to participate in research to enhance the breadth of knowledge learned in the classroom. To learn about Research Experience for Undergraduates (REUs) visit the REU’s website, www.nsf.gov/home/crssprgm/reu. For additional information about research at UW-Eau Claire, contact the Department of Economics.

What you can do now:
- Become the treasurer of a student organization.
- Become a tutor in the Academic Skills Center or Math Lab.
- Job shadow a professional in your area of interest or conduct informational interviews.
- Become a teacher assistant for a professor in the Economics Department.