

ECONOMICS

STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY

WHAT IS ECONOMICS?

Economic activity is important for the individual and society, and it is essential for any student to gain as much insight as possible into the functioning of the economic world. Since Economics is a social science that studies an eternal problem of man, namely how to satisfy unlimited wants with limited resources, it has a bearing on everyone. As members of society, each one of us is a consumer and a producer. But how does this system function? How does the South African economy fit into the global economy? What can be done to encourage higher economic growth, resulting in a better standard of living for all? Economists study these and other issues.

CAREERS IN ECONOMICS

Economics allows a wide choice of careers. Although some careers do require postgraduate studies in Economics and Econometrics, experience has shown that undergraduate qualifications in Economics yield good returns for careers in the business world and in the public sector. In business, microeconomics facilitates logical decision-making in the firm, while macroeconomics provides insight into the economic environment within which the enterprise operates. Majoring in Economics may also improve the likelihood of promotion in government departments. Economics also creates opportunities in teaching and is recommended for students who envisage a career in journalism.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS BACHELORS' DEGREES



BCom, BCom (Management Sciences) and BCom (Economic Sciences)

* Overall NSC or IEB average of at least 65% excluding Life Orientation
NBTs AQL & MAT
Mathematics 60%***
Minimum EMS language admission requirements**

BCom (Management Sciences) (Extended Degree Programme) (EDP)

* Overall NSC or IEB average of at least 65%, excluding Life Orientation
NBTs AQL & MAT
Mathematics 50%
Minimum EMS language admission requirements**

BA (Political, Philosophical and Economic Studies) (PPE)

Overall NSC or IEB average of at least 65%, excluding Life Orientation
NBT AQL
Mathematics 60%***
Home Language 50%, First Additional Language 40%

BCom (International Business)

* Overall NSC or IEB average of at least 80% excluding Life Orientation
NBTs AQL & MAT
Mathematics 70%
English HL 70% OR English FAL 80% (Any additional language 70%)

* Note that the EMS Faculty has **minimum selection marks** for applications.
The selection mark and minimum requirements are revised annually. See www.sun.ac.za/ems for 2020 admission requirements.

* Selection mark = $(2 \times \text{Mathematics average} + \text{the average of 5 other subjects, excluding LO}) \div 7$
** English HL 50% OR Afrikaans HL 50% OR English FAL 60% OR Afrikaans FAL 60%
*** If students wish to take Mathematics and/or Computer Science at University, they require 70%

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+27 21 808 2247



ECONOMICS DEGREE PROGRAMMES

Due to its nature as a social science, Economics is offered both within focused and broader degree pro-grammes, as well as across faculties. A general BCom and BCom (Management Sciences) are the broadest programmes on offer within the EMS Faculty. These are not intended to prepare a student for any one career, but to provide broad, formative training, whilst allowing for deeper inquest into one of the focal ar-eas of the commerce sciences. These programmes offer the opportunity to devise a study programme that incor-porates Economics, as well as a field of study from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. Economics is studied up to the third year when studying a BCom (Economic Sciences) or a BA (PPE) degree.

BCOM FOCAL AREAS ECONOMICS MAJOR

Agricultural Economics

This is an interdisciplinary field that studies the application of economic and management sciences to the production and marketing of agricultural and food products. This qualification provides access to professional occupations in the growing domestic and international agricultural and food industries.

Investment Management

This focal area is specifically developed to enable students to study successfully for Level 1 of the examination for the international CFA® qualification, which focuses on portfolio management and investment analysis.

BCOM FOCAL AREAS ECONOMICS MAJOR

Public & Development Manag.

This focal area provides essential prepa-ration for professions in the public, business and voluntary sectors. This focal area is also an option in BA degree programmes (for example, PPE, Social Dynamics and Socio-Informatics).

BCom (Financial Manag.)

This focal area is geared to employment in the private sector, where specialised knowledge of financial management and analysis is required. Career possibilities include financial director, financial advisor, and financial analyst.

ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

BA (PPE)

This degree will be attractive to students interested in formulating economic policy, and taking account of the implications of such policies for the political and ethical governance of the world. A PPE (Philosophy, Political Science and Economics) degree forms a sound foundation from which to seek a career in senior policy making (private or public sectors), as well as careers in international trade diplomacy, journalism, investment analysis, consultant, researcher or academic.

BCOM (ECON SCIENCES) FOCAL AREAS

Econometrics

This focal area is proposed for students with strong quantitative aptitudes. Emphasis is placed on advanced math and statistics, giving students a strong foundation for employment as econometricians in the financial/ public sectors, or at a research institution.

Financial Sector

This programme is best suited for a student wanting to seek employment in the financial sector, and places ongoing emphasis on Mathematics and statistical skills, as well as skills required to analyse investment opportunities and the financial statements of companies.

BCOM (ECON SCIENCES) FOCAL AREAS

Econ. & Manag. Consultation

A good knowledge of Economics is combined with broad exposure to commercial and management subjects, providing the necessary background to be able to make business-related recom-mendations covering a broad spectrum of fields.

Transport Economics

Transport economists plan and manage transport infrastructure, the formulation of transport policy and the control of transport systems for public enterprises and transport organisations.

POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS



COURSES POSTGRADUATE

Econometrics
Public Economics
Development Economics
Economics of Education
International Finance
Labour Economics
Behavioural Economics
Health Economics
Economic History
Institutional Organisation
Environmental Economics
Dynamic Economic Theory
Monetary Economics
International Trade
Financial Economics
Technology and Institutions