

## Economics:

An economics major equips students with the ability to analyze and interpret economic data, understand market behavior, and apply economic theory to real-world problems. The program covers microeconomics, macroeconomics, econometrics, and policy analysis, providing students with a deep understanding of how economies function at both individual and global levels. Graduates are well-prepared for roles that require data analysis, critical thinking, and problem-solving. Economics professionals work in a variety of industries, using their skills to influence business decisions, government policies, and economic strategies.

### Typical Industry Sectors:

- ❖ Government and Public Policy
- ❖ Finance and Banking
- ❖ Consulting
- ❖ International Development
- ❖ Healthcare

### Entry-Level Job Title Examples:

- ❖ Economic Analyst
- ❖ Financial Analyst
- ❖ Research Assistant
- ❖ Policy Analyst
- ❖ Data Analyst
- ❖ Public Affairs Specialist
- ❖ Risk Analyst
- ❖ Economic Consultant
- ❖ Statistician
- ❖ Market Research Associate

### Skills Needed (Hard):

- ❖ Data Analysis and Statistical Software
- ❖ Econometrics and Economic Modeling
- ❖ Financial and Economic Reporting
- ❖ Forecasting and Trend Analysis
- ❖ Excel and Spreadsheet Proficiency

### Skills Needed (Soft):

- ❖ Critical Thinking & Problem-Solving Skills
- ❖ Attention to Detail
- ❖ Communication
- ❖ Time Management
- ❖ Research

### Further Education/Training:

While a degree in economics provides a solid foundation, additional certifications or training can enhance job prospects. For example, pursuing the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) certification or Certified Business Economist (CBE) credential can be valuable for those interested in finance or economic consulting. Proficiency in advanced statistical software or pursuing graduate studies in economics or related fields can further boost your qualifications.

### Student and National Organizations to Join:

- ❖ [National Association for Business Economics \(NABE\)](#) – Offers networking and professional development for economics students.
- ❖ [American Economic Association \(AEA\)](#) – A major national association for economists offering resources, conferences, and scholarships.
- ❖ WKU Economics Club – A student-run organization offering guest lectures, networking, and career support for economics majors.
- ❖ [Omicron Delta Epsilon \(ODE\)](#) – An international honor society for economics students.
- ❖ [National Economic Association \(NEA\)](#) – Focuses on promoting diversity and inclusion within the field of economics, offering resources for students.