

## Requirements for a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics

**University requirements** are completed by all students earning a degree at Michigan State University. They consist of:

- One 4-credit [Writing, Rhetoric & American Cultures \(WRA\)](#) course from WRA 110 – 195H (fulfills the Tier I Writing requirement, must earn minimum 2.0)
- Two 4-credit [Integrative Studies in Arts & Humanities \(IAH\)](#) courses:
  - One from IAH 201 – 210
  - One from IAH 211 – 251
- One 3-credit [Integrative Studies in Biological Science \(ISB\)](#) course
- One 3-credit [Integrative Studies in Physical Science \(ISP\)](#) course
- One 2-credit [Integrative Studies Laboratory](#) course that corresponds with either the ISB or the ISP course
- Two 4-credit [Integrative Studies in Social, Behavioral & Economic Sciences \(ISS\)](#) courses:
  - One from ISS 200-level
  - One from ISS 300-level
- [University Mathematics](#) requirement, choose one from: MTH 124 or MTH 132 or MTH 152H
- [University Diversity Distribution](#) requirement  
Courses in the IAH and ISS categories carry a designation at the end of the title of the course. These courses will have one of the following designations:  
**“I” (International Diversity),**  
**“N” (National Diversity),** or  
**“D” (represents both National Diversity and International and Multicultural Diversity)**

To comply with this University requirement a student must include at least one "N" course and one "I" course in his/her Integrative Studies program. A "D" course may meet either an "N" or an "I" requirement, but not both. In other words, of the four courses used to meet this requirement, they must fulfill at least two of the designations (e.g. **N & I, N & D, or I & D**).

**Transfer students should consult with their advisor regarding whether some transfer credits may be applicable to the above requirements.**

<http://www.reg.msu.edu/read/UCC/Updated/undgredgreq.pdf>

All Economics majors in the **College of Social Science** must satisfy the following subject matter and credit distribution requirements, in addition to the graduation requirements of the University.

All students earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics complete a minimum of 30 credits toward the College requirements. The coursework is divided among three areas: **social science**, **arts & letters**, and **natural science**.

**Social Science** – must complete a minimum of 15 credits from the following areas:

<b>ANP</b> – Anthropology	<b>PLS</b> – Political Science
<b>CJ</b> – Criminal Justice	<b>PSY</b> – Psychology
<b>FCE</b> – Family & Child Ecology	<b>SOC</b> – Sociology
<b>GEO</b> – Geography	<b>SW</b> – Social Work
<b>HST</b> – History	<b>UP</b> – Urban Planning

NOTE: If you became an Economics major **before** Summer 2005, different rules apply as regards the use of History and Family & Child Ecology. Consult your advisor!

**Arts & Letters** – must complete a minimum of 9 credits from the following areas:

<b>AMS</b> – American Studies	<b>PHL</b> – Philosophy
<b>CLA</b> – Classical Studies	<b>REL</b> – Religious Studies
<b>ENG</b> – English	<b>ROM</b> – Romance Languages
<b>GSAH</b> – Global Studies in the Arts & Humanities	<b>STA</b> – Studio Art
<b>HA</b> – History of Art	<b>THR</b> – Theatre
<b>LIN</b> – Linguistics	<b>WS</b> – Women’s Studies
<b>MUS</b> – Music	
<b>CEP</b> – courses representing Sign Language: 341, 441A, 441B, 442A, and 442B	
<b>IAH</b> – Integrative Studies in Arts & Humanities ( <i>excess IAH only, may not use courses used to meet the University IAH requirement</i> )	
<b>WRA</b> – Writing, Rhetoric & American Cultures (courses 200 & above, but not 290)	
<b>Foreign Languages:</b> African languages, Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Latin, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and LL (less commonly taught languages such as Korean, Vietnamese or Tagalog)	

**Natural Science** – Economics majors pursuing the B.A. degree must complete a minimum of 6 credits from the courses listed below:

One of **CSE 101** or **CSE 131**  
One of **STT 315, 421, 430, or 441**

## Distribution Requirements

Complete a minimum of 30 credits in courses numbered at the 300-level and above. Courses offered by the student’s major department or school may be used to satisfy this requirement.

A maximum of 12 credits of independent study may be applied to the degree.

A maximum of 12 credits of internship, field experience, or practicum credits may be applied to the degree.

The total of independent study, internship, field experience, or practicum credits applied to the degree may not exceed 20 credits.

Not more than 4 credits of independent study, internship, field experience, or practicum courses may be used to fulfill College requirements.

Courses applied to the University requirements in Integrative Studies and Mathematics **may not** also be counted toward the College graduation requirements.

Unless otherwise noted, no courses offered by a student's major department or school may be counted toward the College requirements.

Only credits in courses graded on the numerical or Pass/No Pass system may be counted toward University, College and major requirements, i.e. courses taken in satisfaction of University, College, and major requirements may not be taken on a Credit/No Credit basis.

Requirements for the **Economics major**:

Complete a minimum of 30 Economics credits with a minimum Economics GPA of 2.0.

1. **All** of the following courses in the Department of Economics (18 credits):

EC 201 Introduction to Microeconomics.....	3
EC 202 Introduction to Macroeconomics .....	3
EC 301 Intermediate Microeconomics .....	3
EC 302 Intermediate Macroeconomics. ....	3
EC 420 Introduction to Econometric Methods.....	.3
EC 499 Senior Seminar for Economics Majors (W) .....	3

**Note: Effective Spring 2010, a minimum EC GPA of 2.0 is required for eligibility into EC 499 in addition to established prerequisites.**

EC 251H may be substituted for EC 201 and EC 301. Students who elect this substitution, and who do not take EC 252H, may satisfy the requirement referenced in item 3 by completing at least 2 to 3 credits in Economics courses at the 300-level or 400-level, in addition to the 9 credits referenced in item 3.

EC 252H may be substituted for EC 202 and EC 302. Students who elect this substitution, and who do not take EC 251H, may satisfy the requirement referenced in item 3 by completing at least 3 credits in Economics courses at the 300-level or 400-level, in addition to the 9 credits referenced in item 3.

EC 251H and EC 252H may be substituted for the following group of courses: EC 201, EC 202, EC 301, and EC 302. Students who elect this substitution may satisfy the requirement referenced in item 3 by completing at least 5 to 6 credits in two Economics courses at the 300-level or 400-level in addition to the 9 credits referenced in item 3.

2. **One** of the following Economics courses in the international area: 306, 310, 340, 406, 410, 412, 413, 414, 440, 441 (3 credits).

3. **Nine additional credits** in Economics courses, of which *at least* six credits must be at the 400-level, while the other three credits may be 300-level or 400-level.

Students may elect to complete more economics courses than those needed to complete the requirements for the major, with the understanding that the grades earned in such courses will be included in the computation of the grade-point average for courses in the major to meet College of Social Science graduation requirements.

In addition, students may elect to complete the requirements for the **optional Business Cognate**. The Business Cognate is met by completing four of the following courses (12 credits):

- ACC 230 Survey of Accounting Concepts..... 3  
(may substitute ACC 201 **and** ACC 202 for ACC 230; counts as 3 of the 12 credits)
- FI 320 Introduction to Finance..... 3
- GBL 323 Introduction to Business Law ..... 3
- MGT 325 Management Skills and Processes ..... 3
- MKT 327 Introduction to Marketing.. ..... 3

### Some Economics Sequencing and Availability Highlights

Please review [course descriptions](#). It is essential that your completion plan takes into account prerequisites, recommended background, and course availability; not only for Economics courses but for all courses you may wish to take. **Courses listed as prerequisites **MAY NOT** be taken concurrently with the course for which they are identified as a prerequisite.**

- All 300-level Economics courses require EC 201 or EC 251H as a prerequisite.
- Most 300-level Economics courses require EC 201 or EC 251H **and** EC 202 or EC 252H as prerequisites.
- EC 301 requires calculus, i.e. MTH 124, MTH 132, or MTH 152H as a prerequisite.
- All 400-level EC courses require EC 301 or EC 251H as a prerequisite. Some 400-level EC courses require EC 301 or EC 251H **and** EC 302 or EC 252H as prerequisites.
- EC 420 requires EC 301, calculus, and statistics.
- EC 499 requires EC 301, EC 302, EC 420, and the Tier I Writing Requirement (WRA110-195H).  
**Note: Effective Spring 2010, a minimum EC GPA of 2.0 is required for eligibility into EC 499 in addition to established prerequisites.**
- We do not offer EC 400-level courses during the summer, but we do offer many EC 300-level courses.
- Students who earn credit in either EC 440 or EC 441 may not then earn credit in EC 340. It is possible to earn credit in EC 340 first and then earn credit in EC 440 and/or EC 441, but once credit has been earned in either of the advanced courses, you may not earn credit in EC 340.
- Students who earn credit in either EC 435 or EC 436 may not then earn credit in EC 335. It is possible to earn credit in EC 335 first and then earn credit in EC 435 and/or EC 436, but once credit has been earned in either of the advanced courses, you may not earn credit in EC 335.

rev. July 2009