

BA Econ

Bachelor of Arts in Economics

Under Review | Fall 2024

Proposal Information

Status

Active

Workflow Status

In Progress

Faculty Senate Approval, Faculty Senate

expand ▲

Waiting for Approval | Faculty Senate Approval

Rick Holmes

Nancy Middlebrook

Changes

- Program Description
- Emphasis required
- Requirements
- participants
- Proposed Effective Term and Year

Show All ▼

Proposal Information

Proposed

Sponsoring faculty/staff member

Cristina Reiser

Proposed

Sponsoring faculty/staff email

creiser@unm.edu

Existing

Sponsoring faculty/staff member

Existing

Sponsoring faculty/staff email

College

College of Arts & Sciences

Department

Economics

Campus

Main Campus

Effective Term and Year

Proposed
Proposed Effective Term and Year
Fall 2024

Existing
Proposed Effective Term and Year
Fall 2006

Justification

Proposed
Program Justification
(1) Correcting and updating the program requirements. (2) Updating program description.

Existing
Program Justification

Program Category and Level

Program Category	Program Level	Degree, Minor, or Certificate Name
Program	Undergraduate	Bachelor of Arts in Economics

Degree Type
Bachelor of Arts

Degree/Certificate Level
Undergraduate

Is this program also offered online?	Format(s)	AOP MOU
Yes		

Associated Forms

Select any associated course forms that exist

Select any associated program forms that exist

Shared Credit and Dual Degree information

Interdepartmental Program
No

Catalog Information

Proposed

Program Description

Is a green economy possible? Is crime an economic problem? Does globalization help or hurt workers? What's the best way to deal with drought? Should healthcare be free? Why are some countries rich and others poor?

At the Department of Economics, undergraduates learn to answer thought-provoking questions like these and more. We view economics learning as a pathway to careers and opportunities that are both personally rewarding while contributing to societal well-being. Our motto is "*do well, but do good.*" To that end, we strive to provide students with the underlying theory, application, assessment, and connection to our community, region, and the planet.

Our program is designed for a diverse range of student interests. Whether you prefer a broad liberal arts curriculum or a more quantitative focus, our program offers enough flexibility to prepare you for life after graduation. Economics students excel at key skills employers consistently rank as most important: data literacy, critical thinking, complex problem-solving, and collaboration skills. Graduates distinguish themselves across a wide array of professional fields, from consulting to big data to government; and many pursue advanced graduate degrees in economics, public policy, geography, business, and law.

In addition,

- Students can earn their BA and MA in Economics in 5 years through our BA/MA in Economics Shared Credit Program.
- We also offer a Minor in Economics.

Learn more about our program by visiting our website: [UNM Economics Undergraduate Program](#)

Existing

Program Description

What's the best way to reduce carbon emissions? Is a green economy possible? What should be done about the federal budget deficit? Will graduating seniors ever collect on Social Security? Can government policies reduce unemployment? Is crime an economic problem? Is obesity an economic problem? Why are some countries rich and others poor? Does international trade help or hurt workers in the United States? Economics provides answers to questions like these by analyzing how societies and markets allocate scarce resources, how incentives shape human behavior and why there are tradeoffs in virtually all public policy options. Majors develop analytical and quantitative skills including modeling and data analysis. They understand macroeconomic relationships that explain economic growth, unemployment and inflation and exchange rate fluctuations. They also study the microeconomics of the public sector, industrial organization, labor and human resources, health, natural resource use, the environment, trade and development. For more advisement information visit: artsci.unm.edu/advisement

Potential Minors for Economics Majors

An interdisciplinary approach is useful in the study of economics. Economics majors are encouraged to seek a minor in disciplines such as Computer Science, History, Geography, International Studies, Mathematics, Management, Political Science, Sociology or Sustainability Studies. Students should discuss the selection of a minor with the Economics Undergraduate Director. Students with specialized interests may design a distributed minor and petition the Department Chairperson for approval.

Suggested areas of focus

Pre-graduate: For students considering a Ph.D., a course in Linear Algebra or Matrices is strongly recommended (e.g. MATH **314 or MATH **321). Students should also consult with the Economics Undergraduate Director for additional recommendations. Suggested electives include:

- ECON **315, *320, 342, *343, *350, *403, *407, *409, *424, *442 and *466.

Pre-law: Suggested electives include:

- ECON *320, *330, *332, *333, *335, 342, and *350.

The Economics Department offers a variety of elective course topics such as the following:

- International and Latin American Economics: ECON *321, and *424.
- Natural Resources and Environmental Economics: ECON 342, *343 and *442.
- Labor and Human Resources: ECON *320, *335, *410 and *427.
- Public Finance: ECON *350 and.
- Economic Modeling, Forecasting and Policy Analysis: ECON *407, *408, and *409.

Admissions Requirements

A minimum of 26 credit hours; 23 credit hours must be in courses acceptable toward graduation.

A cumulative grade point average of at least 2.00 on all work.

- Transfer students must have a 2.00 transfer GPA.
- Continuing UNM students must have a 2.00 institutional GPA.

Demonstrated academic achievement by satisfying the following:

- Completion of General Education Curriculum: Communication.
- Completion of General Education Curriculum: Mathematics and Statistics.
- Completion of General Education Curriculum: Second Language.

Completion of Department of Economics admission coursework with grades of "C" or better:

- ECON 2110.
- ECON 2120.

Graduation Requirements

Professional Credential/Licensure Program Information

Proposed

License/Certification associated with program

No

Existing

License/Certification associated with program

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Degree Information

Degree Hours

120

Minimum Major Hours

33

Professional Accrediting Bodies

Degree Requirements

Requirements

- Complete all of the following
 - Complete the following:
 - ECON2110 - Macroeconomic Principles (3)
 - ECON2120 - Microeconomic Principles (3)
 - ECON300 - Intermediate Microeconomics I (3)
 - ECON303 - Intermediate Macroeconomics I (3)
 - ECON309 - Introductory Statistics and Econometrics (3)
 - Earn at least 18 credits from the following types of courses:
Additionally, **Economics students must complete a maximum of 3 credit hours of electives in 2000-level Economics courses and with a minimum of 3 credit hours from 2000a 400-level courses excluding independent studies and departmental honors.**
 - Complete at least 1 of the following:
 - ~~ECON407 – Mathematical Methods in Economics- (3)~~
 - ~~ECON408 – Economic Forecasting Methods: A Time Series Approach- (3)~~
 - ~~ECON409 – Intermediate Econometrics- (3)~~
 - ~~ECON410 – Topics in Health Economics- (3)~~
 - ~~ECON424 – International Trade- (3)~~
 - ~~ECON427 – Topics in Labor Economics- (3)~~
 - ~~ECON442 – Topics in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics- (3)~~
 - ~~ECON466 – Public Sector Project Analysis- (3)~~
 - ~~ECON478 – Seminar in International Studies- (3)~~
 - Earn at least ~~84~~ **87** credits from the following types of courses:
In addition to the program-specific requirements outlined here, all undergraduate students are required to fulfill UNM's General Education Program requirements and other general undergraduate degree requirements to earn a minimum of 120 credits. In some instances, courses included in an undergraduate degree program's requirement may also fulfill a General Education requirement. Please review the General Education Program in this Catalog for General Education information. Students within the College of Arts and Sciences must also complete 1) a major and a minor; or 2) two majors; or 3) one of the special curricula of the College that requires no minor.

Grand Total Credits: 120

Concentrations

Program Concentrations

Code	Title
Concentration Required	
No	

Emphases

Proposed
Emphasis required
No

Emphasis Hours

Existing
Emphasis required
N/A

Emphasis Rules

No Rules

Sample Degree Plan

Sample Degree Plan Upload

Program Learning Outcomes

Proposed
Learning Outcomes

Economics majors will graduate with a breadth of skills and knowledge in the following areas:

- **Theory:** Economics graduates will be able to explain, graph, and analyze key economics models.
- **Institutional Context:** Economics graduates will be able to analyze the economics and institutional arrangements of specific regions, countries, organizations, localities, industries or firms.
- **Data Analysis:** Economics graduates will be able to generate and interpret summary statistics and regression models; and identify data sources, describe appropriate empirical tools, and perform research on data they retrieve from original surveys, or official and industry sources.
- **Critical Thinking:** Economics graduates will be able evaluate economic issues and public policy by using economic models or data analysis while identifying underlying assumptions of the model(s) and limitations
- **Communication:** Economics graduates will be able effectively communicate economic ideas.
- **Economic Citizenship:** Economics graduates will be able formulate informed opinions on policy issues and recognize the validity of opposing viewpoints.

Existing
Learning Outcomes