

# BACHELOR OF ARTS WITH A MAJOR IN ECONOMICS

Economics is a versatile major wherein students develop analytical and quantitative abilities while learning about the functionality of the economy. Students in GW's economics program investigate the consequences of scarcity, which forces people, organizations, and governments to choose among competing objectives. They also learn to understand the workings of markets and how prices are determined. The Department of Economics is a community of teachers and researchers in which students learn and work alongside experts in macroeconomics, microeconomics, labor economics, the economics of industry, international finance, international trade and development, money and banking, the economics of government and public policy, and econometrics. Outside the classroom, GW's location provides unparalleled access to economic institutions like the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Federal Reserve, Federal Trade Commission, and Department of Labor.

Visit the program website (<https://economics.columbian.gwu.edu/>) for additional information.

## ADMISSIONS

For information about the admission process, including deadlines, visit the Office of Undergraduate Admissions website (<https://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/>). Applications can be submitted via the Common Application (<https://go.gwu.edu/commonapp/>).

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

Office of Undergraduate Admissions  
The George Washington University  
800 21st St NW Suite 100  
Washington, DC 20052

For questions visit [undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/contact-us](https://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/contact-us) (<http://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/contact-us/>).

## REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled:

The general requirements stated under Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, Undergraduate Programs (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#degreeregulationtext>).

Program-specific curriculum:

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required core courses</b>		
ECON 1011	Principles of Economics I *	
ECON 1012	Principles of Economics II	

ECON 2101	Intermediate Microeconomic Theory
or ECON 2103	Intermediate Microeconomic Theory: A Mathematical Approach
ECON 2102	Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory
or ECON 2104	Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory: A Mathematical Approach
ECON 2123	Introduction to Econometrics
or STAT 2112	Business and Economic Statistics II
or STAT 2118	Regression Analysis
MATH 1221	Calculus with Precalculus II
or MATH 1231	Single-Variable Calculus I
or MATH 1252	Calculus for the Social and Management Sciences
STAT 1111	Business and Economic Statistics I (or equivalent)
or STAT 1051	Introduction to Business and Economic Statistics
or STAT 1053	Introduction to Statistics in Social Science

### Electives

Seven courses (21 credits) in Economics (ECON) electives numbered between 2000 and 4999 are required. At least one of these courses should be an ECON WID course. The following guidelines and restrictions apply:

FINA 3101 and/or FINA 3301 may be used as substitutes for up to two ECON elective courses (6 credits) numbered between 2000 and 4999. However, credit may not be earned for both FINA 3301 and ECON 2121.

No more than three courses (9 credits) can be selected from ECON 2169, ECON 2198, ECON 3098, and ECON 3198.

No more than two courses (6 credits) can be selected from ECON 2180, ECON 2181, and ECON 2182. ECON 2180 does not satisfy the major elective requirement if taken concurrently with or after successful completion of ECON 2181 or ECON 2182.

If ECON 2123 is taken instead of STAT 2112 or STAT 2118, only six additional ECON courses (18 credits) are required.

\* Post-matriculation residency requirement: ECON 1011 must be taken at GW to count toward the major. Students who matriculate with AP or transfer credit for ECON 1011 are exempt from this residency requirement.

Information about the total number of in elective courses required if ECON 2123 it taken was corrected on September 15, 2024, from five courses (15 credits) to six courses (18 credits). This is a correction, not a change in the program

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## GENERAL EDUCATION

In addition to the University General Education Requirement (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/university-regulations/general-education/>), undergraduate students in Columbian College must complete a further, College-specific general education curriculum—Perspective, Analysis, Communication (G-PAC) (<https://advising.columbian.gwu.edu/general-education-curriculum-gpac/>) as well as the course CCAS 1001 First-Year Experience. Together with the University General Education Requirement, G-PAC engages students in active intellectual inquiry across the liberal arts. Students achieve a set of learning outcomes that enhance their analytical skills, develop their communication competencies, and invite them to participate as responsible citizens who are attentive to issues of culture, diversity, and privilege.

**Coursework (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/university-regulations/general-education/#generaleducationtext>) for the University General Education Requirement is distributed as follows:**

- One course in critical thinking in the humanities.
- Two courses in critical thinking, quantitative reasoning, or scientific reasoning in the social sciences.
- One course that has an approved oral communication component.
- One course in quantitative reasoning (must be in mathematics or statistics).
- One course in scientific reasoning (must be in natural and/or physical laboratory sciences).
- UW 1020 University Writing
- After successful completion of UW 1020, 6 credits distributed over at least two writing in the discipline (WID) courses taken in separate semesters. WID courses are designated by a "W" appended to the course number.

**Coursework for the CCAS G-PAC requirement is distributed as follows:**

- Arts—one approved arts course that involves the study or creation of artwork based on an understanding or interpretation of artistic traditions or knowledge of art in a contemporary context.
- Global or cross-cultural perspective—one approved course that analyzes the ways in which institutions, practices, and problems transcend national and regional boundaries.
- Local or civic engagement—one approved course that develops the values, ethics, disciplines, and commitment to pursue responsible public action.
- Natural or physical science—one additional approved laboratory course that employs the process of scientific inquiry (in addition

to the one course in this category required by the University General Education Requirement).

- Humanities—one additional approved humanities course that involves critical thinking skills (in addition to the one course in this category required by the University General Education Requirement).
- CCAS 1001 First-Year Experience

**Certain courses are approved to fulfill GPAC requirements in more than one category.**

Courses taken in fulfillment of G-PAC requirements can also be counted toward majors or minors. Transfer courses taken prior to, but not after, admission to George Washington University can count toward the University General Education Requirement and G-PAC, if those transfer courses are equivalent to GW courses that have been approved by the University and the College.

Lists of approved courses in the above categories are included on each undergraduate major's (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#majorstext>) page in this Bulletin.

## SPECIAL HONORS

In addition to meeting the University General Education Requirement (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/university-regulations/general-education/>), to be considered for graduation with Special Honors in Economics students must have taken at least six graded Economics (ECON) courses for a total of 18 credits prior to the semester of expected graduation; have a minimum GPA of 3.8 in all ECON courses (calculated using all ECON courses completed at GW prior to the semester of expected graduation); and submit a completed application for Special Honors to the Department of Economics at the beginning of the semester of expected graduation.

Students also may be considered for Special Honors in Economics if their proseminar research paper is nominated for departmental prizes.

## COMBINED PROGRAM

### Combined program

- Dual Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science with a major in economics and Master of Public Policy (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/economics/combined-ba-or-bs-and-mpp/>)