

Bert W. Wasserman Department of Economics and Finance

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Field Description

The Bert W. Wasserman Department of Economics and Finance offers courses that enable students to prepare for careers in all areas of finance and business economics.

Economics presents theories and tools for systematic analyses of economic forces that affect everyday life. It includes microeconomics, macro-economics, and international economics. Micro-economics analyzes the actions and interactions of individual consumers, business, and government. Macroeconomics studies national income, inflation, unemployment, economic growth, and government policies. International economics builds on micro- and macro-economics to study international trade, finance, markets, and institutions.

Finance includes the study of money and capital markets, investments, and corporate finance. In addition to these traditional areas, it includes the study of modern developments in derivatives; financial market structure, such as electronic-based trading techniques and markets; and international markets and corporate finance.

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The Majors

- [The BBA Major in Finance](#)
- [The BBA Major in Economics](#)
- [The BA Major in Economic](#)

The BBA Major in Finance

The finance major prepares students for professional positions in financial institutions, including commercial, investment, and savings banks; brokerage firms; insurance companies; investment advisory services; and finance companies. Students will also be well prepared to enter the finance departments of nonfinancial corporations, nonprofit institutions, and governmental agencies.

Students who are planning on future graduate study in finance or business are strongly recommended to include advanced courses in mathematics, statistics, and econometrics in their undergraduate programs.

Program Learning Goals

Corporate Finance	Students will develop an understanding of the key concepts of time value of money, corporate finance models for project valuation, and basic capital structure and dividend theory.
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Investments	Students will be able to define and calculate standard risk and return measures, value simple equity and bonds securities, and explain the modern portfolio theory and the capital asset pricing model.
Derivatives	Students will understand the basic applications of derivatives in investments and corporate finance and will be able to discuss the characteristics of derivative products.
Data Analysis	Students will be able to analyze data and estimate models for project valuation to support business decisions

Required courses for the BBA degree include [ECO 1001](#), [ECO 1002](#), and [FIN 3000](#). FIN 3000 is a prerequisite to all other finance courses.

The finance major includes three required courses (9 credits) and five electives (15 credits). Liberal arts courses applied in this major will count towards the 54 business credit minimum instead of the 62 liberal arts credit minimum.

Required Courses 9 credits

The three required courses build on the foundations of the introductory finance course. These courses are prerequisites to all 4000-level finance courses. **Students must earn a GPA of 2.0 or better in the three required courses to take any of the 4000-level finance courses.**

FIN 3610	Corporate Finance	3 credits
FIN 3710	Investment Analysis	3 credits
ECO 4000	Statistical Analysis for Economics and Finance	3 credits

Elective Courses 15 credits

In addition to the three required courses, a student majoring in finance must take a meaningful combination of **five elective** finance, economics, or insurance courses at the 3000 level or 4000 level. Of these five courses, **at least three of the five must be 4000 level finance courses**, and **at least one of the 4000 level finance courses must be FIN 4610 or FIN 4710**. Students may use one or two courses from the following list as major electives:

ACC 3000	Financial Accounting I	3 credits
ACC 3100	Financial Accounting II	3 credits
RES 3200	Property Investment and Financing	3 credits
RES 3400	Real Estate Capital Markets	3 credits
RES 4200	Investment Strategies in Property Markets	3 credits
RES 4400	Valuations and Underwriting of Securitized Real Estate	3 credits

Note: Internship course credits cannot be counted toward credits required for the major.

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The BBA Major in Economics

A BBA degree with a major in economics prepares students for entry-level positions in business, nonprofit organizations, governmental agencies, and private consulting. This work includes economic analysis, research, and empirical analysis.

Students choosing an economics major are advised that a position as a professional economist usually requires a graduate degree in economics. Students planning to enter a graduate program in economics are strongly recommended to include advanced courses in mathematics, statistics, and econometrics in their undergraduate programs.

Program Learning Goals

Consumer and Firm behavior	Students will develop understanding of models of consumer and firm choices and evaluate their role in real-life decisions
Markets and Competition	Students will be able to differentiate market structures and compare their implications for the determination of market prices
Growth	Students will be able to discuss and analyze the driving factors behind the long-run growth performance of nations
Business Cycle and Economic Policy	Students will be able to identify the causes of the short-run fluctuations of the economy and formulate and assess fiscal and monetary policies to mitigate the economic and social cost
Data and Economic Decisions	Students will be able to analyze data and estimate models to explain economic relationship and to support business decisions

Required courses for the BBA degree include [ECO 1001](#) and [ECO 1002](#), courses that form the foundation of knowledge in micro- and macro-economics, respectively. These courses are prerequisites for all other economics courses.

The economics major includes three required courses (9 credits) and five electives (15 credits). Liberal arts courses applied in this major will count towards the 54 business credit minimum instead of the 62 liberal arts credit minimum.

Required Courses 9 credits

The three required courses build on the foundations of the introductory micro- and macro-economics courses. Economics majors should plan on taking all three, especially ECO 4000, as early in their major program as possible.

ECO 3100	Intermediate Micro-Economics	3 credits
ECO 3200	Intermediate Macro-Economics	3 credits
ECO 4000	Statistical Analysis for Economics and Finance	3 credits

Elective Courses 15 credits

In addition to the three required courses, an economics major must take a meaningful combination of five economics, finance, or insurance courses at the 3000 level or higher. Of these five courses, at least two must be economics courses at the 4000 level or higher. FIN 3000 may not be included in the economics major. When appropriate, a student may include up to two advanced courses from other disciplines in the five electives.

Note: Internship course credits cannot be counted toward credits required for the major.

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The BA Major in Economics

A BA degree with a major in economics deals with concepts, techniques, and cases in economics that acquaint the student with the general economic problems of modern society. This degree provides students with an excellent general background for a wide range of challenging business careers.

There are several prerequisites for the major. The major itself includes three required courses (9 credits) and 15 credits of electives.

Program Learning Goals

Upon completion of a major in Economics (BA), students will be able:

1. To apply economic analysis to evaluate problems they encounter in their daily lives
2. To apply economic analysis to evaluate government policies
3. To use empirical evidence to make an economic argument
4. To collect, analyze, and interpret economic data
5. To identify and solve problems
6. To develop deeper understanding of economic problems and their potential solutions based on specialized knowledge in specific areas of economics
7. To present economic arguments verbally or in written form

Major Course Requirements

Prerequisites to the Major (18-19 credits)		
<i>(Not Credited to the Major)</i>		
Course	Description	Crs
Business Courses (15 credits)		
BUS 1000	Introduction to Business	3 credits
<i>or</i>		
BUS 1011	Business Fundamentals: The Contemporary Business Landscape	3 credits
CIS 2200	Introduction to Information Systems and Technologies	3 credits
ECO 1001	Micro-Economics	3 credits
ECO 1002	Macro-Economics	3 credits
STA 2000	Business Statistics I *	3 credits
Mathematics (3-4 credits) **		
MTH 2003	Precalculus and Elements of Calculus 1A	3 credits

or		
MTH 2009	Precalculus	3 credits
or		
A more advanced calculus course		3-4 credits
NOTES: * PSY 2100 (previously STA 2100) is not applicable to the major. ** Students with credit for MTH 2000 , MTH 2001 , or MTH 2100 must complete a calculus course, typically, MTH 2207 .		
Required Courses in the Major (9 credits) The three required courses build on the foundations of the introductory micro- and macro-economics courses, ECO 1001 and ECO 1002 . Economics majors should plan on taking all three of the required courses, especially ECO 4000 , as early in their major program as possible.		
ECO 3100	Intermediate Micro-Economics	3 credits
ECO 3200	Intermediate Macro-Economics	3 credits
ECO 4000	Statistical Analysis for Economics and Finance	3 credits
Elective Courses (15 credits) PLEASE NOTE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Six (6) of the major's elective credits must be 4000-level ECO courses At least one of the 4000-level ECO courses must be a 3-credit communication-intensive (CIC) capstone course. With the exception of ECO 4000, ECO 4091 (1 credit), ECO 4092 (2 credits), ECO 4093 (3 credits), and ECO 4094 (1.5 credits), all 4000-economics level courses are CIC. ECO 4093 (the 3-credit special topics course) may be communication-intensive, depending on the course material. Students are required to check CUNYfirst section descriptions to determine any given topic's CIC status. 		
The elective courses for BA in Economics should be chosen from the list below:		
Any 3000 or 4000 level ECO course		1-3 credits each
BLS 3015	Black Economic Development: 1860 to the Present	3 credits
BLS 3016	Urban Economic Structure (LTS 3016)	3 credits
HIS 3410	History of American Business Enterprise	3 credits
PAF 3102	Economic Analysis of Public Policy	3 credits
PAF 3103	Economics of the Public Sector	3 credits
PHI 3050	Ethics, Economics, and the Business System	3 credits
POL 3103	Political Economy	3 credits
POL 3315	Government and the American Economy	3 credits

As with all BA majors, the liberal arts minor must be completed outside the department of the students major. A student majoring in economics cannot minor in finance.

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The Minors

- [Liberal Arts Minor in Economics](#)
- [Business Minor in Economics and Finance for Business Majors](#)

Liberal Arts Minor in Economics

The Bert W. Wasserman Department of Economics and Finance offers a liberal arts minor in economics. The liberal arts minor consists of 9 credits and requires that students take

- [ECO 3100](#) Intermediate Micro-Economics **or** [ECO 3200](#) Intermediate Macro-Economics
- 3 additional credits in 3000-level or 4000-level courses in economics
- A 3 credit communication-intensive 4000-level capstone course in economics.

It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that all prerequisites are met. If in doubt, students should check with an economics advisor to ensure their choices conform to the requirements of this concentration.

With the exception of ECO 4000, ECO 4091, ECO 4092, ECO 4093, ECO 4094, and ECO 4150, all other 4000-level courses are communication-intensive courses. Sometimes ECO 4093 (a 3-credit special topics course) may be communication-intensive, depending on the course material. Students are required to check the course description in CUNYfirst. *Courses used for the liberal arts minor in Economics cannot be counted towards the 24 credits for the BBA in Finance.*

Below is a list of capstone courses that have been regularly offered in recent years, along with the matching lower-level courses that could constitute an Economics minor.

Capstone	Prerequisite	Third course
ECO 4100 (Advanced Microeconomics)	ECO 3100 (Intermediate Micro-Economic Theory)	any 3000- or 4000-level economics course
ECO 4200 (Advanced Macroeconomics)	ECO 3200 (Intermediate Macro-Economic Theory)	any 3000- or 4000-level economics course
ECO 4201 (Monetary Economics)	ECO 3200 (Intermediate Macro-Economic Theory)	any 3000- or 4000-level economics course
ECO 4051 (Financial Econometrics, offered infrequently)	ECO 4000 (Statistical Analysis for Economics and Finance)	ECO 3100 or ECO 3200

Note: Students should also be aware that not every course will be offered every semester, therefore, they should ensure that the program they select is flexible and are advised to check with the Department of Economics and Finance (VC 10-225, (646) 312-3450) prior to the beginning of each term regarding course availability.

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The Business Minor for Business Students - Economics and Finance

A minor in economics and finance requires 9 credits using any combination of the courses listed below:

Any 3000- or 4000-level ECO courses.		
FIN 3610	Corporate Finance	3 credits
FIN 3710	Investment Analysis	3 credits

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Courses

Courses in Economics (ECO)

ECO 1001	Micro-Economics	3 credits
ECO 1002	Macro-Economics	3 credits
ECO 1110	Current Economic Problems	3 credits
ECO 3093	Special Topics in Economics	3 credits
ECO 3094	Special Topics in Economics	1.5 credits
ECO 3100	Intermediate Micro-Economics	3 credits
ECO 3110	Industrial Organization and Public Policy	3 credits
ECO 3140	Game Theory	3 credits
ECO 3200	Intermediate Macro-Economics	3 credits
ECO 3220	Money, Banking, and Monetary Policy	3 credits
ECO 3250	International Economics and Finance	3 credits
ECO 3310	Principles of Public Finance	3 credits
ECO 3501	Economics of Labor	3 credits
ECO 4000	Statistical Analysis for Economics and Finance	3 credits
ECO 4010	Applied Micro-Econometrics	3 credits
ECO 4050	Economic and Business Forecasting	3 credits
ECO 4051	Financial Econometrics	3 credits
ECO 4093	Special Topics in Economics	3 credits
ECO 4094	Special Topics in Economics	1.5 credits
ECO 4100	Advanced Micro-Economics	3 credits
ECO 4120	Behavioral Economics	3 credits
ECO 4150	International Trade Course Title Change to: The Economics of International Trade (effective Spring 2021)	3 credits
ECO 4200	Advanced Macro-Economics	3 credits

ECO 4201	Monetary Economics	3 credits
ECO 5000	Independent Research in Economics	3 credits
ECO 5010	Internship in Economics I	3 credits
ECO 5011	Internship in Economics II	3 credits
ECO 6001H	Honors Economics I	3 credits
ECO 6002H	Honors Economics II	3 credits

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Courses in Finance (FIN)

FIN 1601	Personal Finance	3 credits
FIN 2000	Principles of Financial Planning and Individual Investing	1.5 credits
FIN 3000	Principles of Finance	3 credits
FIN 3093	Special Topics in Finance	3 credits
FIN 3094	Special Topics in Finance	1.5 credits
FIN 3610	Corporate Finance	3 credits
FIN 3710	Investment Analysis	3 credits
FIN 4093	Special Topics in Finance	3 credits
FIN 4094	Special Topics in Finance	1.5 credits
FIN 4610	Advanced Corporate Finance	3 credits
FIN 4710	Advanced Investment Analysis	3 credits
FIN 4720	Futures Markets	3 credits
FIN 4730	Equity Markets: Trading and Structure	3 credits
FIN 4750	Options	3 credits
FIN 4775	Technical Analysis	3 credits
FIN 4780	Introduction to Microfinance	3 credits
FIN 4808	Risk Management in Financial Institutions I	3 credits
FIN 4810	Risk Management in Financial Institutions II	3 credits
FIN 4910	International Financial Markets	3 credits
FIN 4920	International Corporate Finance	3 credits

FIN 4930	Mergers and Acquisitions	3 credits
FIN 5000	Independent Research in Finance	3 credits
FIN 5610	Internship in Finance I	3 credits
FIN 5611	Internship in Finance II	3 credits
FIN 6001H	Honors Finance I	2 terms; 6 credits
FIN 6002H	Honors Finance II	2 terms; 6 credits

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Courses in Insurance (INS)

INS 3050	Risk and Risk Management	3 hours; 3 credits
INS 3200	Life and Health Insurance	3 hours; 3 credits
INS 3300	Property and Liability Insurance	3 hours; 3 credits

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