

Two Ways to Major in Economics: BA (Bachelor of Arts) and BS (Bachelor of Science)

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. How do they compare? What is involved in each program?

	BA	BS
Economics courses	11 total	14 total
Intro	EC 11. EC 12	EC 11. EC 12
Intermediate Topics	3, one can be at the 000-level	4, one can be at the 000-level
Intermediate Theory	EC 170, EC 171, EC 172	EC 170, EC 171, EC 172
Advanced	Any 3	5: EC 200, EC 280 and any 3
Math courses	Math 19 (or higher)	Math 21, Math 22, Math 121 and either Math 122 or Math 124
Other courses	---	CS 21 and CS 110
Distribution requirements	Complete all 7 categories Fine Arts (1 course) Foreign Language (2) Humanities (2) Literature (1) Natural Sci (2, one with lab) Math and Soc Sci categories are filled by required courses in the major	Complete 5 of 6 categories Fine Arts/Lit (2 courses) Foreign Language (2) Humanities (2) Natural Sci (2, both with lab) must be completed Math and Soc Sci categories are filled by required courses in the major
General requirements	All university requirements must be completed	All university requirements must be completed
Minor	Must complete minor or second major	Not required but can do a minor if desired

Note: Many courses have prerequisites. Plan your courses carefully.

2. How do I declare a major or change from one program to the other?

The online form for all choices of major and minor is on the Registrar's webpage. Changes can be made anytime.

3. Who should consider the BA?

Students who

- *want to take a second major or more than one minor; this is easier to do with the BA.
- *want to stop after one semester of calculus
- *do not want to take EC 200 Econometrics

*are coming to the program “late” and need to fit all the classes into the amount of time remaining

4. Who should consider the BS?

Students who

*want more credits in Economics rather than a second major or more than one minor

*want to take additional calculus and linear algebra

*definitely want to take EC 200 Econometrics

*are beginning the program “early” and can comfortably complete all the requirements

5. What if I want to pursue the BS but already took Math 19?

Take Math 23 (Transitional Calculus), followed by Math 121 for the calculus sequence.

6. What if I want to pursue the BS but Computer Science is really not relevant to my interests?

You may petition the Economics Department Chair for a different set of ancillary courses from the natural sciences, mathematics or statistics that is relevant to your coursework in Economics.