ECONOMICS

http://www.econ.jhu.edu/

The Department of Economics offers programs designed to improve the understanding of important economic problems and to provide the tools needed for the critical analysis of these problems and for dealing with them in practice.

On the undergraduate level, the department provides both for those who want to become professional economists and for those interested in a specialty related to economics, such as business, law, government, history, health care management, or environmental engineering. Still other students are simply interested in improving their understanding of society or making informed assessments of economic policies as citizens or making wise decisions about personal finances.

On the graduate level, the department provides advanced training for students preparing for careers as professional economists. The program encompasses such fields as macroeconomics, microeconomic theory, econometrics, labor economics, international economics, industrial organization, economic development, and finance, with an emphasis on the application of economic theory and quantitative methods. Because of the small number of graduate students admitted, they can work closely with faculty in graduate courses and seminars, and have easy and informal access to faculty members.

The introductory courses AS.180.101 Elements of Macroeconomics and AS.180.102 Elements of Microeconomics are open to all students. Courses at the 200-level have Elements of Economics (AS.180.101 and AS.180.102) as prerequisites.

AS.180.301 Microeconomic Theory (or AS.180.401 see below) and AS.180.302 Macroeconomic Theory courses have AS.180.101 and AS.180.102 as prerequisites. All 300-level courses above 301 and 302 have Microeconomic and/or Macroeconomic Theory (AS.180.301, AS.180.302) as prerequisites (or, with permission of the instructor, corequisites), as well as Elements of Economics and Calculus. Some 300-level courses have additional prerequisites; see individual course listings. Independent study is available, subject to the consent of the department and of the faculty member with whom the student wants to work.

Subject to the consent of the instructor, graduate courses at the 600-level are open to qualified undergraduates. The 600-level courses for which advanced undergraduates are most likely to be qualified are AS.180.601 Consumer & Producer Theory and AS.180.603 Macroeconomic Theory I.

Requirements for the B.A. Degree

(Also see Requirements for a Bachelor’s Degree. (http://ecatalog.jhu.edu/undergrad-students/academic-policies/requirements-for-a-bachelors-degree))

For both the economics major and minor, a minimum grade of C- or better is required for all courses meeting the requirements and courses may not be taken satisfactory/unsatisfactory. Courses from study abroad or taken at other universities may count towards requirements only if they are approved by the department’s director of undergraduate studies. Internships, independent studies, and intersessions courses do not apply towards major or minor requirements. Summer courses at universities other than Johns Hopkins DO NOT count toward the major or minor, except with prior approval of the Director of Undergraduate Studies for Economics.

Major Requirements:

**Economics Core**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AS.180.101</td>
<td>Elements of Macroeconomics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS.180.102</td>
<td>Elements of Microeconomics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS.180.301</td>
<td>Microeconomic Theory</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or AS.180.401</td>
<td>Advanced Microeconomic Theory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS.180.302</td>
<td>Macroeconomic Theory</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS.180.334</td>
<td>Econometrics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or AS.180.434</td>
<td>Advanced Econometrics (see below)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Economics Electives**

Three 200- or 300-level economics courses **  9
Two 300-level economics courses  6

**Mathematics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AS.110.106</td>
<td>Calculus I (Biology and Social Sciences)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or AS.110.108</td>
<td>Calculus I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Statistics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EN.553.111</td>
<td>Statistical Analysis I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or EN.553.112</td>
<td>Statistical Analysis II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or EN.553.211</td>
<td>Probability and Statistics for the Life Sciences</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or EN.553.310</td>
<td>Probability &amp; Statistics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or EN.553.311</td>
<td>Probability and Statistics for the Biological Sciences and Engineering</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or EN.553.420</td>
<td>Introduction to Probability</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or EN.553.430</td>
<td>Introduction to Statistics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or AS.280.345</td>
<td>Public Health Biostatistics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Students who use exam credits to satisfy the AS.180.101 Elements of Macroeconomics and/or AS.180.102 Elements of Microeconomics requirements must take additional courses in the department to reach a total of 10 courses in the department.

** Please note: 180.203 "Faculty Research in Economics", a S/U one-credit course, does not count as one of these three courses.

*** AS.180.401 Advanced Microeconomic Theory is a faster-paced and more intensive version of Microeconomic Theory AS.180.301. You can use either AS.180.301 or AS.180.401 to satisfy the requirement for the economics major.

Both AS.180.301 and AS.180.401 will be offered during the same time slot, so the logistics of switching from AS.180.301 to AS.180.401 should be seamless, should you decide to make the switch.

The prerequisites for AS.180.401, like the prerequisites for AS.180.301, are AS.180.102 and one semester of calculus. Note: you may not take both AS.180.301 and AS.180.401.
A typical program might include the following sequence of courses:

**Sample Program**

A typical program might include the following sequence of courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall Courses</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freshman</td>
<td>AS.180.101 Elements of Microeconomics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AS.110.106 Calculus I (Biology and Social Sciences)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>AS.180.301 Microeconomic Theory</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>200 level elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>AS.180.334 Econometrics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>200 or 300 level elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>300 level elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits: 41

*Total Credits of 41 include AS.180.106 Calculus and EN.550.111 Statistical Analysis.

** Students trying to take these courses after freshman or sophomore year are likely to run into serious schedule conflicts in the junior and senior years because of the need to fulfill the prerequisites for advanced courses. Consult with faculty at an early stage.

**Honors Program in Economics**

Departmental honors are awarded to those students who satisfy the following requirements:

- All economics courses applied to the major have been taken in the department.
- AS.180.521 Research in Economics and AS.180.522 Senior Thesis. The thesis may not be counted as one of the five economics electives.
- A grade point average of at least 3.5 for all economics courses.

**Minor in Economics**

Students with a major in another department may be awarded a minor in economics with satisfactory work in the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AS.180.101</td>
<td>Elements of Macroeconomics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS.180.102</td>
<td>Elements of Microeconomics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS.180.401</td>
<td>200 or 300 level elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS.180.434</td>
<td>300 level elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS.180.521</td>
<td>Research in Economics and AS.180.522 Senior Thesis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS.180.522</td>
<td>Senior Thesis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS.180.524</td>
<td>Microeconomic Theory, AS.180.302 Macroeconomic Theory.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS.180.527</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No substitution of courses in other departments for economics electives may be made. Students who use exam credits to satisfy the AS.180.101 (http://e-catalog.jhu.edu/departments-program-requirements-and-courses/arts-sciences/economics) Elements of Macroeconomics and/or AS.180.102 (http://e-catalog.jhu.edu/departments-program-requirements-and-courses/arts-sciences/economics) Elements of Microeconomics requirements must take additional courses in the department to reach a total of 6 courses.

**Center for Financial Economics (CFE)**

Founded in 2008 and housed in the Economics Department in the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences at Johns Hopkins, the Center for Financial Economics blends the study of finance and economics, providing in-depth training and cutting-edge research in both. The dual research and teaching missions of the Center are premised on the belief that a deep understanding of modern economies requires an integrated treatment of finance and the broader economic forces driving economic progress. The recent financial crisis vividly illustrates the vital need for improved understanding of these issues on the part of practitioners, policymakers, and academics.

The CFE offers an undergraduate minor, producing expertise in finance within the context of a top-notch liberal arts education. The minor will equip students with a thorough foundation in the workings of financial markets and their role in the broader economy, providing a foundation for careers in finance, business, academics, and government. The Center is working toward offering a financial economics major and a Ph.D. in financial economics.

**The Minor in Financial Economics**

The main objective of the minor is to provide students with training in the conceptual framework, guiding concepts, and technical tools of modern
finance. The broader goal is to provide insights into the large and the small—the macro and micro—of how this framework helps us understand the workings of the economy. The minor in financial economics includes four required courses and two elective courses chosen from the list below.

**Required Courses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AS.180.101</td>
<td>Elements of Macroeconomics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS.180.102</td>
<td>Elements of Microeconomics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS.180.263</td>
<td>Corporate Finance</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS.180.367</td>
<td>Investment-Portfolio Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Elective Courses (Select two of the following)**

- AS.180.242 International Monetary Economics
- or AS.180.266 Financial Markets and Institutions
- or AS.180.303 Topics in International Macroeconomics and Finance
- or AS.180.311 Economics of Fixed Income Instruments
- or AS.180.333 Macroeconomic Strategies
- or EN.660.203 Financial Accounting

Total Credits 18

The minor is open to all majors. A minimum grade of C- or better is required for all courses and they may not be taken satisfactory/unsatisfactory. One cannot take both the economics and financial economics minor. For economics majors, there is a restriction on double-counting: the two elective courses counting toward the minor cannot also count toward the economics major.

**Requirements for Admission**

The admission of each applicant is decided by the Department as a whole and rests upon his/her academic record (especially economics and mathematics courses), GRE test scores, recommendations of scholars and instructors, and other pertinent information including a match between the research interests of the applicant and the faculty.

To apply for admission, applicants are required to upload unofficial transcripts of all previous college and university study to their online application. Failure to upload unofficial transcripts will result in an inability to complete and submit the online application. In addition, we require at least two letters of recommendation. These recommendation letters should come from individuals who can comment on your scholarly skills. All applicants must submit scores from the Graduate Record Examination. Admitted students nearly always have very high quantitative GRE scores. Foreign applicants, who have not earned a degree in a university where English is the sole language of instruction, must take the TOEFL to satisfy the department that they are fluent in English. The department requires the TOEFL with a minimum score of 100 (internet based), 600 (paper based) or 250 (computer based), or IELTS with a bandscore of 7 in place of the TOEFL.

Students should have a knowledge of economic theory and statistics and a strong background in mathematics including differential and integral calculus and linear algebra. Almost all of our students enter with at least two semesters of calculus and linear algebra. In admissions decisions, we like applicants to have taken other mathematics courses as well, including more advanced calculus, differential equations, probability, and real analysis. We especially welcome applications from under-represented minorities, as diversity is important in our graduate program.

**Requirements for the M.A. Degree**

The department does not admit students from outside Johns Hopkins University who intend to work only for an M.A. However, it does offer this degree as an intermediate step toward the Ph.D. or as a final degree to some of those who do not complete their doctoral work.

Beyond the general university requirements, the department requires for the master’s degree either two years of satisfactory graduate course work or one year of satisfactory graduate course work and an acceptable master’s essay.

**Requirements for the Ph.D. Degree**

**Basic Course Work.** Students take two years of course work. The first year is comprised of two semesters each of microeconomic theory, macroeconomic theory, and mathematical methods, and one-semester courses in statistics and econometrics. In the second year, students take electives – four in the fall semester and three in the spring semester. Students may also take relevant courses in related departments, such as Mathematics, Applied Mathematics and Statistics, Political Science, Public Health, Sociology and Anthropology.

**Comprehensive Exam.** This exam is administered by the department and consists of two written examinations designed to test the candidate’s knowledge of both microeconomics and macroeconomics. The written examinations are taken before the beginning of the third term.

**Research Paper.** A research paper is submitted at the end of the fourth term.

**Dissertation.** This should be an original investigation worthy of publication, prepared under the supervision of three members of the faculty. A dissertation proposal is due during the sixth term. The candidate must submit the dissertation in final typed form at least three weeks before the date of the Graduate Board Oral Examination. The committee that administers the examination includes faculty from outside the department. Though it is feasible to finish in four years, it is typical to complete the Ph.D. in five or six years.

**Financial Aid**

The department offers a Departmental Fellowship to all enrolled students. This fellowship covers full tuition costs plus an annual stipend of $29,000 and full student health insurance coverage. During a student’s first year of study, this fellowship support is provided with no teaching assistantship duties. Beginning in the second year of study, students who are performing satisfactorily, will again receive the same Departmental Fellowship coverage as in their first year. In addition, during years 2, 3, 4 and 5, this will involve a teaching or research assistantship assignment. The department guarantees financial support for a minimum of five years of graduate study, conditional on satisfactory performance and potentially a sixth year as well depending on student performance and the availability of funds.

**Carl Christ Fellowship**

In the academic year 1989–90, the department established the Carl Christ Fellowship fund to honor one of its faculty members for his distinguished service and achievements. The proceeds of the fund are used to support outstanding graduate students at the dissertation stage of their research.
For further information about graduate study in economics, contact the director of graduate admissions, Department of Economics at econadmissions@jhu.edu.

For current faculty and contact information go to http://econ.jhu.edu/directoryindex/faculty/

**Faculty**

**Chair**
Laurence M. Ball
Research Interest: Macroeconomics

**Professors**
Christopher Carroll
Research Interests: Macroeconomics, Public Finance

Gregory Duffee
Carl Christ Professor of Economics. Research Interest: Finance

Jon Faust
Louis J. Maccini Professor of Economics. Director of the Center for Financial Economics. Research Interests: Econometrics, Macroeconomics, Financial Economics

Mark Gersovitz
Research Interests: Economic Development, Public Finance

Bruce Hamilton

Yingyao Hu
Research Interests: Econometrics, Empirical Industrial Organization, Labor Economics

Olivier Jeanne
Research Interests: International Macroeconomics, Monetary Policy

Edi Karni
Scott and Barbara Black Professor of Economics. Research Interests: Economics of Uncertainty and Information, Decision Theory, Microeconomic Theory

M. Ali Khan
Abram Hutzler Professor of Political Economy. Research Interests: Mathematical Economics, Economic theory, History of Economic Thought, International and Development Economics

Robert Moffitt

John K. H. Quah
Research Interest: Microeconomic Theory

Richard Spady
Research Interests: Econometrics, Industrial Organization.

Jonathan Wright
Research Interests: Time Series Econometrics, Empirical Macroeconomics, Finance

**Assistant Professors**
Ying Chen

**Research Interests:** Game Theory, Information Economics, Political Economy

Anton Korinek
Research Interests: International Finance, Macroeconomics

Elena Krasnokutskaya
Research Interests: Industrial Organization, Applied Microeconomics, Applied Econometrics

Nicholas Papageorge
Broadus Mitchell Assistant Professor. Research Interests: Health, Labor and the Economics of Innovation

Yuya Takahashi
Research Interests: Empirical Industrial Organization, Labor Economics

**Professors Emeriti**
Louis Maccini
Research Interests: Macroeconomic Theory, Money, Econometrics

H. Peyton Young
Research Interests: Game Theory, Evolutionary Economics, Microeconomic Theory

Robert Barbera
Co-Director of the Center for Financial Economics. Research Interests: Real Interest Rate/Real Growth Linkages, Global Energy Supply/Demand Issues

Barclay Knapp
Research Interests: Managerial Economics, Business Strategy

**Lecturers**
Somasree Dasgupta
Research Interests: International Trade, Economic Growth, Macroeconomics

Kevin Heerdt
Research Interests: Derivatives, Corporate Governance, Role of Speculation, Alternative Investment Industry, The Financial Industry

Muhammad Husain
Research Interests: Microeconomic Theory, Labor Economics, Econometrics

Barbara Morgan
Research Interests: Labor Economics, Public Policy

Ludmila Poliakova
Research Interests: Macroeconomics, Development Economics

**Joint Appointments**
David Bishai
Professor (Bloomberg School of Public Health) Research Interest: Health Economics.

Itay Fainmesser
Assistant Professor (Carey School of Business) Research Interest: Business Economics

Steve H. Hanke
**AS.180.101. Elements of Macroeconomics. 3.0 Credits.**
An introduction to the economic system and economic analysis, with emphasis on total national income and output, employment, the price level and inflation, money, the government budget, the national debt, and interest rates. The role of public policy. Applications of economic analysis to government and personal decisions. Prerequisite: basic facility with graphs and algebra.
Instructor(s): R. Barbera
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**AS.180.102. Elements of Microeconomics. 3.0 Credits.**
An introduction to the economic system and economic analysis with emphasis on demand and supply, relative prices, the allocation of resources, and the distribution of goods and services; theory of consumer behavior, theory of the firm, and competition and monopoly, including the application of microeconomic analysis to contemporary problems. Prerequisite: basic facility with graphs and algebra. *Students who are looking to register for AS.180.102 and need to take the course should attend the first day of class and see Dr. Hamilton immediately afterwards*.
Instructor(s): J. Li; Y. Gong
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**AS.180.171. Topics in Political Economy. 3.0 Credits.**
Societies make their key economic decisions under the constraints imposed by their political institutions. This course studies the interaction between economics and politics in public policy design, with topics ranging from fiscal policy to international development. Some recurring questions include why inefficient policies get enacted and how different political institutions give rise to different policy outcomes.
Instructor(s): L. Karakas
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**AS.180.201. Behavioral Finance. 3.0 Credits.**
In recent years, the assumptions of traditional finance models that market participants are generally rational and prices of securities accurately reflect all available information came under challenge. The field of behavioral finance argues that financial markets are best understood with models in which at least some agents are not fully rational. In this course, we will examine behavioral finance models and their practical applications. This course is based on Harvard Business School cases. Recommended Course Background: AS.180.102
Instructor(s): A. Scherbina.

**AS.180.203. Faculty Research in Economics. 1.0 Credit.**
This course will consist of a series of informal lectures by various professors in the Department of Economics. Each lecture will consist of a description of a professional research project which he/shel has undertaken over the course of his/her profession career. S/U grading only.
Prerequisites: Prereqs: AS.180.101 AND AS.180.102
Instructor(s): B. Hamilton.

**AS.180.217. Game Theory in Social Sciences. 3.0 Credits.**
Game Theory is the study of multiple person decision problems in which the well-being of a decision maker depends not only on his own actions but also on those of others. Such problems arise frequently in economics, political science, business, military science and many other areas. In this course, we will learn how to model different social situations as games and how to use solution concepts to understand players' behavior. We will consider various examples from different fields and will play several games in class. The emphasis of the class is on the conceptual analysis and applications and we will keep the level of mathematical technicalities at the minimum -- high school algebra and one term of calculus will be sufficient. Students who took AS.180.117 are not eligible to take AS.180.217.
Prerequisites: Students may not have previously taken AS.180.117;AS.180.102 or instructor permission
Instructor(s): Y. Chen
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**AS.180.219. History of Economics: Modes of Analysis. 3.0 Credits.**
This course examines the long arc of the history of economics. We will cover readings from Aristotle, Hume, Smith, Ricardo, and Marx, as well as from the Scholastics, Mercantilists, and Physiocrats. Themes will include economic values, the question of whether and when economics became a science, the market in relation to gender, and the interaction between economic theorizing and other cultural, social, and political currents of an age.
Prerequisites: AS.180.102
Instructor(s): N. Johnson
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.
AS.180.228. Economic Development. 3.0 Credits.
A comprehensive survey of economic behavior by households, farms and firms in poor countries and the role of and for governments. Discussions include measurement of income levels, economy-wide equilibrium, sources of growth, agriculture and industry, international trade and investment, savings, population, fertility, education, health, income distribution and public finances. Applies economic theory rigorously to interpret and evaluate the economic experience of poor countries. Diagnostic test on Elements of Economics is required in the second week. Grading based on 3 exams and one paper.
Prerequisites: AS.180.101 AND AS.180.102
Instructor(s): M. Gersovitz
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.238. Rethinking Economics After the Great Recession. 3.0 Credits.
The financial crisis that began in the United States in 2007 threw virtually the entire world into recession. This class will look at the causes of the crisis and at how it unfolded. It will look into the conventional wisdom of economists, circa 2006, and why that wisdom proved to be so wrong. It will examine the financial innovations that contributed to the crisis, at the reasons financial regulators were blindsided, and at the reforms enacted after the crisis.
Prerequisites: AS.180.101 AND AS.180.102
Instructor(s): F. Norris
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.180.241. International Trade. 3.0 Credits.
Theory of comparative advantage and the international division of labor: the determinants and pattern of trade, factor price equalization, factor mobility, gains from trade and distribution of income, and theory and practice or tariffs and other trade restrictions. Recommended Course Background: AS.180.101.
Prerequisites: AS.180.102.
Instructor(s): S. Dasgupta
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.242. International Monetary Economics. 3.0 Credits.
This course presents international Monetary Economics theory and applies it towards gaining an understanding of recent events and current policy issues. The theory presented in this course covers a broad range of topics including exchange rate determination, monetary and fiscal policy in an open economy, balance of payments crises, the choice of exchange rate systems, and international debt. The insights provided by these theoretical frameworks will enable us to discuss topics such as the current global financial crisis, global financial imbalances, the Chinese exchange rate regime, and proposed changes in the international financial architecture.
Instructor(s): S. Bahk
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.252. Economics of Discrimination. 3.0 Credits.
This course examines labor market discrimination by gender, race and ethnicity in the United States. What does the empirical evidence show, and how can we explain it? How much of the difference in observed outcomes is driven by differences in productivity characteristics and how much is due to discrimination? How have economists theorized about discrimination and what methodologies can be employed to test those theories? What has been the impact of public policy in this area; how do large corporations and educational institutions respond; and what can we learn from landmark lawsuits? The course will reinforce skills relevant to all fields of applied economics, including critical evaluation of the theoretical and empirical literature, the reasoned application of statistical techniques, and analysis of current policy issues.
Prerequisites: AS.180.102
Instructor(s): B. Morgan
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.180.261. Monetary Analysis. 3.0 Credits.
This course analyzes the financial and monetary system of the U.S. economy and the design and implementation of U.S. monetary policy. Among other topics, we will examine the role of banks in the economy, the term structure of interest rates, the stock market, the supply of money, the role of the Federal Reserve in the economy, the objectives of monetary policy in the United States and current monetary policy practice.
Prerequisites: AS.180.101 and AS.180.102
Instructor(s): L. Poliakova; S. Dasgupta
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.263. Corporate Finance. 3.0 Credits.
This course is an introduction to the financial management of a corporation. Students study the following broad questions. How should a firm decide whether to invest in a new project? How much debt and equity should a firm use to finance its activities? How should a firm pay its investors? How do taxes affect a firm’s investment and financing decisions? What determines the value of a firm? The emphasis throughout the course is on the economic principles that underlie answers to these questions.
Prerequisites: AS.180.101 AND AS.180.102
Instructor(s): G. Duffee
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.266. Financial Markets and Institutions. 3.0 Credits.
Understanding design and functioning of financial markets and institutions, connecting theoretical foundations and real-world applications and cases. Basic principles of asymmetric information problems, management of risk. Money, bond, and equity markets; investment banking, security brokers, and venture capital firms; structure, competition, and regulation of commercial banks. Importance of electronic technology on financial systems.
Prerequisites: AS.180.101 AND AS.180.102
Instructor(s): J. Faust
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.
AS.180.267. Topics in International Trade and Development. 3.0 Credits.
Global considerations are increasingly shaping economic outcomes for countries, companies, cities and citizens around the world. This course will explore various topics at the nexus of international trade and economic development using models of international trade, empirical research, and case studies. Topics include: macroeconomic growth accounting, changing patterns and order in world trade, trade and inequality, the political economy of trade policy, multinational corporations, trade and growth, trade and industrial policy, trade versus aid, trade and the environment, trade linkages and financial crises.
Prerequisites: AS.180.241
Instructor(s): I. Kondo
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.268. Seminar on Financial Regulation. 3.0 Credits.
This course examines regulation of the financial system in the United States and its effects on the economy. It considers proposals for reform and the ongoing implementation of the Dodd-Frank Act of 2010. A major part of the course will be student research projects and class discussion of the projects.
Prerequisites: AS.180.261
Instructor(s): L. Ball
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.276. Economics of the Internet. 3.0 Credits.
This course explores the Internet from an economist’s perspective, with the objective of understanding the effects on pricing and competitive behavior brought about by lower search and transaction costs in online markets. Unique features of information goods, product differentiation, market dynamics, reputation, and online auctions are among the topics examined. Dean’s Teaching Fellowship course.
Instructor(s): L. Tiererova
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.280. The History and Future of the Hedge Fund Industry. 3.0 Credits.
The precursors to modern hedge funds began more than 50 years ago, but in the 1990s the hedge fund, or alternative investments, industry began a period of rapid growth and evolution. With growth came controversy. Some argue that hedge funds, by allowing immense amounts of capital to be rapidly and freely deployed, play a vital role in pushing prices toward the efficient markets ideal. Others claim that hedge funds may accentuate speculative price dynamics, threatening the stability of the financial sector. While many hedge funds claim to offer outstanding returns to investors, data suggest that many clients end up paying high fees for unspectacular results. This course examines these and other controversies, while tracing the history of the alternative investments industry over the last 25 years.
Prerequisites: AS.180.101 AND AS.180.102 AND (AS.180.266 OR AS.180.263 OR AS.180.367)
Instructor(s): K. Heerdt
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.289. Economics Of Health. 3.0 Credits.
Application of economic concepts and analysis to the health services system. Review of empirical studies of demand for health services, behavior of providers, and relationship of health services to population health levels. Discussion of current policy issues relating to financing and resource allocation.
Prerequisites: AS.180.102
Instructor(s): D. Bishai
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.301. Microeconomic Theory. 4.5 Credits.
An introduction to the modern theory of allocation of resources, starting with the theories of the individual consumer and producer, and proceeding to analysis of systems of interacting individuals, first in the theory of exchange, then to systems which include production as well.
Prerequisites: Corequisite/Prerequisite: AS.180.101
180.101 must be taken EITHER BEFORE (prerequisite) enrolling in 180.301 or AT THE SAME TIME (corequisite).
Prerequisites: AS.180.102 AND (AS.110.106 OR AS.110.107 OR AS.110.108 OR AS.110.109 OR equivalent)
Instructor(s): M. Husain
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.302. Macroeconomic Theory. 4.5 Credits.
The course provides a treatment of macroeconomic theory including a static analysis of the determination of output, employment, the price level, the rate of interest, and a dynamic analysis of growth, inflation, and business cycles. In addition, the use and effectiveness of monetary and fiscal policy to bring about full employment, price stability, and steady economic growth will be discussed.
Prerequisites: Coreq for AS.180.302: AS.180.102[C]; AS.180.101 and Calculus 1 or equivalent
Instructor(s): A. Korinek
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.303. Topics in International Macroeconomics and Finance. 3.0 Credits.
The course will review selected topics in international macroeconomics and finance. The topics for the Fall of 2015 include: financial globalization; international portfolio diversification; the problems posed by “sudden stops” in capital flows to emerging markets; global imbalances and global demand rebalancing; how different exchange rate regimes have fared in the global financial crisis; sovereign default in the light of the Argentine experience; and the ongoing Russian currency and financial crisis. The course involves mathematical modeling as well as data analysis.
Prerequisites: Pre-reqs: AS.180.101 AND AS.180.102 AND AS.180.302
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.306. Financial Regulations in the US. 3.0 Credits.
This course begins with the time of the great Framers and adopts a historical approach to U.S. financial regulations. By examining all major crises and the respective policy responses, the course will provide a narrative on the evolution of the regulatory landscape in America. Students will also be exposed to influential academic papers that address the essentiality (and even the redundancies and failures) of key aspects of financial regulations, including deposit insurance, bank capital and liquidity requirements, and supervisory rules. Dean’s Teaching Fellowship course. Recommended courses: AS.180.261 and AS.180.266
Instructor(s): H. Nguyen
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.308. Economics Of Health. 3.0 Credits.
In this course we'll discuss the theory of decision making in the face of risk, the theory of risk aversion and its applications to financial and insurance markets. Building on the theory of individual decision making under risk, we will study the economic implications of asymmetric information, the type of market failures produced by adverse selection and moral hazard problems, and the models that were advanced to analyze these problems, including incentive contracts, screening and signaling equilibria.
Prerequisites: AS.180.301
Instructor(s): E. Karni.
AS.180.310. Economics Of Antitrust. 3.0 Credits.
This course explores the economic rationale for, and consequence of, antitrust laws. In addition to economic analysis we will study landmark antitrust cases.
Prerequisites: AS.180.301
Instructor(s): B. Hamilton
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.180.312. Evaluating Public Policy: Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Research Design in Social Science. 3.0 Credits.
The purpose of the course is to show how experimental, quasi-experimental and non-experimental methods can be used to advance scientific knowledge about topics in economics. It will teach students the empirical techniques required to analyze experimental and non-experimental data to draw causal inference. The course will begin with a primer on the use of experimental methods in economics, specifically in the context of evaluating welfare programs and labor market policies. Students will then proceed to learn the empirical methods that can be employed to establish cause and effect, both when data is obtained through a randomized control trial (experimental data), or when randomization occurs naturally (quasi-experimental data). The tools and topics that are covered will not only be relevant to economics students, but will also be of interest to students from other social science departments.
Prerequisites: AS.180.301 AND (EN.553.420 OR EN.553.310 OR EN.553.112 OR EN.550.113 OR EN.553.211 OR EN.553.311 OR EN.553.430 OR EN.550.435 OR EN.553.111 OR AS.280.345)
Instructor(s): S. Qayyum
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.180.317. Economics of Fixed Income Instruments. 3.0 Credits.
Students study economic principles and state-of-the-art mathematical models used to value fixed income securities and their derivatives. The course emphasizes advanced practical applications as well as theory. Students will develop their own computer code to price fixed-income instruments and evaluate their risks. Students must be familiar with both statistics and differential equations.
Prerequisites: AS.180.301 AND (EN.553.111 OR EN.553.112 OR EN.553.310 OR EN.553.420 OR EN.553.430) AND (AS.110.302 OR EN.553.291 or permission of the instructor)
Instructor(s): G. Duffee
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.321. The Economics of Growing-Up. 3.0 Credits.
The goal of this course is to use economic models to investigate life events such as going to school, getting married, and having children. The course will focus on individual behavior and outcomes in six important stages of the life cycle: early childhood, schooling, adolescence, marriage and divorce, child bearing years, and retirement. While the course is designed to introduce students to a variety of economic theory and empirical techniques, the material is designed to prepare upper level students to write a proposal on an original research question.
Prerequisites: AS.180.301
Instructor(s): G. Pauley
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.328. Economics of Auctions. 3.0 Credits.
A successfully designed auction depends on the idiosyncrasies of the market being studied. Students will learn the core auction formats and some classic theoretical results that provide a benchmark for even the most recent auctions research. Additionally, students will learn simple empirical strategies that allow these models (and the behavior they predict) to be married with real world data. Students will develop the tools needed for analyzing and conducting auctions research.
Prerequisites: AS.180.301
Instructor(s): J. Balat
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.334. Econometrics. 3.0 Credits.
Introduction to the methods of estimation in economic research. The first part of the course develops the primary method employed in economic research, the method of least squares. This is followed by an investigation of the performance of the method in a variety of important situations. The development of a way to handle many of the situations in which ordinary least squares is not useful, the method of instrumental variables, concludes the course.
Prerequisites: Pre-req: AS.180.301,(EN.553.420 OR EN.553.310 OR AS.280.345 OR EN.553.112 OR EN.550.113 OR EN.553.211 OR EN.553.311 OR EN.553.430 OR EN.550.435 OR EN.556.435 OR EN.553.111)
Instructor(s): M. Husain
Area: Quantitative and Mathematical Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.336. Macroeconomic Strategies. 3.0 Credits.
Will sketch out a strategy for anticipating economic turning points. Business cycle basics, monetary policy/financial market/real economy interactions will be reviewed. Long-term growth issues will be explored.
Prerequisites: AS.180.101 AND AS.180.102 AND AS.180.302 or Perm. Req'd.
Instructor(s): R. Barbera
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.345. Rationality: Meaning and Measurement. 3.0 Credits.
Economists generally work with a number of classic models of how people behave in different contexts. These models (such as utility maximization and expected utility maximization) are widely used because they are tractable and elegant, but are they also accurate models of human behavior? In this course, we will examine the axiomatic foundations of these models, explore their implications for choice behavior, and discuss the empirical and experimental strategies economists have developed to test these models.
Prerequisites: AS.180.301
Instructor(s): K. Quah
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.350. Economics of Social Networks. 3.0 Credits.
A detailed analysis of why certain social networks are likely to emerge and what the structure of these networks means for a wide range of social and economic interactions.
Prerequisites: AS.180.301
Instructor(s): M. Smirnov
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.
AS.180.351. Labor Economics. 3.0 Credits.
The course discusses various issues in labor markets from the perspective of economic theory. We first study the major forces at work that shape labor market behavior; firms’ labor demand and workers’ labor supply. Then we discuss the equilibrium behavior of employment and wages. Using these tools, we also cover various applied topics in labor economics, such as minimum wage regulations, male-female wage differentials, human capital investment, worker mobility, and unemployment.

Prerequisites: AS.180.301
Instructor(s): M. Husain
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.354. Econometrics of Unobservables. 3.0 Credits.
Empirical data may not contain all the variables suggested by economic theories. This course introduces methodologies to identify and estimate economic models containing unobservables. Recommended Course Background: AS.180.301 and AS.180.334.

Instructor(s): Y. Hu
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.355. Economics of Poverty/Inequality. 3.0 Credits.
This course focuses on the economics of poverty and inequality. It covers the measurement of poverty and inequality, facts and trends over time, the causes of poverty and inequality with a focus on those related to earnings and the labor market, and public policy toward poverty and inequality, covering both taxation and government expenditure and programs. By the nature of the material, the course is fairly statistical and quantitative. Students should have an intermediate understanding of microeconomic concepts. Basic knowledge of regression analysis is also helpful.

Prerequisites: AS.180.301
Instructor(s): R. Moffitt
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.356. Big Data. 3.0 Credits.
This course introduces state-of-the-art econometric methods to analyze big data. Topics include statistical learning, linear regression, classification, resampling methods, linear model selection and regularization, nonlinear model selection and regularization, tree-based methods, and support vector machines. Recommended: AS.110.201

Prerequisites: AS.180.334
Instructor(s): Y. Sasaki
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.363. Sex, Drugs and Dynamic Optimization: The Economics of Risky Behavior. 3.0 Credits.
We apply the tools of economic analysis to understand behaviors that are enjoyable today, but may have negative consequences in the future.

Prerequisites: AS.180.301 AND AS.180.302 AND AS.180.334 or permission of the instructor
Instructor(s): N. Papageorge
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.367. Investment-Portfolio Management. 3.0 Credits.

Prerequisites: AS.180.301 AND (EN.553.111 OR EN.553.112 OR EN.553.310 OR EN.553.311 OR EN.553.420 OR EN.553.430)
Instructor(s): J. Wright
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.368. Managerial Economic and Business Strategies. 3.0 Credits.
Seminar on quantitative concepts, decision-making, and strategy in business organizations. Overall context is ‘value’ – how it is measured and maximized long term. Microeconomic theory of the firm, competitive analysis, corporate finance.

Prerequisites: Prereq: AS.180.301 AND (EN.553.111 OR AS.180.367 OR AS.180.263 ) or permission of the instructor.
Instructor(s): J. Knapp
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.371. Industrial Organization. 3.0 Credits.
Investigation of firm behavior in markets characterized by imperfect competition. Imperfect competition lies in between monopoly and perfect competition and characterizes most major industries in modern capitalist economies. Central issues to be covered in the course include what determines the intensity of competition? What determines the extent of entry and exit? How is it that some firms consistently dominate their industries?

Prerequisites: Prereq: AS.180.301
Instructor(s): E. Krasnokutskaya
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.372. Finance and Macroeconomy. 1.0 Credit.
This class is conducted as a round table discussion on current topics at the intersection of finance, monetary policy, and macroeconomics. Students will be expected to read assigned material, participate in the discussion, and take a final exam.

Prerequisites: AS.180.101 AND (AS.180.263 OR AS.180.367) or by instructor permission.
Instructor(s): J. Faust
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.373. Corporate Restructuring. 3.0 Credits.
The objective of this course is to familiarize students with financial, legal and strategic issues associated with corporate restructuring process. Main focus of the course is on the restructuring of financially distressed firms. The course surveys a variety of restructuring methods (out-of-court workouts, exchange offers, prepackaged bankruptcies, Chapter 11 bankruptcies, insolvency practices in other countries) available to troubled firms. A small portion of the course is concerned with restructuring employee contracts and equity claims (equity carve-outs, spin-offs, tracking stock). AS.180.263 Corporate Finance recommended.

Prerequisites: AS.180.301
Instructor(s): H. Eraslan
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.385. Evolution and Economics. 3.0 Credits.
This course provides an introduction to evolutionary theory and its applications to modern economics. We start by introducing formal models of the driving forces of evolution: mutation, selection, and survival of the fittest. Next we investigate how these forces have shaped human preferences and behaviors that are typically taken as given in economic models. Finally, we discuss the evolution of social systems like the economy we live in.

Instructor(s): A. Korinek
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.
AS.180.389. Social Policy Implications of Behavioral Economics. 3.0 Credits.
Economists increasingly incorporate insights from psychology into models of rational decision-making. Known as "behavioral economics", this line of research considers how, for example, emotions, rules-of-thumb, biased beliefs and time-inconsistent preferences influence how we make choices. Behavioral economics increasingly pervades policy discussions on topics as diverse as: obesity, the role of media, subprime mortgages and voting patterns. Behavioral models are certainly novel, but do they help us to design superior social policies? With the goal of preparing students to address this question, this course (1) provides a thorough overview of the main contributions of behavioral economics, highlighting departures from more traditional economic models and (2) emphasizes how behavioral economic models might (or might not) improve how we think about social policy.
Prerequisites: Prereqs: AS.180.301 AND AS.180.334 or knowledge of statistical analysis up to the level of multi-variate regression.
Instructor(s): N. Papageorge
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.180.390. Health Economics & Developing Countries. 3.0 Credits.
Prerequisites: AS.180.301
Instructor(s): M. Gersovitz
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.180.391. Economics of China. 3.0 Credits.
Discussion of the economic experience of Post-War China, primarily emphasizing topics rather than historical narrative: agriculture, industry including corporate governance and public enterprises, international trade, population, migration, education, health, public finances among other topics.
Prerequisites: AS.180.301
Instructor(s): M. Gersovitz
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.180.401. Advanced Microeconomic Theory. 3.0 Credits.
This course covers roughly the same material as Microeconomic Theory 180.301 but in a more formal and mathematically rigorous way. You can use either 180.301 or 180.401 to satisfy the requirement for the economics major. 180.301 and 180.401 are offered during the same time slot, so the logistics of switching from 180.301 to 180.401 should be seamless, should you decide to make the switch. NOTE: you may not take both 180.301 and 180.401.
Prerequisites: You may not take both AS.180.401 and AS.180.301; AS.180.102 and any two semesters of calculus (or equivalent)
Instructor(s): K. Quah
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.434. Advanced Econometrics). 3.0 Credits.
This is a faster-paced and more intensive version of Econometrics 180.334. You can use either 180.334 or 180.434 to satisfy the requirement for the economics major. This course is suitable for those students who prefer a more technical treatment of econometric methodologies. Both 180.334 and 180.434 will be offered during the same time slot, so the logistics of switching from 180.334 to 180.434 should be seamless, should you decide to make the switch. NOTE: you may not take both 180.334 and 180.434.
Prerequisites: Students may only receive credit for either AS.180.334 or AS.180.434; AS.180.301, one semester of linear algebra, one semester of calculus, AS.280.345 or EN.553.211 or EN.553.111 or EN.553.310 or EN.553.311 or EN.553.420 or EN.560.435.
Instructor(s): E. Krasnokutskaya
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.501. Independent Study. 0.0 - 3.0 Credits.
Instructor(s): Staff.

AS.180.502. Independent Study. 0.0 - 3.0 Credits.
Instructor(s): Staff.

AS.180.521. Research in Economics. 2.0 Credits.
The assignment in this course is to complete the initial stages of research for the Senior Honors Thesis in Economics. Students will work independently under the supervision of a research/thesis advisor. The contact (in spring of Junior year) should be the course instructor listed for this course. He/she will coordinate registration and grade-reporting, and will also be available to discuss research ideas and to help put students in touch with possible thesis advisors. Open to Senior and Junior Economics majors. Note: This course can not be counted as one of the five elective economics courses required for the Economics major.
Instructor(s): M. Gersovitz.

AS.180.522. Senior Thesis. 3.0 Credits.
Students enrolled in this course will complete the Senior Honors Thesis under the supervision of a thesis advisor (who will have been chosen by the student prior to registration for AS.180.521). The formal course instructor will be in charge of overseeing registration and submitting grades. He/she will also be available for discussions of progress or problems on the thesis. Please note that your thesis advisor can be any faculty member in the Department of Economics, and need not be the same person as the course instructor. (This course cannot be counted as one of the five elective economics courses required for the Economics Major.)
Prerequisites: AS.180.521
Instructor(s): M. Gersovitz; N. Papageorge
Writing Intensive.

AS.180.595. Economic Internship. 1.0 Credit.
Instructor(s): L. Ball.

AS.180.597. Research. 3.0 Credits.
Instructor(s): N. Papageorge.

AS.180.599. Independent Study. 3.0 Credits.
Instructor(s): N. Papageorge; T. Woutersen.
The mathematical theory of general static equilibrium. The course will emphasize the formal mathematical expression of economic ideas and the ability to give a loose economic intuition a coherent logical meaning. Different mathematical structures in general equilibrium theory will be isolated and discussed. The text will be Debreu’s book “Theory of Value”. Recommended Course Background: AS.110.106, AS.180.301, and AS.180.302 or permission of the instructor.
Instructor(s): M. Khan
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

The course will cover decision theories relevant to economics and their related analytical tools. We aim to discuss the following topics: standard theories of firm and consumer behavior; decision making under risk; revealed preference analysis; monotone comparative statics; bounded rationality.
Instructor(s): K. Quah.

First term: a systematic presentation of microeconomic theory both its partial equilibrium and general equilibrium aspects. Topics covered will include preferences and utility, exchange, production, theory of the firm, capital and interest, competition and monopoly, stability of equilibrium, and welfare economics. Second term: a more intensive discussion of selected topics, emphasizing recent contributions.
Instructor(s): E. Karni; Y. Chen.

AS.180.603. Macroeconomic Theory I.
A comprehensive treatment of macroeconomic theory, including static analysis of aggregate output employment, the rate of interest, and the price level; aggregative theory of investment, consumption, demand and supply of money; empirical work on aggregative relationships.
Instructor(s): C. Carroll.

First term: a comprehensive treatment of macroeconomic theory, including static analysis of aggregate output employment, the rate of interest, and the price level; aggregative theory of investment, consumption, demand and supply of money; empirical work on aggregative relationships. Second term: the macrodynamic theory of growth, cycles, unemployment and inflation, and selected subjects.
Instructor(s): A. Korinek.

AS.180.605. Advanced Macroeconomics I.
Topics of recent research in macro-economics. Content will vary from year to year. Likely topics include implicit contract theory, search theory and unemployment, disequilibrium macroeconomic models, monetary policy and the control of inflation, contract-based rational expectations models, imperfect competition in macrodynamic models, business cycle models, empirical tests of rational expectations models, theories of investment behavior, and debt neutrality. Open to 2nd year Grad Students and up.
Instructor(s): L. Ball.

AS.180.606. Advanced Macroeconomics II.
Topics of recent research in macroeconomics. Prof. Ball’s course covers nominal rigidities, dynamic-consistency theories of inflation, inflation inertia and the costs of disinflation, monetary policy, costs and benefits of price stability, benefits of output stabilization, alternative policy rules, measuring inflation, unemployment, efficiency-wage theories, the behavior of the NAIRU, macro-in middle-income countries, high inflation and stabilization, currency crises. Prof. Carroll’s course focuses on implications of the buffer-stock and habit formation theories of consumption for comovement of aggregate variables and asset pricing. The models are applied to study the phenomena of declining U.S. saving rate, the dynamic relationship between saving rates and growth, and the equity premium puzzle.
Prerequisites: Prereq: AS.180.603
Instructor(s): L. Ball.

AS.180.607. Macroeconometrics I.
The course is an attempt to provide a framework for discussing the techniques that are used in macroeconomic analysis. Generally the bias that it has is one of looking at these from the perspective of someone analyzing macroeconomic data for policy analysis. Consequently, many of the applications considered are drawn from the type of research conducted in central banks and finance ministries. Its emphasis is therefore upon the issues raised by the analysis of time series of macro-economic data. Today there is an emerging literature that looks at micro-economic data as well as conducting cross-country studies. We will tend to ignore that material as the methods used in such research are essentially those of micro-econometrics, although sometimes with adjustments made to reflect the nature of macro-economic time series.
Prerequisites: AS.180.633
Instructor(s): J. Faust.

AS.180.608. Macroeconometrics II.
This course will cover a range of topics in time series econometrics and empirical macroeconomics and finance that arise in current research and policy analysis. Key topics include GMM estimation, filtering, forecasting, structural VARs, and modeling stock and bond returns. It assumes a knowledge of the basics of time series econometrics. Both theoretical and empirical work will be included. Bayesian simulation methods that are very important in current research methods will be emphasized. This course should be taken by people with an interest in either empirical macro or empirical finance and may be helpful in searching for a dissertation topic.
Instructor(s): J. Wright.

AS.180.611. Economics of Uncertainty.
This course offers a review of subjective expected utility theory of decision making under uncertainty and choice based subjective probabilities. It also explores the motivation for the recent developments of non-expected utility theories under risk and under uncertainty. It examines the role of completeness and awareness in these theories as well as the theories of menu choice and random choice behavior.
Instructor(s): E. Karni
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.
This course traces the extent to which modern economic theory, particularly as it pertains to pure competition in market and non-market games under the rationality postulate, is grounded in the language of probability and measure theory. Special attention will be paid to the formal expression of ideas such as economic and numerical negligibility, on the one hand, and diffuseness and conditional independence of information, on the other. Towards this end, the course will develop rigorous formulations of basic ideas of (conceptual rather than computational) probability and apply them: first, to develop the fundamental theorems of welfare economics, including the core theorems; and second, to large anonymous and non-anonymous games as well as to finite-agent games with private information. The course will be self-contained from the technical point of view but will presuppose a level of mathematical maturity that ought typically to be achieved by taking courses such as AS.180.615 and AS.180.601.
Instructor(s): M. Khan.

A course in mathematics for economists not planning to work in quantitative areas, or for those whose mathematics background is weak. The emphasis is on optimization theory; also included are topics in advanced calculus and linear algebra.
Instructor(s): E. Karni.

This course concerns dynamic optimization in both continuous and discrete time. More specifically, it develops Pontryagin's maximum principle and the Euler-Lagrange conditions in the calculus of variations, on the one hand, and the basic tools of deterministic dynamic programming, on the other. The course will be self-contained from the technical point of view but will presuppose a level of mathematical maturity that ought typically to be achieved by taking a course such as AS.180.600.
Instructor(s): M. Khan.

AS.180.618. Game Theory.
This course is an introduction to cooperative and non-cooperative games. Its focus is non-cooperative game theory with applications in economics. Topics include foundations of solution concepts, refinements of Nash equilibrium, repeated games, games with incomplete information, differential games, and experimental testing of hypotheses.
Prerequisites: AS.180.601
Instructor(s): H. Eraslan.

AS.180.622. Game Theory.
The topics covered include solutions concepts such as dominance, rationalizability, Nash equilibrium, correlated equilibrium, subgame perfect equilibrium and Perfect Bayesian equilibrium. We will discuss both static and dynamic games and games of complete and incomplete information.
Corequisites: AS.180.623
Instructor(s): Y. Chen
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.623. Economics of Information.
The course introduces the economic issues associated asymmetric information and analyses the institutions and mechanisms designed to mitigate the resulting inefficiencies. Topics include: Adverse selection; moral hazard; incentive contracts; and mechanism design.
Prerequisites: AS.180.600 AND AS.180.601
Corequisites: AS.180.622
Instructor(s): E. Karni
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.180.626. Computational Methods.
This class will introduce students to the computational tools that are used to get things done in scientific research. Such tools include, but are not limited to, unix bash shell scripting, LaTeX/Beamer, virtual machines, git and github, tools for parallel computation, cloud services, and others. Brief treatments of special-purpose tools (like Mathematica for symbolic math) will conclude this part of the class. After this introduction, the course will involve an intensive introduction to the use of the Python language for scientific computation purposes, including a discussion of why Python dominates other choices like Matlab and Julia. The final third of the course will apply the tools in a practical application to a specific problem identified jointly between the instructor and the student. There is no required text; readings will be assigned in class. (The characteristic that distinguishes this class from alternatives is that this class will not teach specific algorithms nor frontier computational techniques; rather, it aims to expose students to a broad set of tools that they will use regularly thereafter).
Prerequisites: AS.180.616 or equivalent
Instructor(s): C. Carroll
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.632. Topics in Applied Microeconometrics.
This course teaches methods for using micro-data to recover structural parameters of microeconomic models. We cover static models, but focus largely on single-agent dynamic programming, including “full solution” methods along with innovations that permit circumvention of daunting computational tasks. Additional topics will be partially based on students’ interests, but will likely include: general equilibrium models, static and dynamic games, matching models, unobserved heterogeneity, structural methods with experimental data and biased expectations. The goal is to teach students to use structural methods in their own research, and so we will delve into the nuts and bolts of structural work, examining how researchers actually get from raw data to results. This includes: how the sub-sample for analysis is chosen, how the model is specified, how the programming problem is solved, which moments are generated, how these are matched to the analogous moments in the data and, importantly, how identification is established.
Instructor(s): N. Papageorge.

Mathematical models of economic behavior and the use of statistical methods for testing economic theories and estimating economic parameters. Subject matter will vary from year to year; statistical methods, such as linear regression, multivariate analysis, and identification, estimation and testing in simultaneous equation models, will be stressed.
Prerequisites: AS.180.636 and AS.180.601
Instructor(s): Y. Hu.

AS.180.636. Statistical Inference.
Theory and applications of statistical inference. Topics include probability and sampling, distribution theory, estimation, hypothesis testing, and simple regression analysis. Statistical applications will be drawn from economics. Limited to graduate students in Economics except by permission of the chair. Recommended Course Background: AS.110.201, AS.110.302
Instructor(s): Staff.
AS.180.637. Microeconometrics I.
This is an advanced graduate course on major econometric techniques and models that are used in empirical microeconomics. The first half of the course introduces econometric theories of nonlinear extremal estimation, nonparametric estimation, and semiparametric estimation. The second half of the course illustrates applications of these theories to limited dependent variable models, selection models, and endogenous treatment models with unobserved heterogeneity.
Prerequisites: AS.180.601 AND AS.180.602 AND AS.180.633 AND AS.180.636
Instructor(s): Y. Takahashi.

AS.180.638. Microeconometrics II.
This course is the second in the micro-econometrics sequence in the Economics Department. It will introduce a selection of models and techniques that are useful when a researcher wants to estimate a structural model, i.e. a model derived from economic theory. Structural models that try to incorporate restrictions derived from economic theory are used in empirical IO, but also in quantitative marketing research, labor economics and other fields that consider individual decision making. No attempt will be made to be comprehensive. Instead we will focus on a few areas that have been well-researched in recent years: dynamic discrete choice, microeconomic models with latent variables, program evaluation, the empirical analysis of auctions and non-separable models. Some topics will be included only if time permits. The models and methods developed for these areas are relevant for other cases. The emphasis is on the interaction between economic theory and econometrics. Basic issues are specification and (nonparametric) identification, computational problems and the use of simulation, semi-parametric estimation to avoid functional form and distributional assumptions that cannot be derived from economic theory.
Prerequisites: AS.180.601 AND AS.180.602
Instructor(s): Y. Hu.

AS.180.640. Topics in Economic Theory.
In this course we will discuss a variety of topics in Economic Theory that are either not covered or only partially covered in the regular courses. Topics may include Individual and Social Choice Theory, Auctions Theory, Medical Decision Making. For each subject there will be introductory lectures followed by readings and students' presentations of recent contributions.
Prerequisites: AS.180.601 AND AS.180.602
Instructor(s): E. Kami
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

This is a graduate course in international trade. It will develop basic analytical tools and frameworks used in the general equilibrium analysis of international trade. Recent research topics will be discussed in the second half of the course.
Prerequisites: AS.180.601 AND AS.180.603
Instructor(s): P. Krishna.

AS.180.642. International Monetary Economics.
A link between the balance of payments and asset accumulation/decumulation, microeconomics of international finance and open-economy macroeconomics. The section on open-economy macroeconomics covers approaches to balance-of-payments adjustments, theories of exchange rate determination and monetary, fiscal, and exchange-market policies under fixed and flexible rate regimes.
Instructor(s): O. Jeanne.

AS.180.643. Topics of Game Theory.
This course covers topics such as repeated games, dynamic games, bargaining and strategic communication.
Prerequisites: AS.180.622
Instructor(s): Y. Chen
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.646. Revealed Preference and Comparative Statics.
The overall theme of this course is the observable implications of optimizing choice. We will cover the theory of monotone comparative statics and supermodular games. We also discuss results in the revealed preference literature, such as Afriat's Theorem, that deal with the consistency of data with different canonical models. The course is useful to students doing research in pure or applied theory, where comparative statics tools/insights are often needed for model building. It could also be interesting to those with an empirical focus who would like to know more about revealed preference approaches to testing models and drawing inferences from them.
Instructor(s): K. Quah
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.180.651. Labor Economics I.
Theories of the allocation of time and supply of labor, human capital, demand for labor, market equilibrium, and income distribution. As time allows, other topics, such as unemployment, unions, and compensating differences are discussed. Corequisite: AS.180.601
Instructor(s): R. Moffitt.

The course covers a set of numerical methods that are used to compute and estimate economic models, such as solution methods for nonlinear equation systems, numerical integration, approximation, and optimization. As examples, we discuss dynamic models and their applications in IO and labor economics, including dynamic discrete choice, dynamic games, two-step methods (CCP-based methods), and general equilibrium models.
Instructor(s): Y. Takahashi.

AS.180.662. Asset Pricing.
This course is an introduction and guide to the most important issues in asset pricing. It begins with classic concepts such as the Capital Asset Pricing Model and the Arbitrage Pricing Theory and continues through continuous-time dynamic non-arbitrage models. It covers both basic theory and classic empirical research. Recommended Course Background: AS.180.604, AS.180.633, AS.180.636 or instructor's permission.
Instructor(s): G. Duffee.

AS.180.671. Industrial Organization.
This course covers methods in applied empirical Industrial Organization. The focus will be on the use of econometric analysis and data both for descriptive and measurement purposes, and to test the predictions of economic theories. The course will cover demand estimation, cost and production function estimation, and estimation of auction models.
Prerequisites: AS.180.601
Instructor(s): J. Balat.
AS.180.672. Industrial Organization.
First term: This course covers methods in applied empirical industrial Organization. The focus will be on the use of econometric analysis and data both for descriptive and measurement purposes, and to test the predictions of economic theories. The course will cover demand estimation, cost and production function estimation, and estimation of auction models. Second term: The emphasis in this course is on empirical analysis of firm behavior. The first part of the course focuses on models of the internal organization of the firm. The second part considers empirical analysis of firm behavior in markets, with an emphasis on the “new industrial economics.”
Instructor(s): E. Krasnokutskaya.

AS.180.673. Advanced Economics of Labor.
This course is for graduate students at the 3rd year and above who wish to participate in a semester in-depth readings and discussion topics in labor economics and in econometric methods typically used in labor economics and in many other applied microeconomics fields. Students will have to participate in discussions of materials in each class. The topics covered in each semester are partly a function of student interest and their dissertation topics.
Instructor(s): R. Moffitt
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Advanced econometric techniques are often essential to innovative empirical work, but finding and implementing the right methods for a particular problem poses formidable challenges. This course/seminar aims to address these challenges by combining lectures and discussions of foundational econometric methods in areas of student interest (whether those interests be specific for thesis work or more speculative) with examples of implementation, including software development, in more of a ‘workshop’ environment. The emphasis will be on drawing on the resources of econometric theory to address specific empirical issues while at the same time developing implementation skills.
Instructor(s): R. Moffitt
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

This course is for students working on the dissertation for the Ph.D. in Economics. It is graded pass-fail
Instructor(s): J. Wright
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

The goal of this workshop is to foster active discussion of a research topic among the students and faculty with the ultimate objective of producing new research. The topic and the papers are to be discussed with the input of the participants based on their research interests. Each week one or two participants will lead the discussion. All the participants will be expected to read and think about the papers to be discussed before the presentation Economics Graduate Students Only.
Prerequisites: AS.180.602
Instructor(s): H. Eraslan.

This is a weekly seminar series that brings in speakers from other universities to present their research in the field of applied microeconomics. Graduate Students only.
Instructor(s): Staff
Writing Intensive.

This is a seminar series devoted to the presentation of research in microeconomic theory, typically by speakers from outside the department. Graduate students only.
Instructor(s): Staff.

This course features lectures by economists from other universities. They present research findings at the frontier of the field. Graduate students only.
Instructor(s): Staff.

The purpose of this seminar is to train students to do research in economics. This course is for second year graduate students in the Ph.D program in Economics. Graduates Students Only.
Instructor(s): E. Karni.

AS.180.698. Research/Teaching Practicums.
The purpose of the Ph.D. program in economics is to train students to teach and to do research in economics. This course is for graduate students in the Ph.D. program in economics to obtain graduate credit for work off campus that provides training and the development of skills in teaching and/or research. Before the practicum is begun, the graduate student must identify a sponsoring faculty member or seek permission from the student’s faculty adviser. The faculty member or adviser must sign a form that certifies that graduate credit will be granted, verifies the nature of the work to be performed by the student, and explains how the practicum helps to fulfill a degree requirement. Once completed, the sponsoring faculty member or adviser submits a grade of pass or fail for the student. The course may be used for curricular practical training. Economic majors/Graduate students only.
Instructor(s): Staff.

AS.180.899. Independent Study.
Instructor(s): Staff.

Cross Listed Courses

Sociology
AS.230.374. Poverty and Public Policy. 3.0 Credits.
This course examines the causes and consequences of U.S. urban poverty, it’s implications for health and wellbeing, and explores strategies for addressing it. We cover the major theoretical explanations scholars have advanced to explain the persistence of urban poverty including labor markets, residential segregation, welfare policy, family structure, and the criminal justice system. Within each topic area, students are introduced to a range of interventions aimed at alleviating urban poverty. Students will conduct a formal policy analysis of 20 pages and participate in a mock congressional hearing. Enrollment restricted to Social Policy minors only.
Prerequisites: Students that took AS.360.372 may not take AS.230.374.
Instructor(s): K. Edin
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.
Interdepartmental

AS.360.247. Introduction to Social Policy: Baltimore and Beyond. 3.0 Credits.
This course will introduce students to basic concepts in economics, political science and sociology relevant to the study of social problems and the programs designed to remedy them. It will address the many inequalities in access to education and health care, unequal treatment in the criminal justice system, disparities in income and wealth, and differential access to political power. The focus will be on designing effective policies at the national and local level to address these pressing issues. This course is open to all students, but will be required for the new Social Policy Minor. The course is also recommended for students who are interested in law school, medical school, programs in public health, and graduate school in related social science fields. This course does not count as one of the required courses for the Economics major or minor, but it is required for the Social Policy Minor. Cross list with Sociology, Economics and Political Science. Freshman, Sophomore and Juniors only.
Instructor(s): B. Morgan; K. Edin; V. Weaver
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.360.372. Poverty and Public Policy. 3.0 Credits.
This course examines the causes and consequences of U.S. urban poverty, its implications for health and wellbeing, and explores strategies for addressing it. We cover the major theoretical explanations scholars have advanced to explain the persistence of urban poverty including labor markets, residential segregation, welfare policy, family structure, and the criminal justice system. Within each topic area, students are introduced to a range of interventions aimed at alleviating urban poverty. Students will conduct a formal policy analysis of 20 pages and participate in a mock congressional hearing. Permission of instructor required.
Instructor(s): K. Edin
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.360.380. Making America Social Policy. 3.0 Credits.
This course analyzes the distinctive US welfare state in historical and comparative perspective. We begin with a survey of the policy context, an historical overview from the poorhouses through the Great Society, and a tour of welfare states across the rich democracies. We then survey developments – and explain the actual workings of policy – across jobs, education, welfare, pensions, and health care. We explore the institutional and political factors behind their divergent trajectories through conservative revival and the age of Obama. Students will write a seminar paper exploring policy development over time in a program or area of their choosing. Enrollment restricted to Social Policy minors only.
Instructor(s): D. Schlozman
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.360.528. Problems in Applied Economics. 2.0 Credits.
This course focuses on a monetary approach to national income determination and the balance of payments. Money and banking, as well as commodity and financial markets, are dealt with under both central banking, as well as alternative monetary regimes. Particular emphasis is placed on currency board systems. Students learn how to properly conduct substantive economic research, utilizing primary data sources, statistical techniques and lessons from economic history. Findings are presented in the form of either memoranda or working papers of publishable quality. Exceptional work may be suitable for publication through the Johns Hopkins Institute for Applied Economics, Global Health, and the Study of Business Enterprise. Advanced excel programming skills are required and students are expected to be pre-screened for research at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.. Bloomberg certification is a requisite.
Prerequisites: EN.660.203
Instructor(s): S. Hanke
Writing Intensive.

Environmental Health and Engineering

EN.570.428. Problems in Applied Economics. 3.0 Credits.
This course focuses on a monetary approach to national income determination and the balance of payments. Money and banking, as well as commodity and financial markets, are dealt with under both central banking, as well as alternative monetary regimes. Particular emphasis is placed on currency board systems. Students learn how to properly conduct substantive economic research, utilizing primary data sources, statistical techniques and lessons from economic history. Findings are presented in the form of either memoranda or working papers of publishable quality. Exceptional work may be suitable for publication through the Johns Hopkins Institute for Applied Economics, Global Health, and the Study of Business Enterprise. Advanced excel programming skills are required and students are expected to be pre-screened for research at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.. Bloomberg certification is a pre-requisite.
Prerequisites: EN.660.203 AND AS.180.101 AND AS.180.102
Instructor(s): S. Hanke
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

EN.570.470. Applied Economics & Finance. 3.0 Credits.
This course focuses on company valuations, using the proprietary Hanke-Guttridge Discounted Free Cash Flow Model. Students use the model and primary data from financial statements filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission to calculate the value of publically-traded companies. Using Monte Carlo simulations, students also generate forecast scenarios, project likely share-price ranges and assess potential gains/losses. Stress is placed on using these simulations to diagnose the subjective market expectations contained in current objective market prices, and the robustness of these expectations. During the weekly seminar, students’ company valuations are reviewed and critiqued. A heavy emphasis is placed on research and writing. Work products are expected to be of publishable quality.
Prerequisites: EN.660.203 AND (EN.570.428 OR AS.360.528)
Instructor(s): S. Hanke
Area: Quantitative and Mathematical Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.
EN.570.504. Financial Market Research. 3.0 Credits.
This course investigates the workings of financial, foreign exchange, and commodity futures markets. Research is focused on price behavior, speculation, and hedging in these markets. Extensive research and writing of publishable quality are required. Exceptional work may be suitable for publication through the Johns Hopkins Institute for Applied Economics, Global Health, and the Study of Business Enterprise. An approved research proposal is a pre-requisite.
Instructor(s): S. Hanke
Writing Intensive.