

# STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY CAREER CENTER



## Economics

Economics is the study of production, distribution, and exchange of goods and services. Students majoring in economics at SBU study economic theory and statistical methods to understand how choices are made, evaluating the outcomes in areas such as trade, price formation, resources, and government policy in relation to efficiency, equity, and stability.

An economics major gives students a well-rounded understanding of how markets function and develop. The basic theoretical and statistical tools of economics are applicable in virtually every industry and field. As a result, economists have a variety of jobs, whether they be in government or industry. For instance, many large corporations employ economists to assess and report on market-specific data trends and work in finance, marketing, and consulting. Governments and nonprofit organizations employ economics majors to analyze revenues and expenditures in relation to operations. For instance, for economics majors interested in mathematics and statistics, economic consulting or investment banking are viable options.

Many students also choose to pursue graduate degrees. Many go on to obtain Master of Business Administration (MBA) degrees. MBA degrees, in addition to providing a theoretical foundation in business concepts, also help in career growth, building hard skills in management and leadership as well as soft skills such as communication and negotiation. Other students pursue one-year post-baccalaureate programs—for instance, the Master of Accountancy (MaC)—for entry into a specific career. Others, wishing to teach at four-year colleges, pursue PhDs in economics.

The economics major leads to a wide range of job and industry opportunities. These are just a few possible job titles: market analyst, financial advisor, actuary, credit analyst, real estate agent, urban planner, policy analyst, business forecaster, research assistant, and statistician.

## Transferable Skills

- Critical thinking
- Problem solving
- Data management
- Statistical analysis
- Analysis
- Decision-making
- Communication
- Time management
- Teamwork
- Presenting
- Leadership
- Technical knowledge

## Career Communities to Consider

- Business
- Government & Public Service