Economics

The Economics program explores the problems of a modern economy and introduces the methodological tools that economists use. It emphasizes the development of analytical models and their application to important economic, social and political issues, such as inflation, unemployment, taxation, poverty, pollution, government decision-making and regulation. Our faculty, which is made up of leading teacher-scholars, includes specialists in game theory, microeconomics, industrial organization, macroeconomics, monetary economics, political economy and public finance.

The study of economics contributes to a broad liberal arts education and helps students develop superior problem-solving skills. It is an excellent course of study to pursue, whether students plan to enter the workforce after graduation or are considering graduate work in law, engineering or the social sciences. Economics also provides exceptional preparation for careers in business, either immediately after graduation or after completing master's-level graduate work in business (e.g., MBA, MS Finance). In addition to the introductory and intermediate economic theory courses, courses that have particular relevance for business include Econ 335, Econ 413, Econ 4151, Econ 428, Econ 451, Econ 452 and Econ 467. Economics students with business interests should strongly consider completing at least one internship (academic credit is available via Econ 299) to obtain practical business experience, and they should discuss with their advisers the possibility of taking courses such as accounting in the Olin Business School.

Economics and computer science have become increasingly interrelated. Students interested in both fields can complete the major in economics and computer science. As part of this major, students complete economics courses that are particularly focused on the applications of computer science in economics. Elective courses of particular relevance include Econ 407, Econ 4151, Econ 452, Econ 467 and Econ 484. As with the economics major, students are strongly encouraged to complete at least one internship (academic credit is available via Econ 299) and to complement their studies with appropriate coursework from the Olin Business School.

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Email: dottie@wustl.edu
Website: http://economics.wustl.edu

Faculty

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PhD, Cornell University

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PhD, California Institute of Technology

Anqi Li (http://economics.wustl.edu/people/anqi-li)
PhD, Stanford University
The Major in Economics

**Total units required:** 37-39

**Required courses:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Econ 1011</td>
<td>Introduction to Microeconomics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Econ 1021</td>
<td>Introduction to Macroeconomics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 131</td>
<td>Calculus I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 132</td>
<td>Calculus II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 2200</td>
<td>Elementary Probability and Statistics (or an alternative statistics course, which must be approved by the department)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Econ 493</td>
<td>Mathematical Economics</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or Math 233</td>
<td>Calculus III</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Econ 4011</td>
<td>Intermediate Microeconomic Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Econ 4021</td>
<td>Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Econ 413</td>
<td>Introduction to Econometrics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or Econ 413W</td>
<td>Introduction to Econometrics with Writing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Elective courses:**

Four advanced economics electives (12 units), at least two of which must have an Econ Econ 4011 or Econ 4021 prerequisite.

**The Major in Economics and Computer Science**

The College of Arts & Sciences and the McKelvey School of Engineering have developed a major that allows students interested in both economics and computer science to combine these two complementary disciplines efficiently, without having to pursue them as two separate majors.

Engineering students who declare this major must fulfill the distribution and all other requirements for the BS in Applied Science degree (http://bulletin.wustl.edu/undergrad/engineering/requirements) in the McKelvey School of Engineering. Arts & Sciences students who declare this major must fulfill the distribution and all other requirements for an AB degree (http://bulletin.wustl.edu/undergrad/artsci/requirements) in addition to the specific requirements listed below.

**Total units required:** 55-57

**Required courses:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Econ 4011</td>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Introduction to Econometrics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or Econ 413W</td>
<td>Introduction to Econometrics with Writing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 131</td>
<td>Calculus I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 132</td>
<td>Calculus II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 2200</td>
<td>Elementary Probability and Statistics (or an alternative statistics course, which must be approved by the department)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or Math 3200</td>
<td>Elementary to Intermediate Statistics and Data Analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ESE 326</td>
<td>Probability and Statistics for Engineering</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 233</td>
<td>Calculus III</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or Econ 493</td>
<td>Mathematical Economics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSE 131</td>
<td>Introduction to Computer Science</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSE 247</td>
<td>Data Structures and Algorithms</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSE 347</td>
<td>Analysis of Algorithms</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Elective courses:**

1. Three 3-unit economics electives drawn from any Econ 4011 prerequisite course, including Econ 4021.

a. Economics electives of particular relevance include (but are not limited to) Econ 407 Market Design, Econ 4151 Applied Econometrics, Econ 452 Industrial Organization, Econ 467 Game Theory and Econ 484 Computational Macroeconomics.
2. Three 3-unit computer science electives drawn from the list below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CSE 330S</td>
<td>Rapid Prototype Development and Creative Programming</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSE 332S</td>
<td>Object-Oriented Software Development Laboratory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSE 341T</td>
<td>Parallel and Sequential Algorithms</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSE 416A</td>
<td>Analysis of Network Data</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSE 417T</td>
<td>Introduction to Machine Learning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSE 425S</td>
<td>Programming Systems and Languages</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSE 427S</td>
<td>Cloud Computing with Big Data Applications</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSE 511A</td>
<td>Introduction to Artificial Intelligence</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSE 517A</td>
<td>Machine Learning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSE 514A</td>
<td>Data Mining</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSE 516A</td>
<td>Multi-Agent Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSE 518A</td>
<td>Human-in-the-Loop Computation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSE 557A</td>
<td>Advanced Visualization</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Information**

Majors must complete Econ 4011, Econ 4021 and the Econ 4011/Econ 4021 prerequisite electives in residence during the fall and spring semesters.

The upper-level units (300- and 400-level courses) required for the major must be independent of other majors or minors (i.e., upper-level course work required for a major may not be double-counted for another major or a minor).

**Senior Honors:** Students are invited during the second semester of their junior year to participate in the honors program during their senior year if they meet certain academic requirements.

**Certificate in Financial Economics:** By completing a specialized set of electives, majors can earn the Certificate in Financial Economics. More information about the Certificate in Financial Economics (http://economics.wustl.edu/certificate-financial-economics) can be found on the department website.

More information about the majors, the minors, the course offerings and the honors program can be found in the Economics Undergraduate Guide (http://economics.wustl.edu/undergraduate), available on the department website and from the department. Students also are encouraged to contact the Academic Coordinator, Dorothy Petersen, by email at dottie@wustl.edu with any questions.

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**Minors**

**The Minor in General Economics**

Economics units required: 15

Required courses:

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<tr>
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<tbody>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Econ 4011</td>
<td>Intermediate Microeconomic Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Econ 4021</td>
<td>Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Units: 12

**Elective course:** One economics elective having at least Econ 1011 and/or Econ 1021 as a prerequisite course

**Prerequisites:** The prerequisite courses for Econ 1011 are Econ 4011 and Math 132. In addition, Econ 493 or Math 233 must be taken prior to or concurrent with enrollment in Econ 4011. The prerequisite courses for Econ 4021 are Econ 4021 and Econ 4011.

**The Minor in Applied Microeconomics**

Economics units required: 15

Required courses:

<table>
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<tr>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Econ 1021</td>
<td>Introduction to Macroeconomics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Econ 4011</td>
<td>Intermediate Microeconomic Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Units: 9

**Elective courses:**

- One economics elective having Econ 4011 as a prerequisite course
- One economics elective having at least Econ 1011 and/or Econ 4021 as a prerequisite course

**Prerequisites:** The prerequisite courses for Econ 1011 are Econ 4011 and Math 132. In addition, Econ 493 or Math 233 must be taken prior to or concurrent with enrollment in Econ 4011.

**Courses**


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**L11 Econ 1011 Introduction to Microeconomics**

Determination of prices; distribution of national income; theory of production. For a thorough introduction to economics, Econ 1021 also should be taken.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, AN Arch: NSM, SSC Art: NSM, SSC EN: S

**L11 Econ 1021 Introduction to Macroeconomics**

Business fluctuations: inflation and recession; monetary and fiscal policy; economic development. For a thorough introduction to economics, Econ 1011 also should be taken.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, AN Arch: NSM, SSC Art: NSM, SSC EN: S

**L11 Econ 208 First-Year Seminar: Economics and Society**

Economics and Society is a first-year seminar open to interested students, without prerequisites of any kind. Two to four topics will be chosen for in-depth discussion during the semester. Possible topics include but are not limited to inequality (domestic and international); globalization (pros/cons); "big banks" and their role in financial crises; wars and national security; health and disease; and capitalism and socialism. The seminar seeks to spread economic literacy among tomorrow's opinion leaders, improve their ability to analyze social issues, help them explain their viewpoint to others, and understand different opinions. (The course cannot be used for economics major/minor credit.)

Credit 3 units. A&S: FYS A&S IQ: SSC Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

**L11 Econ 296 Undergraduate TA**

In this course, an advanced undergraduate can assist a faculty member in the teaching of an undergraduate Economics class. Students can enroll after their selection by a supervising faculty member, which occurs after an application (on the department website) is submitted and reviewed, perhaps in conjunction with an interview with the supervising faculty member. Students can enroll in only one section per semester. Students will be expected, at a minimum, to attend lectures and hold office hours. Specific grading duties will be determined by the supervising faculty member, in accord with Arts & Sciences policies. The typical number of units earned is 2, with the possibility of a maximum of 3, per semester. This course can be repeated for P/F credit. Prerequisite: instructor permission.

Credit variable, maximum 3 units.

**L11 Econ 299 Internship**

Students may receive up to 3 units of credit for an unpaid internship. The internship must be approved by the Career Center and supervised by a faculty member. Note: Consult Career Center for further information. This course does not count toward the major or minor in economics.

Credit variable, maximum 3 units.

**L11 Econ 326 American Economic History**

Basic theoretical concepts applied to analyze the changing structure and performance of the American economy from colonial times to the present. Prerequisites: Econ 1011 and 1021.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

**L11 Econ 335 Money and Banking**

Money and the monetary system; money creation by the banking system; central bank functions; monetary theory and economic policy. Prerequisites: Econ 1011 and Econ 1021.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC Art: SSC EN: S

**L11 Econ 348 Economic Realities of the American Dream**

Exploration of the realities of economic life in the United States and how they correspond to the American Dream. Interdisciplinary perspectives from economics, sociology and other areas of social inquiry. Emphasis on the consistency between empirical data and different concepts of the American Dream. Specific topics to include sources of economic growth and changing living standards, unemployment, impact of globalization on U.S. citizens, economic mobility, poverty and inequality, and social justice. Prerequisites: Econ 1011 and Econ 1021, or consent of the instructors.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

**L11 Econ 3501 Political Economy**

The course introduces students to the field of political economy. The approach is to apply the economic theory and concepts to political actors and behavior. Students are expected to learn: how economic and political forces may shape the incentives and constraints of political actors (e.g., voters and policy makers); the role of institutions in shaping both political behavior and policy outcomes. Prerequisite: Econ 1011.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC EN: S

**L11 Econ 352 Health Economics**

Analysis of consumer demand for health care, medical technology, and the role of health insurance. Emphasis placed on behavior of the physician (whether he acts as an agent for the consumer or on his own behalf); on the use of paramedics, preventive care, outpatient care, and the general market organization of the health industry. The major concern will be the rising cost of health care and appropriate public policy responses. Prerequisite: Econ 1011.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

**L11 Econ 380 Labor and the Economy**

Economic analysis of labor markets. Theory and policy applications of labor supply and labor demand; explanations of wage and income differentials; migration and immigration; discrimination; labor unions; unemployment. Prerequisite: Econ 1011.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC Arch: SSC BU: BA EN: S

**L11 Econ 4011 Intermediate Microeconomic Theory**

Analytic theory of consumer and producer behavior under perfect and imperfect competition. Coverage of demand theory (indifference curves and utility functions) and preferences under uncertainty, including expected utility and risk aversion. Development of general equilibrium under pure exchange, including the concepts of competitive equilibrium and Pareto efficiency. Discussion of the role of time as it pertains to interest rates, discounting and net present value. Analysis of standard monopoly and simple oligopoly problems. Development of noncooperative game theory, including strategic and extensive-form equilibria and Nash and sub-game perfect equilibria. Thorough training in intermediate theory requires both Econ 4011 and Econ 4021. Prerequisites: Econ 1011, Math 132 and concurrent enrollment in, or prior completion of, either Math 233 or Econ 493 (Mathematical Economics).

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC Arch: SSC BU: SSC EN: S

**L11 Econ 4021 Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory**

National income and labor market measurement. Business cycle facts and consideration of alternative explanations for
business cycle phenomena. Development of Solow growth model, along with theories of endogenous growth and an examination of reasons for differences in growth rates across counties. General equilibrium description of firms and consumers in labor and product markets. Implementation of monetary and fiscal policy, and exploration of the impact of policy changes on the macroeconomy. Prerequisites: Econ 1021 and Econ 4011.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, Arch: SSC, Art: SSC, EN: S

L11 Econ 404 Behavioral Economics and Experimental Economics

Behavioral economics is an effort to incorporate ideas from psychology into economic models of behavior. We will focus on popular experimental anomalies, including the Allais and Rabin paradoxes, ultimatum bargaining, the centipede and public goods contribution games. We will examine the extent to which these are consistent with standard economic theory and how they may contradict it. The primary focus will be a critical examination of psychological theories of nonstandard preferences including loss aversion, probability weighting, reciprocity, fairness and present bias. Theories of incorrect beliefs and systematic biases such as money illusion and procrastination will be covered. Applications to the current economic crisis will also be discussed. The class will include an introduction to experimental methods in economics, including hands-on experience in the MISSEL laboratory. A sound grounding in economic theory is essential to the course. You must have successfully completed Econ 4011, and should be acquainted with basic optimization theory, expected utility theory, risk aversion, discounting and basic game theory including dominance, Nash equilibrium and subgame perfection.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, Arch: SSC, Art: SSC, EN: S

L11 Econ 407 Market Design

The objective of this course is to study how to design mechanisms to allocate scarce resources and how to create successful marketplaces. We will primarily consider two topics: (1) two-sided matching markets, such as the National Resident Matching Program and the Kidney Exchange for transplants, and (2) auctions used by Google, Facebook, etc. Time permitting, a third topic will be the problem of designing and regulating market "platforms," such as the e-commerce markets run by eBay, Amazon, and Craigslist, and applications marketplaces run by Apple, Google, etc., as well as the electronic financial trading platforms run by the NYSE. Prerequisite: Econ 4011.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, Arch: SSC, Art: SSC, EN: S

L11 Econ 4111 Optimization and Economic Theory

An introduction to mathematical optimization and its applications within economics. The course is designed for, and should be taken by, all undergraduates considering graduate study in economics, but all interested students are welcome. Prerequisites: Econ 4011 and Math 309 or permission of the instructor.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, Arch: SSC, Art: SSC, EN: S

L11 Econ 413 Introduction to Econometrics

Course provides a basic working knowledge of econometrics. Topics include: translation of economic theory into statistical models, statistical foundations of econometrics, preregression analysis bivariate and multiple regression techniques, hypothesis testing, multicollinearity, specification error, autocorrelation, errors in variables, identification, and simultaneous estimation. Sections 1 & 2 prerequisites: Econ 1011 & 1021 and Math 2200 or equivalent. Section 3 prerequisites: Econ 4011 and Math 2200 or equivalent. The Friday subsection "A" is for Section 03 only. This subsection is a help session, and attendance is not required. Please note: Requests for online registration will be wait listed, and students will be enrolled according to Economics major/minor status and student level (e.g., priority to Level 8 Econ majors).

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, Arch: SSC, Art: SSC, EN: S

L11 Econ 413W Introduction to Econometrics with Writing

Econometrics is the development and application of statistical techniques for the measurement of economic phenomena. This course is a student's initial study of econometric theory and practice. Topics include: translation of economic theory into statistical models, statistical foundations of econometrics, preregression analysis bivariate and multiple regression techniques, hypothesis testing, multicollinearity, specification error, autocorrelation, errors in variables, identification, and simultaneous estimation. The three writing assignments and the final paper will provide students an opportunity to formulate an economic model, estimate the model with appropriate data, and interpret the results. This experience will help students understand how econometrics relates to other upper-level economics courses which focus on theoretical models for how the world operates. Econometrics provides a method of testing the validity of these economic models, and the term paper will improve students' writing skills, giving them a chance to write clearly and concisely about technical material. Prerequisites: Econ 4011 and Math 2200 or equivalent. Please Note: Requests for online registration will be wait listed, and students will be enrolled according to economics major/minor status and student level (e.g., priority to Level 8 economics majors). Students should also select the "A" subsection.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, Arch: SSC, Art: SSC, EN: S

L11 Econ 4151 Applied Econometrics

Introduction to econometrics as it is applied in microeconomics. Emphasis is on hands-on implementation of the models covered in the course. Topics related to the analysis of microeconomic data include cross-section and panel data linear models and robust inference; instrumental variables estimation; simultaneous equation models; models for discrete choice; and truncation, censoring and sample selection models. The Friday "A" subsection is an opportunity to get assistance with the STATA-based assignments, via a TA-led help session. Attendance at the subsection is recommended, but not required. Prerequisites: Econ 4011 and Econ 413. Math 309 is recommended.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, Arch: SSC, Art: SSC, EN: S

L11 Econ 428 Capital Market Imperfections and Entrepreneurial Finance

Analysis of problems in capital markets for firm financing and institutional structures that address these problems. Investigation of asymmetric information between firms and potential investors and associated moral hazard and adverse selection problems that raise the cost of funds and constrain firm growth. Empirical tests for the presence of financing constraints on firms. A substantial portion of the course explores the role of venture capital, especially in the high-tech sector of the United States economy where venture capital is important for commercializing cutting-edge science. Prerequisite: Econ 4011. Econ 413 is recommended.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, Arch: SSC, Art: SSC, EN: S
L11 Econ 429 Decision Under Risk and Time
This course covers topics on individual decision making, subject to risk and to inter-temporal considerations. The emphasis is on economic modeling, which combines both theory and reality. The course begins by establishing a framework for analyzing preferences about risky outcomes. This framework is applied to practical problems such as portfolio choice, asset pricing and insurance. The remainder of the course considers decision-making in the long run, with focuses on the lifecycle consumption-versus-saving decision, the problem of time inconsistency and other real-world implications. Prerequisites: Econ 4011, Math 2200. Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC; EN: S

L11 Econ 4301 Understanding the Financial Crisis
The global financial crisis of 2007-2009 was the most severe since the Great Depression. The goal of the course is to provide tools to analyze key elements of this crisis. We will move from a corporate finance perspective — to understand the behavior of firms and financial institutions — to a macroeconomic perspective — to make this behavior in aggregate outcomes and policy responses. Topics covered include: the U.S. crisis in historical and international perspective; corporate finance of firms and banks in closed and open economy; monetary and fiscal policy intervention; the open economy dimension of the financial crisis; the European Sovereign Debt crisis. Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC; Art: FAAM; EN: S

L11 Econ 435 Open Economy Macroeconomics
This course begins with a review of international trade theory, of the balance of payment accounts, and their relationship to international borrowing and lending. We then study the asset approach to exchange rates determination, exchange rate behavior in the short and in the long run, and the relationship of exchange rates with prices and output. The course also explores monetary and fiscal policy under both fixed and floating exchange rates, macroeconomic policy coordination and optimum currency areas, international debt problems of developing countries, and their relation to stabilization program. Prerequisite: Econ 4021. Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC; Art: SSC; EN: S

L11 Econ 437 The Economics of Financial Intermediation
The structure and the role of banks have changed tremendously. The historically-traditional activity of granting loans and collecting deposits has evolved into a much richer and more complex set of financial contracts. The separation between financial asset trading activity and traditional commercial bank activity that was typical of the financial system in the period after the World War II also disappeared. Coincident with the evolution of financial institutions was the development of the asymmetric information model. The role of banks in the economy can be explained with the tools developed in these models of the economics of information, as a microeconomic theory of banking does not exist when information is symmetric and markets are complete. The economics of information literature is also used to explain the evolution of financial institutions and markets, and to understand the consequences of that evolution for economic outcomes (such as economic development and financial crises) and for monetary policy choices (such as central bank interventions, regulations and changes in the payments system). Prerequisite: Econ 4011; Econ 4021 recommended, but not required. Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC; EN: S

L11 Econ 444 Innovation and Intellectual Property: Theory and Practice
Innovation — figuring out better and cheaper ways of satisfying human desires — is the key to improving our well-being. It is not patient saving and accumulation that makes us so much better off than we used to be: capital accumulation is only the conduit through which the innovation juices flow. The question is: What drives it? How come some societies are apparently much more innovative than others? How come we have the impression that most useful inventions took place in the past three centuries? Are there policies that help fostering innovation and others that hurt? The course tries to address these questions. Economists have many theories of innovation, some better than others. We look at the theories, we examine the facts (past and present), then we go back to the theories and reconsider their explanatory power. With this background, we approach the debate about intellectual property, what it is and what it is not good for, whose interests it serves, and whose well-being it thwarts. Prerequisite: Econ 4011. Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC; Art: SSC; EN: S

L11 Econ 445 Public Finance
The study of fundamental forms of market failure that provide the economic rationale for government action. The first third of the class examines market failure when an economy contains externalities and public goods and the general nature of public policies that address these issues. The second third addresses particular public policies, with a focus on their intended and unintended consequences and their costs. The final third addresses taxation. Topics include the measurement and evaluation of tax burdens, the federal personal income tax, tax evasion and proposals for fundamental tax reform. Prerequisite: Econ 4011. Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC; Art: SSC; EN: S

L11 Econ 448W Current Macroeconomic Issues
Review and extension of macroeconomic models from Econ 4021 from a comparative perspective and use of these models to analyze current macroeconomic and policy issues. Topics include recession and recovery; long-term growth; saving and social security; investment; and monetary policy. Multiple writing assignments that emphasize critical analysis of theoretical perspectives and readings applied to current macroeconomic topics. Assignments are revised to improve logical structure, clarity and style. Enrollment limited to 15 students with priority given to senior economics majors. Prerequisite: Econ 4021. Please note: Requests for online registration are wait-listed. Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC; WI Arch: SSC; Art: SSC; EN: S

L11 Econ 451 Environmental Policy
Course examines the relationship between environmental economics and environmental policy. The course focuses on air pollution, water pollution and hazardous wastes, with some attention given to biodiversity and global climate change. The course examines critically two prescriptions that economics usually endorses: (1) “balancing” of benefits against costs (e.g., benefit-cost analysis) and the use of risk analysis in evaluating policy alternatives; and (2) use of market incentives (e.g., prices, taxes or charges) or “property rights” instead of traditional command-and-control regulations to implement environmental policy. Prerequisite: Econ 1011. Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC; Art: SSC BU: BA, ETH: EN: S
L11 Econ 452 Industrial Organization
Theoretical and empirical analysis of the presence and value of competitive forces in the United States economy. Theories of industrial organization and development of criteria for performance of noncompetitive industries. Prerequisite: Econ 4011.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC EN: S

L11 Econ 460 Urban Economics
Economic function of the city and the role of the city in a national economy. Local decision-making: financing of local government expenditures. An analysis of selected urban problems, such as causes and effects of housing market segregation; decay and abandonment; landlord-tenant relations; crime; and urban transport systems. Prerequisite: Econ 4011.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC Art: SSC EN: S

L11 Econ 467 Game Theory
This course covers advanced applications of Game Theory in economics. Topics include expected utility, strategic-form and extensive-form games with perfect information, Bayesian games, infinitely repeated games, dominance, Nash equilibrium and its refinements. We apply these tools to study strategic situations in industrial organization, auctions, bargaining, voting, and signaling games. Prerequisites: Econ 4011 and Math 2200.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC Art: SSC EN: S

L11 Econ 472 Topics in Growth and Development
This course highlights important empirical facts concerning growth and development in various countries at different development stages. Fundamental growth theory is then provided for explaining these facts systematically and for evaluating the consequences of commonly adopted development policies. Topics vary, but may include population; human capital and labor market development; R&D and innovation; finance and growth; modernization and industrial transformation; world income disparities and poverty problems; institutions and political economy issues; environmental and social factors; and international trade and economic integration. Prerequisites: Econ 4011 and Econ 4021.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC Arch: SSC Art: SSC EN: S

L11 Econ 4721 Advanced Topics in Modern Economic Growth
This course studies economic theories that explain the observed patterns of economic development across time and space. What explains the growth of the world economy since the Industrial Revolution? Why are the level and the growth rate of per-capita income so different across countries? What explains the decline of manufacturing, and its growth in the early stages of development? What are the determinants of inequality and risk faced by individuals in different countries? Theories featuring the role of investment in physical and human capital, technology, coordination, financial markets, and environmental variables will be presented. Theories will be evaluated using historical data and detailed case studies. This course is designed to complement Econ 472. Prerequisites: Econ 4011.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC EN: S

L11 Econ 474 The Poverty of Nations
This course focuses on the failures of economic development and the extreme and persistent poverty we find in South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa and other parts of the developing world, including major urban centers. What exactly is poverty? Who are the poor? How many of them are there? Why are they poor? What individual or collective actions can they (or we) take to improve their lot? Prerequisites: Econ 4011 and Econ 4021 or permission of instructor.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC EN: S

L11 Econ 477 Topics in Financial Economics: Asset Pricing
The objective of the course is to develop the basic economic models that can be used to study the valuation of different financial assets and to discuss how to confront the theory with the evidence from financial markets. The course will develop the basic model of investment under uncertainty and discuss portfolio choices in static and dynamic settings as well as market equilibria and the impact of news on the forecast-ability of excess returns. The course will describe valuation in incomplete asset markets (e.g., arbitrage pricing theory) and the extension to the valuation of firms and real estate assets. Prerequisites: Econ 4011, Econ 4021 and Econ 413.
Credit 3 units.

L11 Econ 480 Labor Economics
Economic analysis of labor markets. Theory and evidence on supply of and demand for labor, explanation of wage and income differentials; impact of education on human skills and productivity. Prerequisites: Econ 401 and 413.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC Arch: SSC EN: S

L11 Econ 483 Economics of Education
The course involves analysis of the economic and social determinants and consequences of education. Because each person’s education is an investment in human capital that allows the individual to contribute to society in a productive way, education becomes a crucial determinant of an economy’s ability to achieve high growth with high wages, low unemployment and strong social cohesion. This course addresses three essential topics from the wide-ranging field of the economics of education. The first is demand-side oriented and includes: (1) the measurement of the returns to education in the labor market (human capital theory; the central idea of education as human capital investment); and (2) a characterization of the education production function, which relates the various inputs affecting a student’s learning (schools, families, peers, neighborhoods, etc.) to measure outputs including labor market success, graduation rates and standardized test scores. The second important topic involves political economy and the supply side: the financing and provision of education. The third part of the course is devoted to the links between education and economic development, including cross-country differences in schooling, returns to schooling and per-capita income. Prerequisites: Econ 4011, Econ 4021 and Econ 413.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC Arch: SSC Art: SSC EN: S
L11 Econ 484 Computational Macroeconomics
This course provides a more in-depth look into the quantitative methods used in contemporary macroeconomic analysis. We will cover numerical methods used in dynamic optimization. In practice, we will apply these methods to solve two major models used in macroeconomic analysis, using both Excel and Matlab. The Neoclassical Growth Model and its variants are used to study aggregate trends and aggregate effects of government policy. The lifecycle model is used to examine questions involving decision-making over the lifecycle. We will learn how to use empirical observations for the purpose of calibrating model parameters and how to conduct policy evaluation in the context of calibrated models. Our policy evaluation will focus on fiscal policy (taxes) and social security issues.
Credit 3 units.

L11 Econ 490 Independent Work
Prerequisites: senior standing and permission of the supervising faculty member. Consult Academic Coordinator for further details. Note: This course does not count toward the major or minor in economics.
Credit variable, maximum 6 units.

L11 Econ 493 Mathematical Economics
The objective of this course is to develop the mathematical tools necessary for the study of intermediate micro- and macroeconomic theory and the advanced electives in economics. The principal focus will be the calculus of multivariate functions (including total and partial differentiation), unconstrained and constrained optimization of multivariate functions, and implicit and inverse function rules. Time permitting, additional topics will be introduced. Economics majors and minors must take either this course or Math 233 prior to or concurrently with Econ 4011. Students who have taken or are taking Math 233 are encouraged to take this course as well. Students taking this course and not Math 233 must take Econ 493 for a letter grade; pass/fail and audit are grade options only for students who have previously completed Math 233. All grade option choices must be finalized by Friday, September 7, 2019. The last day to add or drop the course (with a "W") is Friday, September 7, 2019. There is no option to withdraw (i.e., take a "W") from this course, except in the case of illness or emergency. Students cannot use WebStac to add or drop this course after the first session; they should contact dottie@wustl.edu for scheduling issues. The final exam will occur on the last day of class, per the course syllabus. Prerequisites: Econ 1011, Econ 1021 and Math 132.
Credit 1 unit. A&S IQ: SSC Arch; SSC Art; SSC EN: S

L11 Econ 494 Introduction to Stata
This short course introduces students to the data analysis and statistical software tools used in upper-level econometrics and applied economics courses. The course will be held in the computer classroom so that students can obtain hands-on experience with data preparation, workflow, and modeling using the Stata statistical software package. Emphasis throughout the course is placed on examples of applications in economics.
Credit 1 unit.

L11 Econ 496 Teaching Practicum in Economics
Opportunity for undergraduates to assist in course instruction, tutoring and preparation of problems, readings and exam materials under supervision of faculty. Note: This course does not count toward the major or minor in economics.
Credit variable, maximum 3 units. EN: S

L11 Econ 497 Research in Economics
Opportunity to work as part of a research project under faculty supervision. Note: This course does not count toward the major or minor in economics. May be repeated for credit.
Credit variable, maximum 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC Art: SSC EN: S

L11 Econ 4971 Research in Economics: Special Topics
This is a fall-semester course taught by the Sam B. Cook Visiting Professor in Economics and Arts & Sciences. Focus and prerequisites vary with each offering; but prerequisites always include Econ 4011.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC EN: S

L11 Econ 498 Honors Seminar
Advanced application of economic theory to policy problems. This is the first part of the two-course sequence for seniors writing an honors thesis, and it is taken in the fall semester of the senior year. This course may not be used to satisfy major requirements. Prerequisite: invitation into the "Honors in Economics with Thesis" track of the department's Honors Program.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC EN: S

L11 Econ 499 Study for Honors
Independent reading and research under faculty direction leading to a Senior Honors Thesis. This is the second part of the two-course sequence for seniors writing an honors thesis, and it is taken in the spring semester of the senior year. This course may not be used to satisfy major requirements. Prerequisite: invitation into the "Honors in Economics with Thesis" track of the department's Honors Program.
Credit 3 units.

L11 Econ 578 International Macroeconomics
The aim of this course is to cover several topics related to international macroeconomics, such as open economy real business cycle models, small open economy models, sovereign default models, and models of international capital flows. The course is intended to provide students with a battery of tools that will help them to identify relevant questions and the right approach (methodology) to solving them; students will also learn different quantitative methods for solving the models that we study throughout the semester. For the student, the goals are to start thinking about possible research questions, to learn how to develop a research plan, and to transmit ideas in an effective way.
Credit 3 units.