



# What can I do with a major in **ECONOMICS** from Valparaiso University?

## Description of major:

Provides a logical, ordered way of looking at problems, issues and policies regarding the production, distribution and consumption of goods and services. It draws upon other social sciences and mathematics to confront a wide range of topics relating to prices, markets, domestic and foreign trade and government policies. As economics in general deals with choice and decision making, it is of great value on both a personal and a professional level. Students may major in either Economics or Economics and Computer Analysis

## Relevant skills for an ECONOMICS major:

- ◆ Analyze and interpret economic issues
- ◆ Analyze the business cycle and the money market
- ◆ Carry out cost-benefit analysis
- ◆ Collect and organize data
- ◆ Communicate verbally & in writing
- ◆ Conduct and explain scientific research
- ◆ Delegate
- ◆ Explain complex economic concepts and theories to others
- ◆ Forecast
- ◆ Know statistical procedures
- ◆ Make decisions
- ◆ Manage and supervise
- ◆ Operate and use information derived from computers
- ◆ Pay attention to detail
- ◆ Perceive/define cause and effect relationships
- ◆ Plan and prioritize tasks
- ◆ Recognize elements, relationships, structures, and organizing principles
- ◆ Set policy
- ◆ Solve problems and trouble shoot
- ◆ Think logically
- ◆ Trace problems to their sources

## Sample work activities for Graduates in ECONOMICS (some may require an advanced degree)

- Accountant
- Actuary
- Administrative officer/government. service
- Administrator, contract and other
- Advertising Manager
- Appraiser/Assessor
- Archivist, economic history
- Auditor
- Bank Officer
- Budget Consultant
- Business Administrator
- Buyer
- City Manager
- Claim Adjuster/Agent Examiner
- Commodity Industry Analyst
- Conciliator
- Compensation Analyst
- Consumer Affairs Director
- Contract Administrator
- Controller
- Corporate Counsel
- Cost Estimator
- Credit Analyst
- Demographer
- Director/Employment Research Planning
- Director/Institutional Research
- Educator
- Environmental Specialist
- Estate Planner
- Financial Aid Counselor
- Financial Analyst
- Financial Planner
- Foreign Service Officer
- Geographer
- Historian
- Human Resources Manager
- Information Scientist
- Insurance Agent
- Internal Revenue Agent
- International Trade Economist
- Investor Relations Manager
- Job Analyst
- Journalist
- Labor Economist
- Labor Relations Representative
- Lawyer
- Lobbyist
- Management Consultant
- Manager, Financial Institution
- Market Analyst
- Marketing Researcher
- Personnel Manager
- Political Scientist
- Professor
- Public Administrator
- Real Estate Agent
- Regional Planner
- Sales Manager
- Sales Representative
- Securities Analyst
- Sociologist
- Statistician
- Stockbroker
- Technical Writer
- Trust Officer
- Underwriter
- and others!

## Potential hiring institutions for ECONOMICS majors:

- ◆ Advertising departments/firms
- ◆ Analysis/forecasting companies
- ◆ Banks/ Financial Institutions
- ◆ Business corporations
- ◆ Chambers of Commerce
- ◆ Civic & taxpayer associations
- ◆ Colleges & Universities
- ◆ Consulting firms
- ◆ Consumer Affairs Office
- ◆ Consumer organizations
- ◆ Educational institutions
- ◆ Employment agencies
- ◆ Financial institutions
- ◆ Government Agencies: Department of Energy, Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Trade Commission, Department of Housing & Urban Development, Labor Department, Social Security Administration, The Federal Reserve, etc.
- ◆ Industries
- ◆ Insurance companies
- ◆ International Organizations
- ◆ Investment firms
- ◆ Labor unions
- ◆ Magazines, newspapers
- ◆ Market research departments/firms
- ◆ Personnel departments
- ◆ Political action groups
- ◆ Research & development firms
- ◆ Trade associations
- ◆ Utility companies
- ◆ and others!

## Area of further education for ECONOMICS majors:

- Accounting
- Agricultural Economics & Agribusiness
- Area & Cultural Studies
- Business Administration
- City & Regional Planning
- Communication
- Demography & Population Studies
- Economics
- Education
- Environmental Studies & Science
- Finance & Banking
- Foreign Language & Literature
- Gender Studies
- Geography
- Insurance
- International Affairs
- International Development
- Law
- Liberal Studies
- Management Information Systems
- Management Strategy & Policy
- Mineral Economics
- Political Science
- Public Policy & Administration
- Quantitative Analysis
- Real Estate
- Social Sciences
- Sociology
- Sustainable Development
- Taxation
- Urban Studies
- and others!

## Sources of additional information for ECONOMICS majors:

- VU Department of Economics: <http://www.valpo.edu/economics/>
- VU Majors & Areas of Study: <http://www.valpo.edu/cas/departments/economics.html>
- Occupational Outlook Handbook: the US Bureau of Labor Statistics compiles information about various occupations, including the nature of the work, the job outlook, the earnings, and other relevant information. <http://www.bls.gov/oco/oco1002.htm>
- American Economic Association: encourage economic research, especially the historical and statistical study of the actual conditions of industrial life. Site includes job openings under their Publications section. <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA/>
- American Institute for Economic Research: an independent non-profit research and educational organization. Through regular publications, keep members informed about important economic and financial issues. Site includes job postings. <http://www.aier.org/>
- Association of Environmental & Resource Economists: serves as an information resource for economists involved in natural resources policy planning & research. <http://www.aere.org>
- Bloomberg.Com: The online magazine on the latest economics information. Includes a Careers page with job opportunities. <http://www.bloomberg.com/>
- EconomistJobs.com: Job opportunities for economists. <http://www.hrmjobs.com/economicsjobs.html>
- International Economic Development Council: the Council for Urban Economic Development (CUED) and the American Economic Development Council (AEDC) joined forces to become one...the International Economic Development Council. Includes a Career Services page. <http://www.iedconline.org/>
- International Monetary Fund: Continually recruiting for economists. <http://www.imf.org>

- Moving Ideas: Dedicated to explaining and popularizing complex policy ideas to a broader audience. Includes jobs & internships. <http://www.movingideas.org>
- National Association for Business Economics: an association composed of individuals who have an interest in business economics, and who want to utilize the latest economic data and trends to enhance their ability to make sound business decisions. <http://www.nabe.com/>
- The Economist: The magazine has an online edition that includes a Classifieds section. <http://www.economist.com/>

### **VU Career Center Resource Library Materials:**

- *100 Best Nonprofits To Work For*
- *Book Of U.S. Government Jobs : Where They Are, What's Available, And How To Get One*
- *Career Opportunities In Banking, Finance, And Insurance*
- *Career Opportunities In Law And The Legal Industry*
- *Career Opportunities In Politics, Government & Activism*
- *Careers For Born Leaders & Other Decisive Types*
- *Careers For Financial Mavens & Other Money Movers*
- *Careers In Finance*
- *Careers In Mathematics [Computer File]*
- *Careers In Sociology*
- *Civil Service Career Starter*
- *Directory Of Foreign Consulates And International Trade Assistance Organizations In Chicagoland*
- *Education For Action : Undergraduate And Graduate Programs That Focus On Social Change*
- *Essays That Worked For Law Schools : 35 Essays From Successful Applications To The Nation's Top Law Schools*
- *Essays That Worked, For Business Schools : 35 Essays From Successful Applications To The Nation's Top Business Schools*
- *Federal Personnel Guide 2005*
- *First Job : A New Grad's Guide To Launching Your Business Career*
- *For The Common Good: Internships With Social & Community Service Agencies 2005*
- *GMAT 2003*
- *Government Job Finder*
- *Graduate Programs In Education*
- *Graduates' Guide To Business Success : (Solutions That Enable College Graduates To Excel In Business)*
- *GRE Exam 2005*
- *Great Jobs For Computer Science Majors*
- *Great Jobs For Economics Majors*
- *Great Jobs For Liberal Arts Majors*
- *Guide To America's Federal Jobs : A Complete Directory Of Federal Career Opportunities*
- *Guide To Homeland Security Careers*
- *Internships And Fellowships With The Smithsonian Institution*
- *Law Schools*
- *LSAT 2003*
- *One L*
- *Opportunities In Banking Careers*
- *Opportunities In Federal Government Careers*
- *Opportunities In Financial Careers*
- *Opportunities In Fund-Raising Careers*
- *Opportunities In Government Careers*
- *Opportunities In Insurance Careers*
- *Opportunities In Law Careers*
- *Opportunities In Property Management Careers*
- *Opportunities In Real Estate Careers*
- *Peterson's Game Plan For Getting Into Business School*
- *Peterson's Game Plan For Getting Into Law School*
- *Peterson's Graduate Programs In Business, Education, Health, Information Studies, Law & Social Work*
- *Peterson's Graduate Programs In The Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences*
- *Porter County Resource Directory*
- *Project Book*
- *Response ... Directory Of Volunteer Opportunities*
- *Resumes For Banking And Financial Careers*
- *Resumes For Business Management Careers*
- *So You Want To Be A Lawyer : A Practical Guide To Law As A Career*
- *Fast Track : The Insider's Guide To Winning Jobs In Management Consulting, Investment Banking, And Securities Trading*
- *Harvard Business School Guide To Careers In Finance*
- *Harvard Business School Guide To Careers In Management Consulting*
- *Insider's Guide To Washington Internships & Part-Time Employment*
- *Student's Guide To Legal Internships and others!*

**For more information about majoring in ECONOMICS, contact:**

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**For more questions about your career decisions, please make an appointment with a VU Career Counselor by calling 464-5005, stopping by the Career Center in Alumni Hall or e-mailing us at [Career.Center@valpo.edu](mailto:Career.Center@valpo.edu)**

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