

# Economics

## Business & Family Science

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**Combines with business, computer information science, journalism, human services, political science, social science, or history for an excellent background in any career field**

### Program Description

Economic studies analyze how people and societies produce various commodities and distribute them for consumption, now or in the future. CRC's economics offerings include the study of the American economic system, using techniques for the analysis of contemporary economic problems. There is an emphasis on developing the ability to exercise sound judgment in evaluating public policy issues.

### Career Opportunities

Accountant	Arbitrator
Attorney	Budget Analyst
Business Analyst	Business Conditions
Forecaster	Commodity Economist
Commodity Price Forecaster	Development Economist
Economic Analyst	Economic Forecaster
Industrial Relations Specialist	Investment Analyst
Labor Economist	Macro Economist
Manpower Economist	Natural Resource Economist
Operations Research Analyst	Project Economist
Research Economist	

*Most Career Opportunities require more than two years of study.*

### Highlights

- Knowledgeable instructors and professionals in their fields
- Good general overview and conceptual framework of economic issues
- Opportunity to combine with business and other related areas of study for a more comprehensive education
- Transfer opportunities
- A lab with tutorial assistance

### NOTE TO TRANSFER STUDENTS:

If you are interested in transferring to a four-year college or university to pursue a bachelor's degree in this major, it is critical that you meet with a CRC counselor to select and plan the courses for your major. Schools vary widely in terms of the required preparation. The courses that CRC requires for an associate's degree in this major may be different from the requirements needed for the bachelor's degree.

**For information about the student learning outcomes for this program, see <http://www.crc.losrios.edu/pslo>**

## ECONOMICS (ECON)

### ECON 100

#### Introduction to Economics

**3 Units**

*Prerequisite: None*

*General Education: AA/AS Area V(b)*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course introduces the purpose, terminology, and basic concepts of economic theory. It examines the fundamental economic problem of scarcity and describes how our society is organized to deal with scarcity. It considers some of the problems (unemployment, inflation, national debt, poverty, crime, pollution, etc.) that economic theory may help explain.

### ECON 299

#### Experimental Offering in Economics

**.5-4 Units**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Hours: 18 hours LEC ; 54 hours LAB*

### ECON 302

#### Principles of Macroeconomics

**3 Units**

*Prerequisite: None*

*General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); CSU Area D2; IGETC Area 4B*

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course is a graphical and functional analysis of the economy as a whole. It focuses on the economy's well-being, problems, and possible solutions. Major topics include: basic economic analysis, demand, supply, and equilibrium in a market; macroeconomic sectors, goals, and problems (unemployment, inflation, business cycle, and government budget deficit); the economy's output, income, and price level; aggregate demand, aggregate supply, and equilibrium; and macroeconomic policies (fiscal and monetary). Time permitting, related topics such as international trade, international finance, and economic growth may also be discussed. Course work includes doing arithmetic problems, solving algebraic equations, and graphing straight and curvilinear lines.

**ECON 304**  
**Principles of Microeconomics** **3 Units**  
*Prerequisite: None*  
*General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); CSU Area D2; IGETC Area 4B*  
*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*  
*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course is a graphical and functional analysis of the units (sectors) making up the economy. The focus is on the sectors choices and interactions, microeconomic goals (efficiency and equity), problems, and solutions. Major topics include basic principles of economics; basic economic analyses; demand, supply, and equilibrium in a market; markets and applications; costs and production; product and resources markets; and microeconomic problems (externalities, public goods, and income inequality). Time permitting, related topics such as international trade and health economics may also be discussed. Course work includes doing arithmetic problems, solving algebraic equations, and graphing straight and curvilinear lines.

**ECON 306**  
**Environmental Economics** **3 Units**  
*Prerequisite: None*  
*General Education: AA/AS Area V(b)*  
*Course Transferable to CSU*  
*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course focuses on the application of economic principles to help understand and manage the relationship between humans and the environment. The central theme is that there are competing demands for our limited natural resources, including the waste assimilation capacity of the environment, necessitating that difficult choices be made regarding how those resources are used. The course illustrates how resources are allocated in a market economy, potential problems from a social perspective with that allocation, and alternative solutions for reallocating resources to achieve more socially desirable outcomes. Issues such as efficiency and externality, benefit-cost analysis, and alternative policy instruments for pollution control are examined. Topics related to global warming, California water resources, and other current environmental policy issues will be discussed as time permits.

**ECON 320**  
**Concepts in Personal Finance** **3 Units**  
*Same As: BUS 320*  
*Prerequisite: None*  
*Advisory: BUS 105*  
*General Education: AA/AS Area V(b)*  
*Course Transferable to CSU*  
*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course is designed to assist individuals in analyzing their financial affairs. Elements and conceptual basis of financial planning, analysis, and decision making in areas of budgeting, taxes, borrowing, money management, insurance, investments, and retirement will be examined with an emphasis on principles to develop students' economic decision making. Students will be using mathematical concepts as well as reading and interpreting written and oral instructions. The course provides a solid base for a career in financial planning services. This course is the same as BUS 320, and only one may be taken for credit. See "Cross-Listed Courses" in the catalog.

**ECON 495**  
**Independent Studies in Economics** **1-3 Units**  
*Prerequisite: None*  
*Course Transferable to CSU*  
*See UC Limitations & Counselor*  
*Hours: 18 hours LEC ; 54 hours LAB*

**ECON 499**  
**Experimental Offering in Economics** **.5-4 Units**  
*Prerequisite: None*  
*Course Transferable to CSU*  
*See UC Limitations & Counselor*  
*Hours: 54 hours LEC ; 54 hours LAB*