ECONOMICS AND FINANCE PROGRAMS

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
Department of Economics and Finance
The School of Business Administration offers undergraduate majors and minors in finance and business economics, and the College of Arts and Sciences offers an economics major and minor as well as an applied mathematical economics major. At the graduate level, you can earn an MBA with a finance concentration or pursue a Master of Financial Mathematics degree.

Business economics is the study of the choices we make when faced with limited resources. It involves analyzing decisions made by firms and individuals, as well as government policy decisions dealing with unemployment, inflation, international trade, income distribution, government regulations, and money and banking systems.

Studying economics helps develop your ability to analyze the economic environment in which a business operates, understand how the economic environment affects an organization’s pursuit of its goals and apply economic logic to understand an organization’s decision making.

Courses in intermediate microeconomics, managerial economics, econometrics, business and economic forecasting, a senior seminar in applied economics, and economics electives provide an integrated, multifaceted approach to the career world.

ECO 490 — Economics Capstone: Senior Seminar in Applied Economics
In this capstone seminar course, you’ll apply economic analysis to topics of interest through projects, presentations and group discussions. You will complete a substantial research project — demonstrating your ability to apply tools of economic analysis learned throughout the major to address a practical research question—and communicate your research findings in scholarly writing and at the Stander Symposium.
Money is a part of modern society on every imaginable level. Individuals, families, small companies, large corporations, nonprofit organizations and governments must be able to manage their finances. Our finance program prepares you to raise money, manage debt and invest wisely. You’ll work diligently to understand the financing of business enterprises: the financial decision-making process, how financial markets function, and the acquisition and management of capital.

Our department believes education is best achieved through hands-on experience. Accordingly, we offer several opportunities that allow you to apply the knowledge you learn in the classroom to practical business situations. To prepare for your career, you can concentrate your studies in investment analysis and portfolio management, or in corporate financial management.

**FIN 460 — Finance Capstone: Portfolio Management and Security Analysis**
This course serves as the capstone experience for finance majors interested in pursuing a career in investments. You will produce a comprehensive and professional stock recommendation report that involves extensive Excel modeling, financial statement analysis and forecasting, and the application of theory to practice. After concluding a comprehensive analysis, each team must justify a trade decision (buy/hold/sell) in a formal business presentation, comparing their recommendation to Wall Street consensus.

**FIN 401 — Finance Capstone: Advanced Financial Analysis**
A capstone experience for finance majors interested in corporate finance, this course will teach you to balance all aspects of capital decision making. You will participate in the simulation FinGame5.0, where you’ll run a single-product firm and analyze current and estimated quarterly data to make decisions about capital budgeting proposals, production scheduling, product pricing and more. The simulation concludes with a presentation to the board of directors, with your instructor as chair.
OPPORTUNITIES AND ACTIVITIES

As an economics or finance major, you’ll have many opportunities to participate in enriching activities that provide hands-on experiences and give you skills to enhance your career prospects. Business firms are looking for college graduates who have not only received the highest quality classroom instruction, but also demonstrate real-world experience. At UD, you’ll find both.

UD2NYC
UD2NYC invites 12 to 16 economics and finance majors to travel to New York City and visit corporations and major financial institutions. Each stop provides a unique perspective on the duties and responsibilities of a recent college graduate, the course knowledge and tools that are essential to performing well as a new hire and an overview of the typical career path. Past trips have included visits to Bloomberg, J.P. Morgan, the New York Federal Reserve Bank and the New York Stock Exchange.

Hanley Sustainability Fund
The Hanley Sustainability Fund is a student-run organization that teaches its members the fundamental and technical aspects of the financial markets. By empowering members to develop advanced critical thinking skills as well as superb presentation abilities, the Hanley Sustainability Fund strives to be a top-performing, student-run alternative investments group. The fund places emphasis on essential computer skills such as Excel and coding languages. Student portfolio managers focus on environmental impact by investing in companies with green initiatives. A main mission of the fund is to demonstrate that great returns are achievable through socially responsible investing.
The Richard P. and Susan P. Davis Center for Portfolio Management is student-managed, and its members serve as supporting analysts to the more than $20 million Flyer Investments Fund, a long-only equity portfolio managed by those enrolled in FIN493. The center is equipped with state-of-the-art financial software and serves as a valuable resource and computer laboratory dedicated to investments. While access to the center is open to all students, membership on the center’s investment management team is determined through a competitive selection process. Membership in the center focuses on developing leadership skills and honing portfolio management techniques.

As supporting analysts, students conduct extensive economic research and stock analysis assisted by the center director and an experienced executive-in-residence. The center guides independent study projects, and its members engage in community outreach programs, present educational seminars to fellow undergraduates, host speakers, participate in finance competitions and undertake service projects, all while learning in community with one another.

Omicron Delta Epsilon
Omicron Delta Epsilon is the international honor society for economics, and the Ohio Tau chapter is housed at the University of Dayton. Members must achieve a cumulative GPA of 3.25, take at least 12 hours of economics courses and maintain a 3.25 GPA in economics. The focus of UD’s group is to build closer relationships with faculty and economics students through interaction outside the classroom. Members also receive a subscription to The American Economist and become eligible to earn awards for research papers. Learn more at omicrondeltaepsilon.org.
WHY CHOOSE ECONOMICS OR FINANCE AT UD?

According to a 2015 salary survey conducted by the National Association of Colleges and Employers, the average starting salary for a finance major is $53,143, and the average starting salary for an economics major is $54,415.

Economics majors are successful in a wide variety of careers within business, including banking, consulting, insurance, and data analysis. They are also successful in many careers beyond business, including law, medicine, government, international relations and academia.

A finance degree opens the door to many occupational opportunities, such as corporate and international financial management, banking, personal financial planning, financial analysis, portfolio management and other investment services.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that employment for financial analysts and advisors is expected to grow by 16 percent from 2012 to 2022, while employment for economists is expected to grow by 14 percent over this same period.

The School of Business Administration’s undergraduate and graduate programs are accredited by AACSB International — The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

CONTACT

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