

Values and Learning Objectives for the Economics Major

(Voted on at ECO Department Meeting 12/16/16)

Economics Major Learning Values:

The faculty of the Economics department value the development of students' ability to question their prior knowledge, to create new knowledge, and to articulate varied perspectives to others. This is made visible when students:

- Connect concepts that are not obviously related or understand ideas that are counterintuitive
- Recognize ambiguity and develop healthy skepticism
- Address misperceptions, preconceptions and misconceptions by creating new knowledge
- Make connections across disciplines and fields within economics
- Compare multiple perspectives of an issue by identifying diverse dimensions, including social justice, social welfare and social & environmental responsibility
- Communicate ideas in writing and conversation with varied audiences

Economics Major Learning Objectives:

The values above are explored through the Economics Major curriculum. The learning objectives for the curriculum follow:

Learning Objective 1: Students will use economic models in domestic and global contexts to analyze individual decision making, how prices and quantities are determined in product and factor markets, and macroeconomic outcomes.

Learning Objective 2: Students will analyze the performance and functioning of government, markets and institutions in the context of social and economic problems.

Learning Objective 3: Students will think critically about economic models, evaluating their assumptions and implications.

Learning Objective 4: Students will use data to describe the relationships among variables in order to analyze economic issues.

Learning Objective 5: Students will communicate economic thought and analysis in both written and oral contexts to varied audiences.