BIG questions, looking for BIG answers

Help shape the future!
• What causes inflation?
• How can unemployment be reduced?
• Can taxes be fair and efficient?
• How do energy markets work?
**Did you know?**

- Stirling are 3rd in Scotland for Economics (Guardian University Guide 2016)
- Stirling staff have undertaken prominent work in a number of areas including Money, Banking and Finance, Education and Labour, Economics, Environmental and Energy Economics, Work and Wellbeing and Economic History.
- As well as undertaking theoretical research, staff are actively involved in the application of economics in government. For example, Professor David Bell has advised the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, the Secretary of State for Scotland, the Scottish Parliament and the Irish Minister of Employment and has been appointed as the specialist advisor to the House of Lords Economic Affairs Committee.
- Professor Frans de Vries has been funded by the European Investment Bank and other agencies to research into environmental markets, such as markets for emissions trading and markets for ecosystem services.

**Why study Economics?**

What causes inflation? How can unemployment be reduced? Can taxes ever be fair and efficient? How do energy and environmental markets work? How can economics inform and appraise public health policy? Big questions, looking for big answers – do you think you are up to the challenge?

Almost every decision taken in our fast-moving social, commercial and technological world is dictated by economic imperatives at regional, national and global levels. In the current economic climate the role of the economist is becoming more crucial with the welfare and prosperity of nations dependent upon accurate interpretations and responses to continually shifting economic realities.

**The course**

We offer an Honours course in Economics and Combined Honours courses with a range of other subjects: Accountancy, Business Studies, Environmental Science, Finance, Marketing, Mathematics, Politics; or Politics/Philosophy.

You will take Economics plus two other subjects in Year 1.

**Semesters 1–4**

You will take the following core modules:

**Introductory Microeconomics:** This module gives a broad introduction to microeconomics, which analyses how individual markets work – how prices are set and resources are allocated in an economy.

**Introductory Macroeconomics:** This module is concerned about issues relating to the economy as a whole, such as the general standard of living, unemployment and inflation.

You will move on to study Intermediate Microeconomics and Intermediate Macroeconomics, which build on the work done in the introductory modules. You will also take Introduction to Quantitative Techniques for Economics and Business in Semester 4.

**Semesters 5–8**

All Honours students take core advanced modules designed to develop their knowledge and understanding of the central methods of economic analysis and major policy issues.

These are:

- Using Economic Data
- Advanced Macroeconomics
- Advanced Microeconomics
- Economic Policy

In the final year, you will write a dissertation on a subject of your choice. For the remainder of the course students choose a number of options, on topics such as: Financial Economics; Environmental Economics; Monetary Economics and Energy Economics.

Combined Honours students take the same core modules as Honours students but replace some or all of the Economics options with modules in their other subject.
Preparation for work

The structure of our degree helps to develop useful skills. Assessment is based on coursework as well as examinations. This helps to build up independent learning skills. Communication skills are developed in tutorials where students present arguments orally. Our quantitative modules develop skills in using computers and presenting statistically based arguments.

During the degree, students participate in a personal and professional development module with a focus on developing key skills that employers are looking for, as well as helping students prepare for, and make the effective transition into the workplace.

Honours students write a dissertation in their final year on which they work independently with a staff supervisor. A good performance can enhance career prospects as many employers and postgraduate admission selectors are particularly looking for the ability to work independently on a project.

Why choose Stirling?

Economics at the University of Stirling was ranked 3rd in Scotland in The Guardian University Guide 2016.

We are ranked in the top 10% of institutions in the UK and Europe by RePEc. In the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF) 64% of our research was rated world-leading and internationally excellent. The Economics degree is highly rated. In the most recent National Student Survey, 92 per cent of Honours students reported that they were satisfied with their overall student experience and 92% of students agreed that staff were good at explaining things.

We offer a highly-valued degree taught by lecturers with international reputations. Teaching provision in Economics has been assessed by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education and achieved the highest possible rating in all aspects.

Will I get a job when I graduate?

A Which? University report (April 2015) highlights that Economics graduates rank 7th in the top subjects for graduate starting salaries.

The study of Economics develops skills that are specific to economists. These include the skill of constructing models that describe how a market, or larger economic system, operates, and the ability to analyse the effects of changes in government policy on the wider economy and the well-being of society. These skills are widely in demand in industry, finance, central and local government as well as in universities and other research agencies.

Economics, because of its structure and the way it is taught, is also recognised as a particularly good discipline in which to acquire transferable skills, i.e. skills that can be applied in many careers. Our recent graduates have gone onto careers in management, accountancy and banking, as well as economics itself.

96 per cent of University of Stirling students go on to work and/or study within six months of graduation (HESA) placing Stirling 2nd in Scotland and 7th in the UK for graduate employability.

UCAS code: L100

Minimum requirements

Four-year Honours degree

SQA Higher:
BBBB – one sitting
ABBB – two sittings
GCE A-level: BBB
IB Diploma: 32

Three-year Honours degree

SQA Adv. Higher: ABB
GCE A-level: ABB
IB Diploma: 35
Essential subjects: To include Economics

Other qualifications

HNC/HND
Minimum entry: Bs in graded units
Essential subjects: As listed above or equivalent

Additional information

General entry requirements apply. Please visit: http://stir.ac.uk/av
Mathematics Standard Grade (3), National 5 (C), Intermediate 2 (C), GCSE (C) or equivalent required.
What our alumni say

I chose to study at the Management School for two reasons. First of all because of the flexibility of course choices on offer – I wasn’t sure what I wanted to specialise in, so a combined degree really appealed to me, and at Stirling University you can combine literally any subjects. The second reason was the campus and its facilities. I’m very active and do lots of sports so Stirling was an obvious choice.

Anna Marekwica, Poland, BA (Hons) Human Resource Management & Economics (graduated in 2011), Network Service Project Manager, Lloyds TSB Scotland.

My degree has been very useful. The analytical skills have been invaluable as my role involves undertaking research on marketplace salaries and positions and identifying requirements. Submissions to the Board always include graphs and figures. This Economics course is an excellent source of transferable skills.

Jillian Nelson, UK, BA (Hons) Economics (graduated in 2007), Group Resources & Development Adviser, Robertson Limited.

Typical timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Subject 1</th>
<th>Subject 2</th>
<th>Subject 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introductory Microeconomics (Core)</td>
<td>Any module</td>
<td>Any module</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Introductory Macroeconomics (Core)</td>
<td>Any module</td>
<td>Any module</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Intermediate Microeconomics (Core)</td>
<td>Any module (a)</td>
<td>Any module</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Intermediate Macroeconomics (Core)</td>
<td>Introduction to Quantitative Techniques for Economics and Business</td>
<td>Any module</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Advanced Microeconomics (Core)</td>
<td>Using Economic Data (Core)</td>
<td>Economics Option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Advanced Macroeconomics (Core)</td>
<td>Behavioural Science for Managers (Core)</td>
<td>Economics Option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Economic Policy (Core)</td>
<td>Research Methods (Core)</td>
<td>Economics Option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Dissertation (Core)</td>
<td>Professional Development and Practice (Core)</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(a) Accounting and Finance for Managers strongly recommended.

Contact details

Prof Frans de Vries  
University of Stirling Management School  
T: +44 (0) 1786 467817  
E: f.p.devries@stir.ac.uk  
W: www.stir.ac.uk/management  

Student Recruitment and Admissions  
T: +44 (0) 1786 467046  
E: recruitment@stir.ac.uk  

Visit us  
http://stir.ac.uk/65  

Join our community  

http://stir.ac.uk/42  

Photography © Wattie Cheung, Mark Ferguson, John McPake, Tom Main and Robert Ormerod.
The University of Stirling is a charity registered in Scotland, number SC 011159.