

ECONOMICS MAJOR: PUBLIC POLICY AND SUSTAINABILITY OPTION (B.A.)

<https://paulcollege.unh.edu/economics/program/ba/economics-major-public-policy-sustainability-option>

Description

The **Option in Public Policy and Sustainability** (B.A. degree) examines the factors that influence economic, social, and environmental outcomes, such as unemployment, poverty, economic inequality, health disparities, technological innovation, and pollution. Students will develop the institutional knowledge and theoretical perspective to understand the impact that decisions of individuals, firms, communities, and governments have on such outcomes. Students will analyze the impact of specific government policies and potential reforms, theoretically and empirically.

This option is designed for students seeking careers in policy analysis and research positions at government agencies; think tanks such as RAND Corporation, Urban Institute, and Mathematica Policy Research; consulting firms such as Abt Associates; and non-governmental organizations.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Minimum Credit Requirement: 128 credits

Minimum Residency Requirement: 32 credits must be taken at UNH

Minimum GPA: 2.0 required for conferral*

Core Curriculum Required: Discovery & Writing Program Requirements

Foreign Language Requirement: Yes

All Major, Option and Elective Requirements as indicated.

*Major GPA requirements as indicated.

Major Requirements

Economics majors must complete eleven courses in economics plus ADMN 510 with a grade of at least C- (1.67) in each Paul College major course and an average grade of 2.0 or better in major courses.

B.A. economics majors may choose to focus their major electives to satisfy the requirements of the option.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
ADMN 403	Computing Essentials for Business	1
ADMN 510	Business Analytics and Statistics	4
ECON 401	Principles of Economics (Macro)	4
ECON 402	Principles of Economics (Micro)	4
ECON 501	Business and Economic History	4
ECON 565	Predictive Modeling: Data Driven Economic Analysis	4
ECON 605	Intermediate Microeconomic Analysis	4
or ECON 606	Intermediate Microeconomics with Calculus	

ECON 611	Intermediate Macroeconomic Analysis	4
MATH 422	Mathematics for Business Applications	4
or MATH 424A	Calculus for Social Sciences	
PAUL 405	Freshman Academic Experience I	1
PAUL 406	Freshman Academic Experience II	1
<i>Business in Practice</i>		
PAUL 670	BiP-Analytical Intelligence Topics	2
Select one additional BiP course from the following:		
PAUL 660	BiP-Social Intelligence Topics	
PAUL 670	BiP-Analytical Intelligence Topics	
PAUL 680	BiP-Competitive Intelligence Topics	
PAUL 690	BiP-Professional Intelligence Topics	
<i>Capstone</i>		
ECON 774	Senior Economics Seminar ¹	4
<i>Electives</i>		
Select four (4) additional ECON elective courses. ²		
Total Credits		59

Code	Title	Credits
Public Policy and Sustainability Option Requirements		
Select a minimum of two courses from the following:		
ECON 653	Law and Economics	
ECON 656	Labor Economics	
ECON 704	Economics of Health	
ECON 706	Economics of Climate Change	
Final course select from list of required courses above or from one of the approved courses below:		
ECON 654	Industrial Economics and Business Innovation	
ECON 620	Topics in Economics (Must be Public Economics Topics)	
NR 572	Introduction to Natural Resource Economics ³	
NR 606	International Energy Topics ³	
NR 708W	Environmental Economics ³	
HMP 746	Health Policy ³	
SUST 501	Sustainability in Action ³	
Approval required by petition to the Economics Department for other 600-level or 700-level ECON course, including ECON 620: Public Economics.		
Total Credits		8

- ¹ Course satisfies the capstone requirement of the University Discovery Program.
- ² Specific electives for the BA Options must be chosen from an approved list of courses.
- ³ Satisfies requirement of the option, but does not count toward the four-elective requirement of the Economics B.A. degree.

Degree Plan

Sample Degree Plan

This sample degree plan serves as a general guide; students collaborate with their academic advisor to develop a personalized degree plan to meet their academic goals and program requirements.

First Year

Fall		Credits
ECON 402	Principles of Economics (Micro)	4
or ECON 401	or Principles of Economics (Macro)	
ECON 501	Business and Economic History	4
ENGL 401	First-Year Writing	4
MATH 422	Mathematics for Business Applications	4
or MATH 424A	or Calculus for Social Sciences	
PAUL 405	Freshman Academic Experience I	1
ADMN 403	Computing Essentials for Business	1
Credits		18

Spring

ECON 401 or ECON 402	Principles of Economics (Macro) or Principles of Economics (Micro)	4
PAUL 406	Freshman Academic Experience II	1
Discovery Course		4
Discovery Course		4
Discovery Course		4
Credits		17

Second Year**Fall**

ECON 611	Intermediate Macroeconomic Analysis	4
ADMN 510	Business Analytics and Statistics	4
Foreign Language		4
Discovery Course		4
Credits		16

Spring

ECON 605	Intermediate Microeconomic Analysis	4
Foreign Language		4
Discovery Course		4
Discovery Course		4
Credits		16

Third Year**Fall**

ECON 565	Predictive Modeling: Data Driven Economic Analysis	4
Economics Elective ²		4
Course selected in consultation with advisor ¹		4
Course selected in consultation with advisor ¹		4
Credits		16

Spring

Economics Elective ²		4
Course selected in consultation with advisor ¹		4
Course selected in consultation with advisor ¹		4
Course selected in consultation with advisor ¹		4
Credits		16

Fourth Year**Fall**

Economics Elective ²		4
Economics Elective		4
Course selected in consultation with advisor ¹		4
Course selected in consultation with advisor ¹		4
Credits		16

Spring

ECON 774	Senior Economics Seminar	4
Course selected in consultation with advisor ¹		4
Course selected in consultation with advisor ¹		4
Course selected in consultation with advisor ¹		4
Credits		16

Total Credits **131**

² Students can use three ECON elective courses to satisfy both the Public Policy and Sustainability option and the Economics Elective requirement for the core major required courses.

Student Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes

- Students have core proficiency in microeconomics. They understand key concepts including opportunity cost, marginal analysis, voluntary exchange, diminishing marginal returns, equilibrium and market structure.
- Students have core proficiency in macroeconomics. They understand key concepts including GDP, inflation, interest rates, business cycles, exchange rates, financial institutions and fiscal and monetary policy.
- Students have strong oral communication skills. This includes fundamental skills in preparing and delivering presentations, as well as being able to explain technical material clearly and concisely.
- Students are able to use economic models to understand real-world issues relevant to business, public policy and society.
- Students are able to communicate economic concepts clearly in writing. This involves having strong fundamental writing skills as well as being able to explain technical material clearly and concisely.

¹ Students can explore a second option, second major, minor, or general electives.