From healthcare to the environment to law, economic theories help make sense of complex issues. In USC Dornsife’s Economics department, economic theory is intertwined with practical models to address concepts across many disciplinary boundaries. In this original approach to research, scholars develop analytical models to explain broad concepts, such as human behavior. Theories like the economics of happiness and the economics of uncertainty were honed within USC Dornsife walls. Emphasis is placed on practical economic research, such as how economics can be used to better understand business contracts and competition within industries.

Opportunities for Students

- **Study Abroad**: Take a global approach to your studies by investigating the transformation of Middle Eastern economics in Jordan, the emergence of the Pacific Rim in Japan, or the theories produced at one of the most noted colleges in the field, the London School of Economics.

- **Economics Association**: The EA connects people in the Department of Economics, creates a network to alumni and professionals, exposes students to career opportunities, and encourages academic excellence. The EA also coordinates social events, lectures, and guest speakers throughout the year.

- **Progressive Master’s Degree**: This program allows exceptional students the opportunity to earn both a BA and MA in only five years.

- **Omicron Delta Epsilon**: ODE, which dates back to 1915, is one of the world’s largest and most prestigious academic honors societies. Its basic objective is to recognize and honor outstanding academic achievements in economics. It also works to promote closer ties between students and faculty and among colleges and universities around the globe.

Notable Courses

- **ECON 357: Money, Credit, and Banking** — The money, bond, stock, and other financial markets; portfolio choice; determinants of asset prices and interest rates; inflation; interactions between financial markets and government policies.

- **ECON 366: Urban Economics** — Urban trends and problems, including changing urban form and function, urban public finance, housing, renewal, poverty, race, transportation, and the environment.

- **ECON 395: Economics Policy Issues** — Selected policy dilemmas, including welfare reform, urban renewal, government budget deficits, regulation and deregulation, environmental problems, immigration, and global development. Lectures by leading authorities and weekly discussion sessions.

- **ECON 432: Economics of Happiness** — What is happiness? How does it vary by socio-economic status and over the life cycle? This course will develop insight into the nature and determinants of subjective well-being.
Bachelor of Arts (BA) Requirements

Core Requirements*
- ECON 203: Principles of Microeconomics
- ECON 205: Principles of Macroeconomics
- ECON 303: Intermediate Microeconomic Theory
- ECON 305: Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory
- ECON 317: Introduction to Statistics for Economists
- ECON 318: Introduction to Econometrics

Math Requirement*
- MATH 118: Fundamental Principles of Calculus
  or MATH 125: Calculus I

Computing Requirement*
- CSCI 101: Fundamentals of Computer Programming
  or ITP 101: Introduction to C Programming
  or ITP 110: Introduction to Information Technology

Upper Division Elective Requirements**
- Four (4) 300/400-level ECON courses, two of which must be 400-level
  - ECON 332: Contracts, Organizations, and Institutions
  - ECON 336: The Political Economy of Values
  - ECON 348: Current Problems of the American Economy
  - ECON 350: The World Economy
  - ECON 366: Urban Economics
  - ECON 395: Economic Policy Issues
  - ECON 401: Mathematical Methods in Economics
  - ECON 404: Games and Economics
  - ECON 415: Behavioral Economics
  - ECON 434: Economics Analysis of Law
  - ECON 450: International Trade

*This information is offered as a partial overview only. For additional information, including all major requirements, please consult the USC Catalogue or http://dornsife.usc.edu/econ. Updated as of August 2015.

**This does not represent all options in this category. For a complete list, please consult the USC Catalogue.