ECONOMICS (ECON)

ECON 100 – Contemporary Economic Issues 3 credit hours
This course is designed to help the student acquire an understanding of the U.S. economic system and its influence on current topics important to everyone. The objective of the course is to provide students with a general understanding of economic principles and how they are applied to issues facing the United States. (Not open to students who have previously completed ECON 270, ECON 271, or equivalent.) Prerequisite: Enrollment not allowed if successfully completed ECON 270 or ECON 271 or equivalent.

ECON 188 – GS Portal 3 credit hours
Students analyze critical issues confronting individuals and society in a global context as they pertain to the Portal course in which the Portal is taught. The Portal is intended to help students succeed in their university education by being mentored in process of thinking critically about important ideas and articulating their own conclusions. Students may take the Portal in any discipline, irrespective of their major or minor. Satisfies the General Studies Portal course requirement. Students may take their Portal course in any discipline. Students who transfer 24 or more hours of General Studies credit to UNK are exempt from taking a portal course.
Total Credits Allowed: 6.00
Prerequisite: First year freshman standing or sophomore standing only.

ECON 270 – Principles of Economics, Macroeconomics 3 credit hours
A study of the economic system of the U.S. and the underlying principles of production, labor relations, national income, prices, money and banking, and economic policy.

ECON 271 – Principles of Economics, Microeconomics 3 credit hours
This course provides students an introduction to the economic principles and theories which have been developed to explain how firms make decisions on production and input use, how consumers make purchasing decisions, and how firms and consumers interact in the marketplace under differing market conditions. The course prepares students for further study in the field of economics.

ECON 300 – Foundations of Research Methods in Economics and Business 2 credit hours
This course is designed to provide students with an introduction to the research process in economics and business. Students will gain experience in research methodology by developing/selecting a research topic/question, conducting a literature review, collecting data, selecting and using an appropriate analytical technique, and constructing a persuasive argument supported by theory and empirical evidence. Prerequisite: ECON 270 and ECON 271 and either MGT 233 or STAT 241.

ECON 314 – Public Finance 3 credit hours
Provides a thorough treatment of major topics relating to government expenditures and tax policies. This course will help students develop an understanding of the economic principles that are most useful in examining the government’s role in the economy, particularly those principles economists have found helpful in a microeconomic analysis of tax and expenditure policies. Prerequisite: ECON 270 or ECON 271.

ECON 320 – Economic Theory, Intermediate Microeconomics 3 credit hours
Introduction to microeconomic theory regarding the determination of prices and values. Prerequisite: ECON 271.

ECON 321 – Economic Theory, Intermediate Macroeconomics 3 credit hours
Introduction to macroeconomic theory with emphasis on the determinants of income, employment and economic growth. Prerequisite: ECON 270.

ECON 322 – Money and Banking 3 credit hours
A descriptive and analytical study of the basic principles of money, banking and finance as they are related to business and public policy. A study of the creation of the nation’s money supply and of the importance of monetary policies upon the performance of the economy. Prerequisite: ECON 270.

ECON 365 – Business Analytics & Decision Making 3 credit hours
This course expands on basic statistical and analytics tools so that students learn to think in terms of patterns and models, understand the value of economic and business data to gain key business insight and analyze market conditions, and learn how modeling supports decision making and can be used to evaluate the impact of choices. It covers fundamentals of descriptive, predictive, and prescriptive analytics, with a focus on data visualization. Students will use and interpret economic and business data, databases, and output from analytics models. Prerequisite: ECON 270 or ECON 271 and MGT 233.

ECON 380 – Tourism Economics 3 credit hours
This course features an application of economic theory to the human activities of recreation and tourism. Microeconomics, macro-economics, and economic impact analysis will be packaged so that students might synthesize then apply this information to marketing, promotion, and economic development problems. Prerequisite: ECON 271.

ECON 385 – Environmental Economics 3 credit hours
An economic analysis of the nature of pollution problems from cause to possible solutions. Critically evaluates the role of a market economy in preserving environmental quality. Prerequisite: ECON 100 or ECON 270 or ECON 271.

ECON 388 – GS Capstone 3 credit hours
An interdisciplinary experience where students apply the knowledge, cognitive abilities, and communication skills they have gained from General Studies in designing and completing an original project or paper. Students employ methods and interpretive means of two or more disciplines to integrate knowledge and synthesize their results. Satisfies the General Studies capstone course requirement. Students may take their Capstone course in any discipline. Prerequisite: Junior or Senior level standing or within 6 hours of completing general studies requirements.

ECON 395 – Labor Economics 3 credit hours
This course examines the organization, functioning, and outcomes of labor markets; the decisions of prospective and present labor market participants; and the public policies relating to the employment of labor resources. Prerequisite: ECON 271.

ECON 410 – Health Care Economics 3 credit hours
An economic analysis of issues related to the provision of health care. Market issues, cost drivers, existing and proposed health care policy approaches are covered. Prerequisite: Junior standing or above.
ECON 430 – International Economics 3 credit hours
Introduction to the international economy: the theory of international trade, the balance of payments, economic growth and financial commercial policy.
Prerequisite: ECON 100 or ECON 270 or ECON 271

ECON 445 – Industrial Organization 3 credit hours
This course is concerned with the behavior of firms and the resulting effects on market outcomes and welfare. As such it analyzes firm behavior and market structure within a single industry and discusses the challenges associated with regulation/deregulation of industries and the implementation of antitrust policy.
Prerequisite: ECON 271

ECON 465 – Economics of Transportation 3 credit hours
Nature, role and regulation of transportation, and current economic, legal and policy problems in the field of transportation.
Prerequisite: ECON 271

ECON 475 – Internship 1-12 credit hours
A work experience program planned for students preparing for employment in business and industry. The learning situation is organized and supervised cooperatively by the Economics Department and personnel of selected industries. Work experience includes an acceptable type of wage earning employment in business, manufacturing or processing industry approved by the coordinator.
Total Credits Allowed: 15.00
Prerequisite: Minimum GPA of 2.5 and ECON 270 and ECON 271 and 6 additional hours of 300 to 400 level ECON courses

ECON 485 – Senior Seminar 1 credit hour
This capstone course is designed to allow students to apply economic theory and appropriate methodology to a selected topic. Taught in a seminar style, the course will allow students to demonstrate their knowledge of economics, their ability to write effectively, and their ability to communicate effectively by making a professional-level presentation using best available technology.
Prerequisite: ECON 300 and senior standing

ECON 499 – Independent Study and Research in Economics 1-6 credit hours
Individual research under the supervision of a faculty member of the department and approved by the Department Chairman. Topics to be investigated may be tailored to fit the needs of the student.
Total Credits Allowed: 18.00