

Economics

B.A./B.S.B.A

Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose

Institutional Mission Reference

The Economics BA and BSBA programs offer undergraduate students high-quality degree programs in Economics that meet national standards of excellence. The department also supports the University's General Education program by offering three introductory economics courses in the Social Science Perspectives category. In addition, the department supports the institutional mission to serve a diverse student body and provide opportunities for lifelong learning. To that end, the department offers courses through both the Weekend College and TELETECHNET. The department faculty is committed to quality teaching and the discovery of new knowledge.

Institutional Goal(s) Supported

The Economics BA and BSBA programs support the University's goals of (a) quality undergraduate academic programs, (b) quality teaching, (c) discovery of new knowledge, (d) lifelong learning, and (e) distance education. (See pages 304 of the Old Dominion University Catalog or pages 8-9 of the Old Dominion University Strategic Plan.) The Economics BA and BSBA programs also support Strategic Initiative 1 (a high-quality, distinctive undergraduate experience) and Strategic Initiative 5 (distance education). (See the Strategic Plan)

Intended Educational (Student) Outcomes, Methods for Assessment, Criteria for Success, Assessment Results, and Use of Results

Intended Outcome 1

Students will acquire a strong foundation in the basic concepts and theoretical tools of the discipline of economics.

Method for Assessing Outcome 1 and Criterion for Success: Fifty percent of all students majoring in economics will indicate that they are satisfied or very satisfied with their knowledge of their major on the Senior Student Satisfaction Survey.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 1: In 1999-2000, six students majoring in Economics responded to the Senior Student Satisfaction Survey. 83 percent of these students stated that they were satisfied or very satisfied with their knowledge in economics.

In 2000-2001, five students responded, with 100 percent indicating they were satisfied or very satisfied with their knowledge in economics.

In 2001-2002, 8 students responded, with 88 percent satisfied or very satisfied with their knowledge in economics.

Over the three-year period, 89 percent of the economics students surveyed indicated they were satisfied or very satisfied with their knowledge of economics.

Intended Outcome 2

Students will have basic knowledge and skills in the use of research tools and methodology in the discipline of economics.

Method for Assessing Outcome 2 and Criterion for Success: Fifty percent of all students majoring in economics will earn a rating of good or better on the evaluation of methodology component for the project in the research methods course (ECON 400).

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 2: ECON 400 was offered for the first time in Spring 2001. Six of the twelve students enrolled in this class were economics majors. Of these six, five earned a B-; or better; the other one earned a C.

In Spring 2002, eleven of the twenty-one students enrolled in the class were economics majors. Of these eleven, eight earned a grade of B- or better; the other three earned C+, C, and WF.

In Spring 2003, seven of the eleven students enrolled in the class were economics majors. Of these seven, six earned a grade of B- or better. The other one earned a WF.

Over the three-year period, a total of 24 economics majors took ECON 400. Nineteen of them, or 79%, earned a grade of B- or better.

Intended Outcome 3

Students will be able to demonstrate skill in the use of computers in economic research and analysis.

Method for Assessing Outcome 3 and Criterion for Success: Fifty percent of all students majoring in economics will earn a rating of good or better on the evaluation of computer skills for the project in the research methods course (ECON 400).

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 3: ECON 400 was offered for the first time in Spring 2001. Six of the twelve students enrolled in this class were economics majors. Of these six, five earned a B-; or better; the other one earned a C.

In Spring 2002, eleven of the twenty-one students enrolled in the class were economics majors. Of these eleven, eight earned a grade of B- or better; the other three earned C+, C, and WF.

In Spring 2003, seven of the eleven students enrolled in the class were economics majors. Of these seven, six earned a grade of B- or better. The other one earned a WF.

Over the three-year period, a total of 24 economics majors took ECON 400. Nineteen of them, or 79%, earned a grade of B- or better.