



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

January 31, 2013

Interim Dean Robert C. Stacey  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Box 353765

Dear Bob:

Based on the recommendation of its Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs, the Faculty Council on Academic Standards has recommended approval of the revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics; and new continuation policies for both the Bachelor of Arts and the Bachelor of Science degrees in Economics. A copy of the changes is attached.

I am writing to inform you that the Department of Economics is authorized to specify these requirements beginning autumn quarter 2013.

The new requirements should be incorporated in printed statements and in individual department websites as soon as possible. The *General Catalog* website will be updated accordingly by the Registrar's Office.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. Young".

Michael K. Young  
President

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Ahna Kotila (with enclosure)  
Mr. Robert Corbett (with enclosure)  
Dr. Deborah H. Wiegand (with enclosure)  
Ms. Virjean Edwards (with enclosure ECON-20121128)



UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

CREATING AND CHANGING UNDERGRADUATE  
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

11/24/12 15

DEC 03 2012
OFFICE USE ONLY
Control #
ECON - 20121120

After college/school/campus review, send a signed original and 1 copy to the Curriculum Office/FCAS, Box 355850.

For information about when and how to use this form: <http://depts.washington.edu/uwcr/1503instructions.pdf>

<b>College/Campus</b> Arts & Sciences	<b>Department/Unit</b> Economics	<b>Date</b> 11/28/12
<b>New Programs</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Leading to a Bachelor of _____ in _____ degree. <input type="checkbox"/> Leading to a Bachelor of _____ degree with a major in _____. <input type="checkbox"/> Leading to a _____ Option within the existing major in _____. <input type="checkbox"/> Leading to a minor in _____		
<b>Changes to Existing Programs</b> <input type="checkbox"/> New Admission Requirements for the Major in _____ within the Bachelor of _____. <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Admission Requirements for the Major in _____ within the Bachelor of _____. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Revised Program Requirements for the Major in <u>Economics</u> within the Bachelor of <u>Arts</u> . <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Requirements for the Option in _____ within the major in _____. <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Requirements for the Minor in _____		
<b>Other Changes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Change name of program from _____ to _____. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New or Revised Continuation Policy for <u>BALBS</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Eliminate program in _____		
Proposed Effective Date: <b>Quarter:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Autumn <input type="checkbox"/> Winter <input type="checkbox"/> Spring <input type="checkbox"/> Summer <b>Year: 20 13</b>		
Contact Person: Ahna Kotila	Phone: 685-2026	Email: akotila@uw.edu
Box: 353330		
<b>EXPLANATION OF AND RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGE</b> For new program, please include any relevant supporting documentation such as student learning outcomes, projected enrollments, letters of support and departmental handouts. (Use additional pages if necessary).  See attached rationale.		
<b>OTHER DEPARTMENTS AFFECTED</b> List all departments/units/ or co-accredited programs affected by your new program or changes to your existing program and acquire the signature of the chair/director of each department/unit listed. Attach additional page(s) if necessary. *See online instructions.		
Department/Unit:	Chair/Program Director:	Date:
Department/Unit:	Chair/Program Director	Date:

**CATALOG COPY**

Catalog Copy as currently written. Include only sections/paragraphs that would be changed if your request is approved. Please cross out or otherwise highlight any deletions.

**55 credits as follows:**

- Admission to the major.
- A minimum of 50 credits in economics, including ECON 200, ECON 201, ECON 300, ECON 301, STAT 311, and at least five other upper-division courses in economics at the 400 level, excluding ECON 496, ECON 497, and ECON 499.
- Grades of 2.0 or better in ECON 300 and 301.
- One calculus course (MATH 112, MATH 124, MATH 134, MATH 145, or equivalent).
- Transfer students are required to complete a minimum of 25 upper-division economics credits in residence at the UW.

**PROPOSED CATALOG COPY**

Reflecting requested changes (Include exact wording as you wish it to be shown in the printed catalog. Please underline or otherwise highlight any additions. If needed, attach a separate, expanded version of the changes that might appear in department publications).  
**Please note:** all copy will be edited to reflect uniform style in the General Catalog.

**60 credits as follows:**

- Admission to the major.
- A minimum of 50 credits in economics, including ECON 200, ECON 201, ECON 300, ECON 301, *Econ 382*, STAT 311, and at least five other upper-division courses in economics at the 400 level, excluding ECON 496, ECON 497, and ECON 499. *and ECON*
- Grades of 2.0 or better in ECON 300, 301;
- One calculus course (MATH 112, MATH 124, MATH 134, MATH 145, or equivalent).
- Transfer students are required to complete a minimum of 25 upper-division economics credits in residence at the UW.

**APPROVALS**

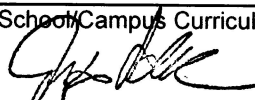
Chair/Program Director:



Date:

11-29-12

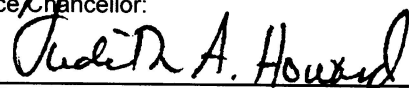
College/School/Campus Curriculum Committee:



Date:

12/3/2012

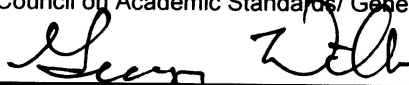
Dean/Vice-Chancellor:



Date:

12/3/2012

Faculty Council on Academic Standards/ General Faculty Organization/Faculty Assembly Chair:



Date:

1/25/2013

**POST TRI-CAMPUS APPROVAL (when needed)**

Faculty Council on Academic Standards/ General Faculty Organization/Faculty Assembly Chair:

Date:

### **ECON 382 Introduction to Econometrics (5) NW**

Application of statistical methods to economic data: estimating economic relationships using regression analysis and testing hypotheses involving economic behavior. Use of econometric software. Open to economics majors only. Prerequisite: 2.0 in ECON 300. Cannot be taken for credit if ECON 482 taken previously.

The economics department proposes that we introduce a new course, Econ 382, to be required of all of our majors for completion of the economics degree (BA). This requirement would go into effect for newly admitted majors in the autumn 2013 academic quarter. Students would be encouraged to take the class within the first two quarters of being admitted to the major. Students who have already taken Econ 482, 483, or 424 would not be required to take Econ 382. The course would be offered three times a year (approximately 100-150 students per class), and would be supported by one graduate student TA and one or two additional graders.

A small part of the motivation for adopting a new requirement is due to the suggestion of the Dean's office that we come up with one. Several competitive major departments require a class that is only open to admitted majors as a sort of firewall to discourage nonmajors from continuing to take upper-division classes in the major (in the hopes that accumulating upper-division credits will increase their likelihood of eventually being admitted). Requiring a class for all students recently admitted to the major may very well have a positive social externality associated with it, particularly a class in which students are encouraged to work together on empirical projects.

The primary motivation for requiring an econometrics class of all of our students is the belief that all economics majors should be familiar with elementary regression techniques. It is our hope that all of our students will become sophisticated consumers of empirical analysis. To do so, they must learn not only how to use the tools of regression analysis, but also how to assess the validity of empirical analyses presented to them. To become sophisticated consumers, students need firsthand experience as producers. Active learning beats passive learning, and econometrics is an ideal course for active learning. Learning how to use econometric methods will give our students a marketable skill.

Many of our peer institutions require completion of an econometrics course for all of their students. Of the universities comprising the Pac-12 conference, eleven of them offer BA degrees in economics. Of the eleven offering BA degrees, only the University of Arizona and the University of Washington do not currently require an econometrics class of all of their students (the University of Utah's required course does not have the word "econometrics" in its title, but the course description makes clear that regression modeling, hypothesis testing, and use of computer software is at its core). Most other peer institutions around the rest of the country also require econometrics of all their students (although in a few instances, like in the case of the University of Utah, the word "econometrics" does not appear in the course title).



The textbook listed in the proposed syllabus for the class is *Introduction to Econometrics: Brief Edition*, by James Stock (Harvard University) and Mark Watson (Princeton University). Other alternatives might include Studenmund's *Using Econometrics: A Practical Guide* and Ashenfelter, Levine, and Zimmerman's *Statistics and Econometrics*. Stock and Watson's brief edition textbook consists of the first nine chapters of the second edition of their larger *Introduction to Econometrics*, plus a new chapter (Chapter 10) on conducting an empirical analysis using economic data.

Stock and Watson's textbook is ideal for an introductory econometrics course. In their words, "this book has fewer equations, and more applications, than many introductory econometrics books. But more equations do not imply a more sophisticated treatment, and a more mathematical treatment does not lead to a deeper understanding for most students. On the contrary, it is our experience that a deeper understanding is achieved through repeated treatment of serious empirical applications, both in class and in homework exercises. For this reason, this book (supported by student resources on the book's Web site) includes many empirical exercises. Like the empirical analysis in the text, the data sets in the empirical exercises are revisited in multiple chapters, in each case using the methods introduced in the chapter to take a closer look at the empirical issue under study. The key formulas and derivations of regression analysis are provided in chapter appendices, so that this material is available to students with a stronger mathematical background but does not get in the way of learning for students who are less prepared mathematically." The companion web site for the textbook is excellent. It contains datasets, online practice quizzes with answers, and an online tutorial for using Eviews software.

## Jennifer A. Payne

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**From:** Ahna Kotila <akotila@uw.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 04, 2013 4:27 PM  
**To:** Jennifer A. Payne  
**Cc:** Michelle H. Turnovsky; Gregory M. Ellis  
**Subject:** Re: ECON 1503 questions

Hi Jennifer,

We will look into the continuation policy. In the meantime, we are fine with dropping the 2.0 requirement for ECON 382. We prefer that students take ECON 382 early since it may be somewhat helpful for the 400-level courses, but as long as they have it before graduation, it is fine. It is the econometrics skills that we are most concerned that our majors have before they graduate. When we have our information sessions for new majors, we will discuss ECON 382 and encourage them to take the course as soon as they can, rather than at the end of their economics course requirements.

Thank you,  
Ahna

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Ahna Kotila  
Academic Counselor, Lead  
Department of Economics  
University of Washington  
314 Savery Hall, Box 353330  
Seattle, WA 98195-3330  
akotila@u.washington.edu  
(206) 685-2026

**From:** Jennifer A. Payne  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 02, 2013 11:56 AM  
**To:** AHNA K. KOTILA  
**Subject:** RE: ECON 1503 questions

A formal continuation policy is one that has been submitted on a 1503 and approved by FCAS. Most competitive majors that require more than a 2.0 cum gpa (either new majors or existing majors that submit 1503's to change program requirements) are having to implement these. If you have an informal one already – you can submit that for review.

How will you enforce that students take 382 early in the major? I think the 382 or 482 request was because 382 isn't a prerequisite for any other course so what is forcing them to take in early on in the major?

Jennifer

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**From:** Ahna Kotila [mailto:akotila@uw.edu]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 02, 2013 11:12 AM  
**To:** Jennifer A. Payne  
**Subject:** Re: ECON 1503 questions

Hi Jennifer,

What do you mean by having to create a formal continuation policy?

We would be okay with dropping the 2.0 requirement for ECON 382. If we permit students to take 382 or 482, there is no incentive for them to take 382 since 482 would count as one of their 400-level Econ graduation requirements. It reduces our purpose for having them take ECON 382. Students who will have taken ECON 424, 482, or 483 before they are admitted to the BA major will not be required to take ECON 382.

Best,  
Ahna

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Ahna Kotila  
Academic Counselor, Lead  
Department of Economics  
University of Washington  
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[akotila@u.washington.edu](mailto:akotila@u.washington.edu)  
(206) 685-2026

**From:** Jennifer A. Payne  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 27, 2012 5:08 PM  
**To:** AHNA K. KOTILA  
**Subject:** RE: ECON 1503 questions

Ok.

I think there is a good chance that you will need to create a formal continuation policy though.

What would be the problem with allowing BA students to take either 382 or 482 since this 1503 only applies to them?

Jennifer

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**From:** Ahna Kotila [<mailto:akotila@uw.edu>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 27, 2012 4:19 PM  
**To:** Jennifer A. Payne  
**Subject:** Re: ECON 1503 questions

Hi Jennifer,

Here is our responses to the questions SCAP proposed:

1. We have an informal continuation policy in the major for ECON 300 and 301. We permit students who receive below the 2.0 required the first time to repeat the course one time. If they fail to reach the 2.0 the second time they take the course, they are dropped from the major. Students are warned of this and sign a form before they are enrolled for ECON 300/301 for the second time.
2. We have new major information sessions that recently admitted students attend. In these info sessions, we will highly encourage students to take ECON 382 as soon as possible and our ECON 382 instructor, Greg Ellis, will be there to give students information on the content and importance of the course.
3. Econometrics and regression analysis, in particular, is crucial for our undergraduates to be on par with other economics majors in our peer institutions. Because of this, we think the grade requirement is reasonable. If this is a stumbling block, we would be willing to forego the 2.0 requirement.
4. This is for the BA major only. Students in the BS program do not have to take ECON 382 - they can enroll directly in ECON 482. This is why ECON 382 is not a prerequisite for ECON 482.

Bachelor of Science students are required to take a 400-level econometrics course, so we do not want them to be able to use ECON 382 in place of that requirement.

In the past, we have had trouble with students taking our 400-level courses and then demanding to be admitted in to the major. Requiring Bachelor of Arts students to take ECON 382 is a firewall because 382 is only open to declared economics majors.

We would be happy to provide a report on our admissions process with the new writing requirement to SCAP.

Best,  
Ahna

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Ahna Kotila  
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[akotila@u.washington.edu](mailto:akotila@u.washington.edu)  
(206) 685-2026

**From:** Jennifer A. Payne  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 11, 2012 10:31 AM  
**To:** <mailto:akotila@uw.edu>  
**Subject:** ECON 1503 questions

Ahna,

SCAP had some questions about the programs changes requested for the BA and the new writing assessment.

They want to know the following:

- 1) Do you have a continuation policy in place for your major (specifically to address the minimum grade of a 2.0 in ECON 300 and 301)?
- 2) Is there a specific sequence for courses in the major? If not, how do you ensure that students would take ECON 382 early on as it isn't a prerequisite for any other course?
- 3) Why do they need a minimum grade of 2.0 in ECON 382 – the minimum grade in 300 and 301 is grandfathered and as 382 isn't a prerequisite for any other course they feel it should be listed with the required courses in item 1 of the major requirements.
- 4) They would also like to see 382 either be a prerequisite for 482 or make the major requirement 382 or 482.

If you can get me the replies by the end of the first week of January I should be able to get FCAS to review on January 11<sup>th</sup>.

SCAP would also like to request a report on how your admissions process goes with the new writing assessment (there is a lot of interest of implementing something like this in other majors – but you are the first to pull the trigger – so they want to know how it goes).

Let me know if you have any questions.

Jennifer

\*\*\*\*\*

Jennifer Payne, M.Ed.  
University Curriculum Procedures Analyst  
Office of the Registrar  
University of Washington  
<http://depts.washington.edu/registra/curriculum/>  
Phone: 206-543-5938  
Email: [uwcr@uw.edu](mailto:uwcr@uw.edu)  
Box: 355850

BA

60 credits as follows:

- Admission to the major.
- A minimum of 50 credits in economics, including ECON 200, ECON 201, ECON 300, ECON 301, ECON 382\*, STAT 311, and at least five other upper-division courses in economics at the 400 level, excluding ECON 496, ECON 497, and ECON 499.
- Grades of 2.0 or better in ECON 300, and 301.
- One calculus course (MATH 112, MATH 124, MATH 134, MATH 145, or equivalent).
- Transfer students are required to complete a minimum of 25 upper-division economics credits in residence at the UW.

Since the departmental resources are limited and in order to maintain the quality of our program, we can only admit a certain number of applicants (we have a competitive major). As a result, we need to monitor the progress of those admitted into the major to manage the departmental resources efficiently.

Each student who accepts admission in the department is bound to these rules and standards. These are in addition to the policies of the UW.

The minimum acceptable grade for Econ 300 and Econ 301 is 2.0 All other course requirements are subject to the University's minimum grade policy.

An undergraduate student may repeat ECON 300 and/or 301 once each with permission of the department offering the course.

Students who do not fulfill this requirement may be dropped from the major.

## **DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS**

University of Washington

### **PETITION TO REPEAT ECON 300 AND/OR 301**

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The University Handbook (Volume 4, Part III, Chapter 15) specifies that an undergraduate student may repeat ECON 300 and/or 301 once each with permission of the department offering the course.

#### **Student Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Number: \_\_\_\_\_

UW Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Course to be repeated: \_\_\_\_\_ Quarter/Year to be repeated: \_\_\_\_\_

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Briefly explain why you will be more successful when repeating the course. What will you do to succeed?

#### **Department Approval**

I understand that if this petition is approved, I will not be allowed any additional repeats of the course, even if it is required for graduation. I further understand that if I cannot satisfactorily (2.0 or higher) complete the course in the quarter listed, I may need to complete my degree in another department (i.e. I may be dropped from the major or not admitted to the major should I apply).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Advisor Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Resources for Students

There are a number of resources for students having difficulty in their courses:

- You can speak with an advisor in the **Economics Advising office**. Please email [econadv@uw.edu](mailto:econadv@uw.edu) for an appointment.
- The **Economics Undergraduate Board (EUB)** provides *free tutoring services* in SAV 328 (see <http://depts.washington.edu/ecnboard/> for days and times).
- The **Counseling Center in Schmitz Hall** offers many free workshops on study skills, time management, test anxiety, among others, that may help: <http://depts.washington.edu/scc/studyskills.html>. The Counseling Center is also a wonderful resource if you would like to speak with someone about personal difficulties that may be affecting your schoolwork.
- The Economics Advising Office keeps a quarterly list of graduate students who participate in **fee-based tutoring**. Please send an email to [econadv@uw.edu](mailto:econadv@uw.edu) if you would like us to send you the list.
- EOP advisees/affiliates can use the Instructional Center (<http://depts.washington.edu/ic/graphics/econ.php?style=graphics>). Please contact your EOP adviser about whether this is a good option for you.

BS

65 credits as follows:

- Admission to the major.
- 15 credits in MATH 124, MATH 125, MATH 126 (or equivalent).
- A minimum of 50 credits in economics, including ECON 200, ECON 201; ECON 300, ECON 301. At least 15 credits of the following theory and methods courses: ECON 400 (or equivalent) or ECON 401, ECON 424, ECON 435 (if taken during or before autumn 2010), ECON 473, ECON 481, ECON 482, ECON 483, ECON 485, ECON 486. Of these, 5 credits should be chosen from either ECON 400 or ECON 401, and another 5 credits should be chosen from ECON 424, ECON 481, ECON 482, ECON 483. Students preparing for graduate work in economics should consider taking both ECON 400 and ECON 401. 15 additional credits should be taken at the 400 level, excluding ECON 496, ECON 497, and ECON 499.
- Grades of 2.0 or better in ECON 200, ECON 201, ECON 300, and ECON 301.
- Transfer students are required to complete a minimum of 25 upper-division economics credits in residence at the UW.

Since the departmental resources are limited and in order to maintain the quality of our program, we can only admit a certain number of applicants (we have a competitive major). As a result, we need to monitor the progress of those admitted into the major to manage the departmental resources efficiently.

Each student who accepts admission in the department is bound to these rules and standards. These are in addition to the policies of the UW.

The minimum acceptable grade for Econ 300 and Econ 301 is 2.0 All other course requirements are subject to the University's minimum grade policy.

An undergraduate student may repeat ECON 300 and/or 301 once each with permission of the department offering the course.

Students who do not fulfill this requirement may be dropped from the major.



## **DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS**

University of Washington

### **PETITION TO REPEAT ECON 300 AND/OR 301**

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The University Handbook (Volume 4, Part III, Chapter 15) specifies that an undergraduate student may repeat ECON 300 and/or 301 once each with permission of the department offering the course.

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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Course to be repeated: \_\_\_\_\_ Quarter/Year to be repeated: \_\_\_\_\_

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Briefly explain why you will be more successful when repeating the course. What will you do to succeed?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Advisor Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Resources for Students

There are a number of resources for students having difficulty in their courses:

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- The Economics Advising Office keeps a quarterly list of graduate students who participate in **fee-based tutoring**. Please send an email to [econadv@uw.edu](mailto:econadv@uw.edu) if you would like us to send you the list.
- EOP advisees/affiliates can use the Instructional Center (<http://depts.washington.edu/ic/graphics/econ.php?style=graphics>). Please contact your EOP adviser about whether this is a good option for you.