Economics is the study of the choices that individuals, businesses, and governments make when allocating limited resources among alternative uses to meet societal needs. For example, individuals must choose what goods or services to purchase with their limited incomes. Business firms must decide which goods to produce, how much to produce, and what production methods to use. Governments must choose which programs to implement and what taxes to levy to derive the maximum benefits to the society from scarce resources. Economists develop theories to explain how components of an economy operate and interact with one another. They then gather statistical and empirical evidence to estimate the relationships among the various aspects of the economy. Using this data, economists predict how different economic entities will respond to changes in policies and external forces. These predictions, in turn, help guide private and public decision-makers to form appropriate policies. Due to the theoretical nature of economics, students usually begin their courses in more applied areas of business.

**Career Areas/Job Titles:**

**Management and Industry**
- Loan Officer
- Account officer
- Credit Investigator
- Insurance Agent
- Underwriter
- Claims Adjuster
- Insurance Broker
- Buyers
- Economic Analyst
- Securities Manager

**Economics**
- Real Estate Agent/Broker
- Estate Planner
- Hospital Manager
- Healthcare Administrator
- Industrial Economist
- Statistician
- **Law Enforcement**
- Forensic Economist
- Teacher
- Economic Consultant

**Professor**
- Researcher

**Government/Politics**
- Tax Analyst
- Budget Analyst
- Policy Analyst
- Government Administrator
- Intelligence Agent

*Some careers may require licensure, certification, or further education. Talk to an advisor about specific requirements.*

**Transferable Skills:**

- Basic Computer/Tech Skills
- Mathematics Skills
- Defining Needs
- Forecasting/Predicting
- Organization Skills
- Strategic Planning/Visioning
- Creating Innovative Solutions
- Quantitative Reasoning
- Data Analysis
- Problem Solving
- Verbal Communication
- Written Communication

*This is not an extensive list of transferable skills. See larger list of skills you might develop here: [http://ccss.osu.edu](http://ccss.osu.edu)*

**Professional Links:**

- Western Economic Association International: [http://www.weai.org/index.html](http://www.weai.org/index.html)