

Students gain an accessible but rigorous economic education through hands-on learning.

Economics major prepares students as citizens and for professional careers as they learn competing and/or complementary economic schools of thought to explain the world

and justify economic policies.

Students study how global, national, and local economic forces affect their career options, recognizing how these forces work beyond the realms of markets and trade.

## HOW TO USE THE ACTION PLAN

Use the Action Plan timeline to explore potential career paths and plan for success during and after your college experience. The Action Plan provides suggestions and a place to start the conversation with your advisor, but every person and every career journey is unique. Customize your own personal action plan using the **My Economics Action Plan tool** (next page).

Maximize the time you have in college to prepare for your future. What do you want to do after you graduate with a multi-purpose Economics degree?

The Action Plan helps you to come up with tentative goals (remember, it's ok if these change as you continue to learn more about yourself and the field!) so you can start working on short-term steps to help you reach those goals or shift directions. Remember, you do not have to do this all on your own, get the support you need from your department and from Student Support Services like **Career Services and Advising (CSA)**.

## WHY CONSIDER AN INTERNSHIP?

- Gain experience in potential career fields
- Discover areas of interest across various occupations
- Build your professional networks

## EXAMPLES OF PAST INTERNSHIPS

- Stock Market Game with Boys & Girls Club
- Intern at ANAI Global Investments
- Intern at Community and Economic Development Office for Town of Gardner
- Research Assistant for Worker Credit Union Project
- Intern at Mayor's Office
- Intern at Oak Lawn International
- Intern at Enterprise Rent a Car

## ALUMNI STORY JOSEPH BOURGEOIS '21

“ I started at FSU as a business administration major and decided to minor in economics since the two fields are closely related. During one of my econ classes, my professor approached me about double majoring in economics. At first I was skeptical but I truly believe it was one of the best decisions I made during my time at FSU. The economics faculty are some of the greatest professors I have ever encountered. They are there to help and provide guidance well beyond the classroom. I even had the opportunity to collaborate with a faculty member on an economics paper that is now published. ”



**Employer:** Fitchburg State University

**Title:** Accountant II-Payroll

# CORE COMPETENCIES

**Critical Analysis:** Critically analyze issues in local, national, and economic life using evidence-based arguments.

**Economic Models:** Articulate economic models in a multidisciplinary context.

**Communicating Quantitative Reasoning and Economic Concepts:** Demonstrate understanding of economic concepts through quantitative reasoning and written communication.

**Connecting Theory and Experience:** Apply economic theory through experiential learning.

**Communicating Economic Ideas:** Communicate economic ideas through statistical analysis, writing, and oral skills.

**Diverse Perspectives:** Identify assumptions and assess implications of diverse economic perspectives.

14%

Business Development

11%

Sales

19%

Finance/Accounting

10%

Information Technology

# ECONOMICS ACTION PLAN

Take a look at the suggested activities in the Action Plan below. You do not need to complete all these tasks, but it is a place to start generating ideas. Think about what you would like to work on now in order to feel well prepared to enter your career field or graduate school upon graduation. Use the blank My Action Plan tool with your advisor to come up with the action items that are priorities for you, revisit and revise this action plan each semester.

## FIRST YEAR

## SOPHOMORE YEAR

## JUNIOR YEAR

## FINAL YEAR

### ACHIEVE ACADEMIC MILESTONES

Take classes that interest and challenge you, particularly when selecting your Gen Ed classes and reflect on how they line up with future careers.  
Consider if you want to double major or add a minor. Speak with your advisor about your options.

Confirm major choice is right for you and consider meeting with an Academic and Career Advisor to discuss how your coursework connects to internship and future career options.

Discuss academic internships with your advisor.  
Meet with and Academic and Career Advisor for support with applying and preparing for academic internship opportunities.

Go over remaining degree requirements with your advisor and apply for Graduation.  
Complete Gen Ed requirements and ensure you complete 120 credits needed to graduate.

### BUILD EXPERIENCE

Take a career strength/skills assessment .  
Consider a part-time job to build your experience.  
Activate your Handshake account.

Explore internship opportunities with The Washington Center.  
Apply to summer jobs/internships that will build relevant experience.

Pay attention and attend events with employers on campus/career fairs/opportunities to network within your department.  
Search and apply to internships in your career field.

Develop a list of potential employers and check for recruitment events/open positions throughout the year.  
Start preparations in the fall to apply for full time jobs in the spring (If you are graduating in December or August work with a CSA advisor to determine your job search timeline).  
Keep track of and follow up with job applications.

### JOIN THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Join university clubs and organizations in your interest area including the Economics Club.

Consider joining Moot Court or Model UN.

Seek out leadership positions in campus clubs/activities.  
Explore Omicron Delta Epsilon International Honor society for Economics.

Pay attention to campus events and attend/get involved with those that interest you or support your career exploration.  
Take on leadership roles within campus organizations and departments.

### EXPLORE CIVIC & GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Consider volunteering with local organizations.

Talk with your advisor about opportunities to study abroad.

If available take on leadership roles within local volunteer organizations.

Consider career opportunities within local and international civic organizations.

### PREPARE FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

Familiarize yourself with CSA workshops and services.  
Create a resume and have it approved by an advisor in CSA Center.

Talk to advisor about opportunities within your major for internships/experiential learning.  
Consider participating in alumni job shadowing or informational interviews with professionals in potential career fields.  
Begin to collect material for a professional portfolio (if applicable).

Attend a CSA workshop or one-on-one meeting to go over cover letters and interview prep.  
Update Handshake profile.  
Create LinkedIn account/other accounts on industry specific platforms.  
Consider graduate/professional schools and decide if it's right for you.

If applicable, take graduate school entrance exams and complete applications to graduate school..  
Practice skills by doing at least 2 mock interviews and getting feedback.  
Finalize a professional portfolio (if applicable).