

# ECONOMICS

## Course 14

### Department Contact

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### Description

Economics is a dynamic social science that studies how individuals, businesses, and governments deploy resources to meet human needs. It goes beyond money and markets, using data and rigorous analytical tools to tackle some of the world's most pressing challenges. Economics provides a framework for understanding everything from inflation and unemployment to the economic impacts of climate change, the persistent challenge of global poverty, and growing wealth inequality. Economics students are equipped with highly sought-after analytical, technical, and communication skills, providing a strong foundation for a wide range of careers in fields such as data science, finance, technology, public policy, consulting, and even sports analytics.

### Inside [Course 14](#)

14-1	Economics
14-2	Mathematical Economics
6-14	Computer Science, Economics, and Data Science

### Introductory Classes

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|-------|--|
| 14.01 | <b>Microeconomics</b><br>Introduces microeconomic concepts such as supply and demand, theories of the firm and individual behavior, competition and monopoly, international trade, inequality, labor markets, and welfare economics. Analyzes theoretical and data-driven applications to problems of current economic policy.   |
| 14.02 | <b>Macroeconomics</b><br>Provides an overview of macroeconomic issues including economic growth, unemployment, inflation, interest rates, and exchange rates. Introduces basic macroeconomic models and illustrates key principles through applications to the experience of the US and other economies. Explores a range of current policy debates and the factors that influence long-term growth in living standards. |
| 14.73 | <b>The Challenge of World Poverty</b><br>Designed for students who are interested in the challenge posed by massive and  |

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persistent world poverty. Examines extreme poverty over time to see if it is no longer a threat, why some countries grow fast and others fall further behind, whether growth or foreign aid help the poor, whether markets or NGOs should be left to deal with poverty, and a range of specific policy interventions (including in domains such as health and education) that have proven effective.

### Course 14-Friendly UROP Areas

- Initiative on the Digital Economy (IDE)
- Institute for Data, Systems, and Society (IDSS)
- Laboratory for Information and Decisions Systems (LIDS)
- Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)
- Blueprint Labs
- Policy Impacts
- Stone Center on Inequality and Shaping the Future of Work

### Get Involved with Course 14

- Undergraduate Economics Association (MIT UEA)

### Skills

- Strong analytical and problem-solving abilities
- Data analysis and evaluation
- Communication and technical writing

### Possible Future Jobs

- **Data Analyst:** Collect and analyze data to identify trends and help inform decision-making for businesses or other entities.
- **Economic/Management Consultant:** Analyze the economic landscape and provide companies with strategic recommendations on issues like pricing, market entry, or antitrust and regulatory challenges.
- **Policy Analyst:** Evaluate proposed or existing policies for government agencies, think tanks, or non-profit organizations.
- **Government Economist:** Conduct research and provide analysis for federal agencies such as the Treasury or the Federal Reserve. Forecast economic trends, study the labor market, or evaluate the impact of tax policy on the economy.

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- **Financial Analyst:** Provide guidance to banks, pension funds, insurance companies, hedge funds, private equity funds, and other businesses to assess the performance of stocks, bonds, and other types of investments.

### Career Industry Examples

Investment Banking

Finance

Law

Consulting

Government

Data Analytics

Data Science

Academics

Technology

Public Policy

Sports Analytics

### Sample Employers

McKinsey

Goldman Sachs

BlackRock

San Diego Padres

Federal Reserve Bank (Boston, New York,  
Board of Governors in D.C)

Charles River Associates

Walmart

Accenture

Uber

Bloomberg

Capital One

Morgan Stanley

Cornerstone Research

Citadel

Boston Consulting Group

Bain & Co.

Citigroup

Meta