Economics allows us to find patterns within every aspect of our world – whether it’s populations of animals, hospitalisation rates, supply chains, transport, air quality – you name it. By identifying these patterns, students can innovate ways to disrupt the status quo and maximise, or shift, outcomes and efficiencies on whatever topic they’re passionate about... and working on your passion is never boring!

**MYTH:**
Economics is boring
Because of its versatility, economics makes a great pairing with all sorts of programs to complement your studies and develop you into a social scientist and thereby more well-rounded.

UQ students can double their skills and knowledge by combining their economics program with a dual degree in business management, commerce, law, engineering, arts, science and more.

**FALSE.**
A huge number of today’s economists care about principles of equality, dignity and respect. Of course, in the finance sector an economist’s work can sometimes mean maximising profit, but in many circumstances, it’s about finding solutions for poorly designed programs, policies and issues of access.

"No. Absolutely not. I’m not very good at math and I don’t like math, but here I am, at the end of my program and I’ve managed to go through the second half of my economics subjects barely touching it – very strategically."

Lachlan
Bachelor of Politics, Philosophy and Economics (Honours) graduate

"The thing about learning economics was not about the piece of paper I received at the end of my degree. It was about learning something you can use in every aspect of your life, whether you become an economist or not – I wish it was compulsory for everyone!"

Effie Zahos
Bachelor of Economics graduate

**MYTH:**
Economists only care about profit

Think scholarships aren’t for you? Think again.

UQ offers a range of scholarships for all kinds of reasons. Before you apply to study at UQ, be sure to see what undergraduate economics scholarships are on offer: scholarships.uq.edu.au

**Think scholarships aren’t for you? Think again.**

"The lack of Indigenous perspective in economics is deeply problematic and a barrier we must overcome if we wish to create real and lasting change."

Professor Daniel Zizzo
Head of School, School of Economics

"The School of Economics and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit were a great support system throughout my studies. The support I received from them was outstanding."

Tiana Stuart
Gunggur and Gubbi Gubbi woman
Scholarship Recipient and Bachelor of Economics graduate

Consider a scholarship

Developing Indigenous economists

Each year, the UQ School of Economics offers scholarships for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students for every level of study (bachelor’s, masters, PhD) which can be combined with other UQ opportunities to boost income support.

"The School of Economics and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit were a great support system throughout my studies. The support I received from them was outstanding." — Tiana Stuart, Gunggur and Gubbi Gubbi woman, Scholarship Recipient and Bachelor of Economics graduate

"The thing about learning economics was not about the piece of paper I received at the end of my degree. It was about learning something you can use in every aspect of your life, whether you become an economist or not – I wish it was compulsory for everyone!" — Effie Zahos, Bachelor of Economics graduate

Contact us, get your questions answered

Our friendly student advisers are always happy to answer your questions. Simply email or call us from wherever you are.

E: ask@uq.edu.au
P: +61 7 3346 9872
Info: study.uq.edu.au/contact

Parents and guardians are also welcome to get in touch.

Want to apply? Head to the website for all the details: study.uq.edu.au/admissions
Environment and wellbeing

From energy use in households to new installations such as turbine power plants – both the private and public sectors hire environmental economists to quantify costs, determine business logistics, inform policies, and improve sustainable viability for the future.

Did you know? Our Great Barrier Reef supports as many as 64,000 jobs, contributing $6.4 billion to the Australian economy.

Economics, what is it good for?

Literally anything.

The study of economics is about trying to understand the relationship between different things, including human behaviours, so that we can understand the world around us and make informed decisions (or reverse bad ones).

Did you know? Cardiovascular disease is one of the leading causes of death in Australia, costing the economy about $10 billion annually.

Finance

The finance sector is a more traditional path for economics graduates, and can set you up for a very rewarding career.

Did you know? Effie Zahos, a Bachelor of Economics graduate, was editor of Money magazine, having helped establish it in 1999 before becoming editor-at-large of Canstar. She is the money expert on Channel 9’s Today Show and sits on two boards, Ecstra and Investmart. Effie has also published her own books that provide financial tips to Australians.

Equity and social enterprise

Economics can provide an insight into real-world scenarios and trigger a fundamental shift in thinking – allowing people to discover solutions that reduce imbalances and support minority communities.

Did you know? If implemented correctly, ideas such as a 4-day work-week can be offset by an increase in output per hour.

Health

Whether it’s increasing life expectancy, working to reduce the impact of diseases, or simply identifying the health needs of future populations – a career in health economics can see improvements to our healthcare system to the benefit of all Australians.

Did you know? If implemented correctly, ideas such as a 4-day work-week can be offset by an increase in output per hour.

Politics and public policy

Many economics graduates aspire to become the next economist in parliament, using their knowledge for anything from improving foreign relations to helping younger generations afford their first home.

Did you know? UQ offers a Bachelor of Politics, Philosophy and Economics (Honours) program? Don’t be fooled – it’s not just for politicians, but future leaders in any field.

Everything else!

Economics is helpful in just about any industry. Whether you’re interested in energy, engineering, aid, law or tourism – the sky is the limit with economics.

Did you know? Effie is the money expert on Channel 9's Today Show and sits on two boards, Ecstra and Investmart. Effie has also published her own books that provide financial tips to Australians.