

UC 12760145

Approved CLASS USC
2/20/14

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: CLASS UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE
FROM: RUXANDRA BOUL, UNDERGRADUATE DIRECTOR/ECONOMICS
SUBJECT: CHANGE IN THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS REQUIRED IN THE ECONOMICS MAJOR
DATE: 2/28/2014

RECEIVED FEB 28 2014

APPROVED MAR 26 2014

The Department of Economics would like to increase the number of hours required for the Economics major from 30 to 33 hours (3 hours increase in the number of advanced electives).

The Economics major requirements from the undergraduate catalog are the following:

Students who choose to major in economics must also meet the university core requirements and the college core requirements for a Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree.

30 hours (at least 21 advanced) to include:

ECON 2370 - Introduction to Statistics and Data Analysis Credit Hours: 3.0 (or equivalent)

ECON 3332 - Intermediate Microeconomic Theory Credit Hours: 3.0

ECON 3334 - Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory Credit Hours: 3.0

ECON electives (advanced) Cr. 15.

ECON electives (any level) Cr. 6.

Most of our students take 9 credit hours of introductory courses: Econ 2370, Econ 2304 and Econ 2305 (note that our introductory Economics courses, Econ 2304 and Econ 2305, count as ECON electives, any level, 6 credit hours). As a result, the students are getting only 21 hours of advanced study (6 of which are intermediate). We think that this is not sufficient. We would like to add 3 hours to expand the students' base of knowledge in the discipline.

We also compared our major with other similar majors in CLASS and have found that several majors require a minimum of 32/33 of credit hours: Psychology, Sociology, History and Political Science (which requires 30 hours, but this excludes the two classes required for all students).

We propose the following changes to the undergraduate catalog:

Students who choose to major in economics must also meet the university core requirements and the college core requirements for a Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree.

33 hours (at least 24 advanced) to include:

ECON 2370 - Introduction to Statistics and Data Analysis Credit Hours: 3.0 (or equivalent)

ECON 3332 - Intermediate Microeconomic Theory Credit Hours: 3.0

ECON 3334 - Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory Credit Hours: 3.0

ECON electives (advanced) Cr. 18.

ECON electives (any level) Cr. 6.