

Economics at Swarthmore

I'm Steve O'Connell, Chair of the Economics Department at Swarthmore, and this is a **3-minute intro to Economics at Swarthmore**, for first-year students and transfer students.

Welcome to Swarthmore – on behalf of my department, we're looking forward to meeting you.

1/ Why study Economics?

• First, to understand how your world works (and doesn't).

We think majors and non-majors both need this basic grounding, and so that's how we teach our intro course, Ec 1.

1/ Why study Economics?

• Next, to enrich and partner with other disciplines.

Swarthmore students often combine a major in Economics with a major or minor in Political Science, Math, Black Studies, or many other departments and interdisciplinary programs.

We don't offer a course minor in Economics, but a course major is only 8 credits.

1/ Why study Economics?

• Next, of course, to <u>do</u> economics.

Your way to change the world. You may be captivated by the questions economists ask and/or the research methods economists use.

• and finally, lots of students want to <u>use</u> economics.

Lots of careers rely on economic thinking, including public policy, academia, finance, social or business entrepreneurship, and law.

2/ Let's talk about getting started in Economics

• At Swarthmore, everything starts with Ec 1.

This course (ECON 001) is offered fall, J term, and spring.

It's meant for both majors and non-majors.

And it's **required** for all other work in Economics.

You can waive the Ec 1 requirement if you have 5's on your Economics AP exams or high marks on international exams.

2/ Getting started in Economics

• The course major is straightforward.

8 courses: 4 core courses (including Ec 1) and 4 electives.

As a prospective major: Start with Ec 1 your first year, add an elective if you can, and complete the three other core courses by the end of your sophomore year.

2/ Getting started in Economics

• For more info, check out the Department's web page

There's a special section on registering for Fall 2020 and J Term.

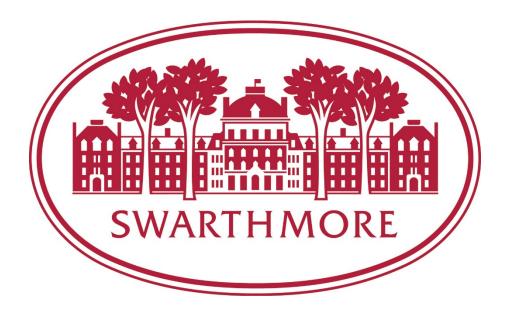
And lots of other details about doing Economics at Swarthmore (including the exact rules for waiving the Ec 1 requirement).

3/ For transfer students

- If you're considering an Economics major, please be in touch with your economics advisor during advising period (that will probably be me!).
- We talk about your interests, look at the courses you already have, and find you a clear pathway through the major.

4/ Finally: Getting in touch with the department

- I'm looking forward to talking with you at the all-remote Academic Fair on Monday August 24.
- I'm also available by email (<u>soconne1@swarthmore.edu</u>).
- Also, feel free to email our Administrative Assistant, Megan Salladino (<u>msallad1@Swarthmore.edu</u>) with any questions.



All good wishes, and welcome to Swarthmore!