



Trinity College Dublin

Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath

The University of Dublin

Department of Economics

Module Choices for Academic Year 24/25

June 2024

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Module Descriptions

[More information on departmental website](#)

For the most recent descriptions of Junior Sophister modules, please consult the departmental website. Module outlines provide an overview of the module.

Junior Sophister modules

ECU33011	Economic Analysis A	5	MT	TBD	
ECU33012	Economic Analysis B	5	HT		TBD
ECU33021	Money and Banking A	5	MT	TBD	
ECU33022	Money and Banking B	5	HT		TBD
ECU33031	European Economy A	5	MT	TBD	
ECU33032	European Economy B	5	HT		TBD
ECU33041	Economics of Less Developed Countries A	5	MT	TBD	
ECU33042	Economics of Less Developed Countries B	5	HT		TBD
ECU33051	Investment Analysis A	5	MT	TBD	
ECU33052	Investment Analysis B	5	HT		TBD
ECU33061	Economics of Policy Issues A	5	MT	TBD	
ECU33062	Economics of Policy Issues B	5	HT		TBD
ECU33081	Mathematical Economics A	5	MT	TBD	
ECU33082	Mathematical Economics B	5	HT		TBD
ECU33091	Econometrics A	5	MT	TBD	
ECU33092	Econometrics B	5	HT		TBD



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Module descriptions

Economic Analysis A	Economic Analysis B	Money and Banking A	Money and Banking B
<p>Macroeconomics: intertemporal consumption and labour supply; investment theory; money demand; the analysis of business cycles; monetary policy; fiscal policy</p>	<p>Behavioural and Experimental Economics: departures from standard economic models such as irrationality, prospect theory and hyperbolic discounting; choice architecture; experimental methods; and analysis techniques.</p>	<p>Core principles of banking and overview of financial instruments, financial markets and financial institutions. Study fundamental concepts such as value and present value, risk and term structure, bonds, interest rate determination, stock markets, market efficiency, derivatives and foreign exchange. Bank risk management, bank runs and financial crises.</p>	<p>Contemporary monetary economics and its application to the conduct of monetary policy. As well as reviewing the relevant academic literature, the module deals with the experience of the main central banks, with a particular focus on the European Central Bank.</p>
European Economy A	European Economy B	Economics of Less Developed Countries	Economics of Less Developed Countries
<p>Critical understanding of the major issues facing the European economy. The course provides a blend of descriptive information, theory and empirical analysis. Attention is devoted to some policy areas in which EU co-ordination has progressed furthest: internal market, regional policy, factor mobility, agriculture, and competition</p>	<p>Customs Union: The microeconomics of preferential liberalization; The EU Trade policy: theory and practice, policy making, multilateralism vs bilateralism, policy coherence; The macroeconomics of monetary integration; European exchange rate history; European Monetary Union; Fiscal policy in EMU; EMU and financial markets</p>	<p>What is "development" and who are the "developing countries"? Inequality and Development; Education and Health in Development; Financial Markets and Development; Programmes for Poverty Reduction; Agriculture and Rural Development; Population Growth and Urbanisation; Problems</p>	<p>Contemporary Theories of Economic Development; Policymaking: What Role for the State in development? Trade: Engine of growth or obstacle to development? Domestic and International Finance: Opportunities and instability; Aid: Does it work? The Role of Institutions in Development; Economic Growth and Environmental</p>



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Module descriptions

Investment Analysis A	Investment Analysis B	Economics of Policy Issues A	Economics of Policy Issues B
<p>How do financial markets operate? The trade-off between higher average returns and more 'risky' pay-offs is then discussed. The problem of determining an optimal investment strategy, given beliefs about the probability distribution of returns, is also addressed. Other issues considered include the informational efficiency of financial markets and systematic pricing failures, the role of behavioural biases.</p>	<p>This module analyses, at both a practical and theoretical level, the process of investment in financial markets. Its aims are to introduce students to the various types of financial instruments in common use, to the economic theories that explain how they are priced, to the risks factors which affect their pricing and to the markets in which they are traded.</p>	<p>The module provides an introduction to, and survey of, the theory of welfare economics. It explores the issue of collective benefits arising from public goods, highlighting the information problem associated with the optimal provision of such goods. This will be followed by a discussion of externalities and the different ways in which they are addressed: private solutions, public policy, and prohibition of markets.</p>	<p>The module focuses on the challenges inherent in the pursuit of social justice and will analyse entitlements such as health care and old age pensions. Discussion of voting behaviour and the impact of forms of government and electoral rules on redistribution will be followed by an examination of issues related to optimal taxation.</p>
Econometrics A	Econometrics B	Mathematical Economics A	Mathematical Economics B
<p>This module provides an introduction to the theory and methods of modern econometrics. It begins by reviewing and extending the statistical material covered in the senior freshman year. Following this students are guided through the fundamental principles of econometrics and working through to more advanced topics as the module progresses.</p>	<p>It begins by reviewing and extending the econometric material covered in Econometrics A. Following this students are guided through the fundamental principles of econometrics and working through to more advanced topics as the module progresses. The module provides a balance between core theoretical material and an extensive applied component which aims to develop student's practical skills necessary to conduct independent applied research.</p>	<p>This module covers topics in linear algebra. The purpose is to study some of the applications of linear algebra and vector calculus in economics. The extensions are concerned with more a rigorous exposition of a range of results in matrix algebra and vector space theory.</p>	<p>The module covers topics in optimization in both dynamic and static settings. In particular, one goal of this half of the module is to show how mathematical techniques may be applied to economic modelling. Particular emphasis is placed on the application of advanced mathematical methods to standard neoclassical production and consumption theory.</p>



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Junior Sophister modules

Points to Note

ECU33091 and ECU33092 (Econometrics A/B) are co-requisites: these must be taken together.

This does not apply for all remaining modules.

For example, if you take Investment Analysis A, you do not need to do Investment Analysis B. Likewise, you may take Investment Analysis B without doing Investment Analysis A.



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Mathematical Economics

Points to note for JH Economics and Mathematics Students (those continuing with Mathematics)

Joint Honours students (Economics and Mathematics) taking mathematics modules (coordinated by the School of Mathematics) in their JS year may not take either Mathematical Economics A or Mathematical Economics B.

Note that in SS year, Quantitative Methods and Advanced Econometrics can be taken as *economics* modules.

Throughout, “A” denotes the Michaelmas Term version and the “B” denotes the Hilary Term version



Module Sets

Each semester, modules within Sets are timetabled together and cannot be taken together

Set 1: Money and Banking / Economics of Less Developed Countries

Set 2: The European Economy / Investment Analysis

Set 3: Economics of Policy Issues / Mathematical Economics

Set 4: Economic Analysis

Set 5: Econometrics

For example, you cannot take European Economy A and Investment Analysis A or European Economy B and Investment Analysis B. But you may take European Economy A and Investment Analysis B (since they are taught in different semesters.)



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Capstone Project

Some Preliminary Information: Your pathway choice this year will determine in what discipline you do your Capstone.

In your Senior Sophister year, you will be required to complete an independent, year-long project, referred to as the Capstone. That year, you will enrol in a Capstone module, which will guide you through your project. The Capstone applies to all Trinity students, not only Economics students.

If you choose Single Honours Economics or an Economics Major, you are required to do Capstone in economics. If you are Joint Honours (continuing with two subjects equally for both of your Sophister years), then you can pursue Capstone in either of your two disciplines.

You cannot take your Capstone in Economics if you pursue an Economics Minor pathway.



Pathway ECTS Requirements (Econ)

ECTS Credits Required in Economics in Junior Sophister

Single Honours (50 ECTS, 10 ECTS from elsewhere)

Major in Economics (A) but continuing with Minor in SS (40 ECTS)

Major in Economics (B) but dropping Minor in SS (30 ECTS)

Minor in Economics and continuing with Economics in SS (20 ECTS)

Minor in Economics and dropping Economics in SS (30 ECTS)

Joint Honours in Economics (30 ECTS)

Irrespective of pathway, you must take the same number of ECTS in Economics in both MT and HT. JS pathway selection occurs over summer.



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Pathway Requirements

Students taking at 40 ECTS Economics in JS (Single Honours and Major A) must take Economic Analysis A/B and Econometrics A/B.

Students planning to take Capstone in Economics must take Econometrics A/B and are advised to take Economic Analysis A/B.



Business School Modules

Restrictions on Taking Specific Modules Together

In a given year, you cannot take both:

Investment Analysis A (Bonds)

and

BUU33620: Intro to Fixed Income Securities and Alternative Investments.

In a given year, you cannot take both:

BUU33750: Investments and Sustainability

and

Investment Analysis B (Equities)



Senior Sophister Prerequisites

Junior Sophister Economics Modules Required for Senior Sophister Economics Modules

To do the Capstone, you must do Econometrics A/B

To do Advanced Macroeconomics in SS, you must do Economic Analysis A

To do Game Theory in SS, you must do Economic Analysis B

To do Economics of Financial Markets in SS, you must do Investment Analysis A/B (or their Business equivalents) and Econometrics A/B

To do Advanced Econometrics in SS, you must do Econometrics A/B

To do Quantitative Methods in SS, you must do Econometrics A/B and Mathematical Economics A/B (latter requirement is waived for Econ/Math students)





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Thank You