

# Economics

*Using logic, theoretical reasoning and common sense, the economists of the world analyze and provide perspective on the different choices people make, both in business and in their everyday lives. Economics majors at St. Ambrose are able to combine an education in liberal arts with economic theory to determine why people behave the way they do—and thereby address the many challenges such behavior produces in an increasingly global economy.*

## Contact us

Linda K. Brown, Department Chair  
 BrownLindaK@sau.edu  
 563/333-6393  
 St. Ambrose University  
 518 West Locust Street  
 Davenport, Iowa 52803  
 Visit the Finance, Economics and  
 Decision Sciences Department  
 Web site at [www.sau.edu/cob](http://www.sau.edu/cob)  
 For general information about  
 St. Ambrose or how to apply:  
 Admissions Office  
 563/333-6300 or 800/383-2627  
 email: [admit@sau.edu](mailto:admit@sau.edu)  
[www.sau.edu](http://www.sau.edu)

## Degrees offered and required credit hours

St. Ambrose University offers a Bachelor of Arts in Economics. The degree program requires 54 credit hours of courses, including classes in accounting, finance, marketing, management, and general business. St. Ambrose also offers a minor in Economics. Internships are strongly recommended.

## Program highlights and courses

Students studying Economics at St. Ambrose receive a broad liberal arts background coupled with a strong foundation in economic theory that they can combine to understand why people make choices and how they affect business. Students can major in Economics or in Finance with an Economics Concentration, which allows students to major in both Economics and Finance. See our course catalog at [www.sau.edu/catalog](http://www.sau.edu/catalog) for a full description of required and elective courses.

## Internships

The Economics Department encourages students to participate in comprehensive internship programs to receive quality hands-on, marketable experience. Economics students from St. Ambrose have received internships at various regional and national corporations, including the Rock Island Arsenal, Deere and Company and Merrill Lynch.

## Financial assistance

Students have the opportunity to compete for scholarships awarded by the university based on need or academic merit. Occasionally, there are scholarship opportunities specifically targeted to Economics majors.

## Alumni

St. Ambrose graduates with Economics degrees have found rewarding positions in financial service companies, insurance firms, lending organizations, marketing and environmental agencies, and production and manufacturing companies. Many economics graduates have continued their education by pursuing higher degrees in economics or finance, and a number have gone to law school. They also currently work at Deere and Company, Caterpillar, Northwest Bank and Trust, and area professional basketball, baseball and hockey franchises.

## About the faculty

Many faculty members in the Finance, Economics and Decision Science Department have real-world experience in business and finance. Whether it's working with venture capital or doing transactions in another country, they bring it all to the classroom.

### C. Gregory Bereskin PhD, Professor

[BereskinCGregory@sau.edu](mailto:BereskinCGregory@sau.edu)

Prof. Bereskin's area of expertise concerns finance and transportation. He has written many scholarly papers in that area, and has lectured and served as a moderator at various conferences around the country. He received his doctoral degree from the University of Missouri and has taught at St. Ambrose since 1991.

**Linda K. Brown** DBA, CPA, Professor and Department Chair

BrownLindaK@sau.edu

Prof. Brown teaches both undergraduate and graduate courses. She took the lead teaching in China as a part of SAU's overseas MBA program in Shenyang, China's fourth largest city. She takes SAU students to Germany in January to study International Business and has a vast amount of applied business experience that complements her strong academic credentials. She received her doctoral degree in business administration from Nova Southeastern University and has taught at St. Ambrose since 1987.

**Ralph Harris** PhD, Professor

HarrisRalphR@sau.edu

Prof. Harris came to St. Ambrose after 30 years in industry and government. His last assignment was as vice president of information technology and marketing for the Army Management Engineering College. He has conducted and been responsible for worldwide consulting and training for the U.S. Department of Defense, specializing in organization realignment and information systems. Prof. Harris earned his doctorate at the University of Iowa and has been associated with St. Ambrose since 1986.

**Richard Jerz** PhD, Professor

RickJerz@cs.com

Prof. Jerz teaches operations management, statistics and industrial engineering courses. He has over 18 years industrial experience working with robotics, computer networks and computer-aided manufacturing technologies. In addition to his interest in integrated manufacturing technologies, he has an interest in instructional technologies. Prof. Jerz earned a PhD in Industrial Engineering from the University of Iowa where he received a U.S. Department of Energy fellowship for his research in cost and capacity analysis for integrated manufacturing. He has taught at St. Ambrose since 1988.

**Billy Lynn** PhD, Associate Professor

LynnBillyG@sau.edu

Prof. Lynn couples experience as a small business entrepreneur with his strong academic accomplishments to bring a real-world realism to the courses he teaches. He's taught graduate business courses in China and has published numerous scholarly papers. He received his doctoral degree from the University of Illinois and has taught at St. Ambrose since 1995.

**Arthur Moreau** PhD, Professor

MoreauArthurF@sau.edu

Prof. Moreau has published an extensive list of scholarly articles and participated in numerous conferences, often serving as a session chair. In addition, he has served as a

consultant expert to key industrial firms as well as governmental agencies. He has mentored many students who have gone on to pursue graduate degrees. He received his doctoral degree from the University of Iowa and has taught at St. Ambrose since 1999.

**Wayne Oberle** PhD, Professor

OberleWayneH@sau.edu

Prof. Oberle teaches micro- and macroeconomics at the principles, intermediate, and graduate level. His areas of interest/expertise are: intellectual history of economics, economic growth and development, Dr. W.E. Deming's economics, win-win vs. win-lose economics and economics of peace. He has co-authored national rural development policy, directed SAU's agri-business program for 15 years and taught graduate management/leadership for the agricultural economics faculty at Makerere University (Kampala, Uganda). He co-edited a book, *Beyond the Suburbs: The Changing Agricultural Life*, graduated with his doctorate from the University of Missouri-Columbia the next year, served as an Associate Editor/board member for the National Social Science Association, co-founded the Corn Belt Chapter of NAMA and the SAU-AAUP Chapter, founded and serves as Editor of its newsletter/academic journal, "Integrity," serves on the Iowa AAUP Executive Council, co-authored a digital textbook, *Principles of Economics*, and has taught at SAU since 1977.

**James O. Van Speybroeck** PhD, Professor

VanSpeybroeckJamesO@sau.edu

Prof. Van Speybroeck teaches mathematics and statistics at both the graduate and undergraduate level. He is a published author of four textbooks on mathematics and computer science. He has also written hundreds of reviews of mathematics, computer science and statistics books and articles for many technological journals including "Data Processing Digest," "Datamation" and "Computing Reviews." He currently is in the process of developing technology-based courses in mathematics and statistics with Prof. Harris. He received his doctoral degree from Illinois State University and has been at St. Ambrose University since 1983.

**Theodore Woodruff** PhD, Professor

WoodruffTheodoreS@sau.edu

Prof. Woodruff teaches micro- and macroeconomics at both the graduate and undergraduate level. Before coming to St. Ambrose to teach in 1995, he taught at St. Bonaventure University in New York and Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts. He's worked at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C., where he helped formulate public financing policies for medical care. He received his doctoral degree from Columbia University in New York City.