

Effective: Spring 2026

Policies for Transfer Students

We are delighted to welcome your interest in the Economics Major at Wesleyan University. Our curriculum is more mathematically intense than that of many other economics departments, and the curriculum may not align well with that of your current institution.

A student will need to start our curriculum with our gateway introductory course, Econ 110, unless the student has already taken a true equivalent course that covers both microeconomics and macroeconomics using calculus. However, almost no institutions offer a course that is truly equivalent to Econ 110. Thus, any student who has not taken an economics course that uses calculus will be required to start the Wesleyan Economics major with Econ 110.

It is extremely unusual for a junior transfer student to complete the economics major at Wesleyan. This is true even for students who were majoring in economics at their previous institution.

Any student who might transfer into Wesleyan and who is interested in economics should read this document carefully and then contact the current department chair with the requested information. We will give you a formal decision about the likelihood of your ability to enter the major before you need to accept Wesleyan's admissions offer.

Our curriculum

Introductory Core Courses (must be completed by end of sophomore year)

Econ 110 – Introduction to Economic Theory.

- This is a one semester course covering the principles of both micro- and macro-economic theory while using calculus extensively.
- This course has a pre-requisite of the second semester of an introductory college calculus course sequence or a 4 or higher on AP Calculus (AB or BC) or the IB equivalent.
- *Note: this course is taught in a way that is distinctly different from that of most university introductory economics courses, irrespective of whether they are 1-semester standalone courses or 2 semester sequences.*

Intermediate Core Courses (must be completed by end of junior year)

Econ 301 – Microeconomic Analysis

- This course develops the analytical tools of microeconomic theory; studies market equilibrium under conditions of perfect and imperfect competition; and considers welfare economics.
- This course has a pre-requisite of Econ 110.

Econ 302 – Macroeconomic Analysis.

- This course focuses on the study of economic aggregates such as employment and inflation and on the public policies (monetary and fiscal) aimed at controlling these aggregates.
- This course has a pre-requisite of Econ 110 plus a probability and statistics course.

Econ 303 – Introductory Econometrics.

- (Course numbered Econ 300 through Spring 2026.)
- This course is an introduction to econometric techniques widely used by economists.
- This course has pre-requisites of Econ 301 and 302.

Electives

Students must also complete at least 5 electives, of which at least 3 are at the upper-level (300-level). All upper-level electives must be taken at Wesleyan, and nearly all upper-level electives require prior completion of Econ 303.

All of these courses must be taken for a letter grade (i.e., no pass/fail).

Next steps for interested transfer students

1. Collect all of the following materials to email the current department chair
 - a. Syllabi for all economics and math courses taken at your current institution
 - b. AP scores (if appropriate)
 - c. A statement from the current Economics department chair at your institution stating the math requirements for each of your core courses.
2. Email all of this information to the current department chair. Do not email until you have all of the required materials.