

# HONOURS INFO SESSION

BA and BSc Honours in Economics

# WHY DO HONOURS?

- Do original research in a supportive and stimulating environment.
- Immerse yourself in a topic you are deeply interested in.
- Find out what grad school is like by “living it” for a year.
- Get to know your profs and other top economics students better.
- Improve your communication skills.
- Meet guest speakers when they visit UVic.
- Learn cutting edge research methods, and apply them to your own project.
- Improve your odds of getting into a top graduate program, succeeding there, and excelling in your career.

# HONOURS STUDENT WATCH

- Andrea Craig (BSc 2008/09) did her Ph.D. at Queens and is now an assistant professor at UBC Okanagan.
- Nouri Najjar (BSc 2009/10) did his Ph.D. at UBC and is now an assistant professor at Ivey School of Business at Western.
- Andrew Usher (BSc 2009/10) worked for the Bank of Canada, did his Ph.D. program at the University of Michigan, and has returned to the Bank as a Senior Economist
- Carolyn Tsao (BSc 2014/15) MA at Toronto, now doing PhD at Princeton
- Alexander Lam (BSc 2015/16), worked for the Bank of Canada for two years, now has a Masters in International Relations from the University of Ottawa.
- Mark McNaughton (BA 2015/16) started a Ph.D. at UBC's School of Community and Regional Planning in 2019. Before returning to school and after he completed his degree and did the Honours program, he worked at Malatest.
- Morgan Kidd (BSc 2016/17) did his MFE at UC Berkeley and is a Data Scientist for Lyft in San Francisco.
- Ben Lukenchuck (BA 2017/18), did his MA at McMaster, now works at the Department of Finance in the Intergovernmental Tax Policy, Evaluation, and Research division, and is training to teach high school math.
- Jacob Dolinar (BA 2017/18) went to work for the Bank of Canada for two years, now applying to grad school
- Luke Frymire (BSc 2017/18) went to work for the Bank of Canada for two years, now applying to grad school
- Trevor Knechtel (BSc 2017/18) was working as a financial advisor at CIBC, now applying to grad school
- Emma Kinakin (BSc 2017/18) got her MA from Queen's. She's pursuing a Ph.D at VSE (UBC).
- Tessa Devakos (BA 2017/18) was a research assistant at the Office of the Parliamentary Budget officer for two years, now applying to grad school
- Ryan Scott, Nicole Bruce, and Taryn Barney (2018/19) are all doing their MA at Queen's.
- Hector Demarco (2018/19), MA in Financial Economics at Toronto, now is at BC Investments Management Corp.
- Briana Perry, Brooklynn Trimble, Jeff Yang, Kehan Liu, Carlo Tolentino (2018/19) are all doing their MA at UVic

# HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

- Apply in April before your last year. (April 15 deadline this year)
- Take year-long Honours Seminar (Econ 499) in last year.
- Write your Honours thesis under supervision of a faculty member.
- Submit and defend your thesis in April of your last year.
- Make sure you fulfill calendar requirements (for BSc students this includes completing Econ 365-366, and Econ 400-401)

# HONOURS COURSES

- BA Honours: Take 499 (all year); encouraged to take 400, 401
- BSc Honours: Take 499 (all year); Take 400 (Fall) and 401 (Fall 2018/09, but sometimes in Winter)
- Prerequisites for 400: ECON 313 (Fall, Winter, usually also Summer) and 350 (Fall, usually also Summer)
  - prerequisites for 313: ECON 203 with a minimum grade of C; and one of ECON 225, ENGL 135 with a minimum grade of B+, ENGL 146 with a minimum grade of B+, ENGL 147 with a minimum grade of B+, ENGR 240
  - prerequisites for 350: Either MATH 208 (Fall and Winter) with a minimum grade of B; or all of MATH 101, (MATH 110 or MATH 211), MATH 200; ECON 203 (also acceptable as co-requisite)
- Prerequisites for 401: ECON 204 (Fall, Winter, usually also Summer), ECON 313, ECON 350, ECON 351 (Winter only)
  - prerequisites for 351: ECON 350

# PREREQUISITES

- Note that since BSc Honours students must take 400 and 401, they must have completed 204, 313, 350, 351 before they enter the Honours program in fall of their final year.
- We'll be looking for high grades in courses such as
- BA: ECON 203, 204, 225, 313, 345 or 365-366 and any 400-level courses you might have taken up to this point
- BSc: ECON 203, 204, 225, 313, 345 or 365-366, 350, 351, Math 208 and any 400-level courses you might have taken up to this point

# REQUIREMENT WAIVERS

- In some cases, we may grant conditional acceptance until grades from courses over summer are in.
- e.g., ECON345, ECON313, ECON350 are all offered (online) in the summer 2021
- In exceptional cases we may choose to waive minimum grade requirements for admission to the program. See a few slides ahead for grade requirements.

# PLANNING AHEAD

- If you're two years away from graduating and want to go into BSc Honours make sure to take 313, 350 (fall) and 351 (spring) in your third year.
- Working backwards, this means you need to take 203 at the latest in your third year and still leave time in that same year to take 313. It also means you have to take MATH 208 before the fall term in your third year to be able to take ECON 350 in fall and ECON 351 in spring.
- Take at least some econometrics (minimum of 345) before starting your Honours year. Most students do empirical work in their Honours thesis. Some knowledge of econometric methods prior to choosing a thesis topic is essential.
- For BA Honours: You might want to take at least 400. 350 and 313 are offered in Summer 2018



# HONOURS PLANNING WORKSHEETS ON DEPT. WEBSITE

- [https://www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/economics/  
undergraduate/home/programs/honours/  
index.php](https://www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/economics/undergraduate/home/programs/honours/index.php)
- Check out the Honour's pro-tips, too!

# BSC HONOURS REQUIREMENTS

ECON (103 or 103C or 180) and 104, with normally at least a B in each course

MATH (100 or 109) and 208; or MATH 102 and 208; or MATH (100 or 109), 101, 200, and (211 or 110) (you need Math 208 before you take ECON 350)

ECON 225, with normally at least a B+

1.5 units of a Social Sciences course (other than a course in statistics or quantitative methods, or ES 312) outside Economics; or PHIL 220 or PHIL 223

One of CSC 105, 110, 111

ECON 203, 204 and 313, with normally at least a B+ in each course

ECON 245 and 246, with normally at least a B in 245 and at least a B- in 246

ECON 350 and 351, with normally at least a B in 350

ECON 365 and 366 (either take both before entering the Honours program, or enter with 345 and then take 365, 366 while doing Honours)

ECON 400 and 401

Three of ECON 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 456, 457, 468, 482, 465

ECON 499

An additional 3 units of Economics courses numbered 300 and above (we recommend choosing 345 among them if you plan to take 365-366 during your Honours year)

An additional 3 units of courses outside of Economics numbered 300 and above

With permission of the department, a maximum of 6 units of courses numbered 300 and above in Mathematics, Computer Science or Statistics may be substituted for Economics courses numbered 300 and above

# BA HONOURS REQUIREMENTS

ECON 103 and 104, with normally at least a B in each course

MATH 100 or 102 or 109

ECON 225, with normally at least a B+

1.5 units of a Social Sciences course (other than a course in statistics or quantitative methods or ES 312) outside Economics; or PHIL 220 or 223

One of CSC 105, 110, 111

ECON 203, 204, and 313, with normally at least a B+ in each course. (You need to take 313 by your next-to-last year to take 400 in your last year)

ECON 245 and 246, with at least a B in 245 and at least a B- in 246

One of ECON 333, 401, 405B, 406

One of ECON 321, 327, 328, 337, 338, 407

ECON 345 or 365; the 365-366 sequence is recommended (we recommend taking at least 345 before entering the program even if you take 365 and 366 simultaneously with 499)

ECON 499 (Honours Seminar)

An additional 12 units of Economics courses numbered 300 and above, of which at least 1.5 units are numbered 400 or above, or 10.5 units of Economics courses numbered 300 and above and SOSC 300 (if you're serious about going to grad school, we recommend taking 400 and 401; this requires you to take Math 208, ECON 313, 350 and 351 before entering the program; alternatively take 400 only, which requires just 313, 350 and Math 208)

An additional 3 units of courses outside of Economics numbered 300 and above

# HOW TO APPLY

- Deadline for application this year is April 15.
- Electronically submit (econhnrs@uvic.ca) application material:
  - one-page essay explaining interest in the program
    - specify the program (BSc/BA)
    - state area of economics that interests you the most
    - by applying to the program you automatically give us permission to access your transcript

# YOU'LL HEAR FROM US

- students who have applied before the April 15 deadline will hear from us by mid-May.
- late applications may be accommodated based on availability of space, but students who meet the deadline will be given priority in being considered for admission

# ATTEND THIS YEAR'S JCURA POSTER PRESENTATION AND HONOURS CONFERENCE!

- Jamie Cassels Undergraduate Research Awards (JCURA) Fair
  - March 22-26, 2021 | Online Event.
  - Find out how you can apply for a Research Award.
- Honours Class Thesis Presentations: April 22-23, 9:00am-3:00pm, Zoom (more precise program will be circulated)

# HOW TO APPLY FOR JCURA

- The Department of Economics is eligible for 3 student nominations per year. There is usually a second round of calls at which point we can put more names forward.
- You don't need to be an Honours student to apply, but you would compete with applications from Honours students.
- A single form passes between student applicant, proposed supervisor and the unit Chair/ Director or designate.
- Units are to submit their nomination(s) to the LTSI by the (tentative) deadline of June 30, 2021.
- The (tentative) deadline to submit your application to the Honours advisors ([econhnrs@uvic.ca](mailto:econhnrs@uvic.ca)) is June 15, 2021. So start thinking about research (and a supervisor) now!