



CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

Megan Glendon '07

Economics, international relations



Q: What were your professors like?

A: I loved the professors in the economics department; they were all very passionate about the material they taught. I had a professor who would run out of room on the chalkboards even though there were four of them in the room.

Q: What were your internship experiences like?

A: In the summer after my sophomore year, I worked at a small investment bank in San Francisco for an economist who was a demographics expert. I had just taken econometrics, so I felt well-prepared to work with data she had collected. Later, former U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz used the research that I worked on at a conference on demographic trends that pose security threats to the U.S. In my junior year I studied in London. I stayed on in London thanks to an internship funded by the College.

Q: What have you been working on since graduation?

A: Now I am working for an economic consulting firm analyzing electricity markets. Connecticut College does a great job of making a theoretical major really concrete. I was able to show this firm how I had already applied my skills analyzing data. They will train me in electricity, but they know I can handle a steep learning curve because Connecticut College prepared me for that.

Economics

Overview

As an economics major at Connecticut College, you'll learn to think analytically, pose and solve economic problems, and use economic models to construct and test hypotheses. You'll be exposed to microeconomics and macroeconomics, as well as applied economics fields from econometrics to finance, labor, environmental economics, industrial organization, public finance and development. Connecticut College is one of the few liberal arts colleges of its size that offer multiple econometrics courses, real corporate finance courses and an abundance of classes on economic history and the many theoretical frameworks that can be used to think about economic problems. Our economics majors are in high demand in consulting firms, private banking and finance, as well as in government and the entities that advise them and the nonprofit sector. Many students also continue their education in graduate programs in business, finance, economics, public policy and law.

Research Opportunities

Our students apply what they learn here in many original pieces of research. We've had senior honors theses on how the work of American political philosopher John Rawls influenced economics, as well as on the impact of immigration on English labor markets and attitudes about money in ancient Greece and Rome. One student looked at research and development spending by the pharmaceutical industry in the world's developed economies and its impact on health outcomes. In your classes you'll begin to see how economics intersects with the fields of international relations, environmental studies, government, history, sociology and others. You'll be able to take classes in feminist economics and gender and development. You may work as a research assistant to a professor, participate in a departmental lecture series or apply to combine economics with one of the College's interdisciplinary programs.

Study Abroad

You may also extend your learning through College-funded internships and study abroad. In addition to study abroad programs offered by other institutions, Connecticut College also sponsors its own Study Away Teach Away (SATA) programs in which a small group of Connecticut College students and one or two faculty spend a semester abroad together. Two economics faculty regularly lead SATAs to Vietnam, providing students a unique opportunity to study the fast-growing economy of Southeast Asia.

Faculty

Maria Cruz-Saco,

Professor of Economics
Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh
Latin American economic development; social protection

Candace Howes, Barbara

Hogate Ferrin '43
Associate Professor of Economics Education
B.A., Columbia University; Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley
Labor and the international economy; aging and the long-term-care workforce

Rolf W. Jensen,

Professor of Economics
B.A., Trinity College; M.A., Ph.D., University of Massachusetts
International political economy; international economic development; political economy of post-war Vietnam

Edward J. McKenna,

Professor of Economics;
Chair of the Economics Department
A.B., Franklin and Marshall College; Ph.D., SUNY Stony Brook
Macroeconomics; econometrics

Yongjin Park, Assistant

Professor of Economics
B.A., M.A., Seoul National University; Ph.D., University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Microeconomics and behavioral economics; banking and comparative banking systems; social inequality and labor supply

Spencer J. Pack, Professor

of Economics
B.A., Franconia College; M.A., University of Toronto; Ph.D., University of New Hampshire
History of economic thought/economic history; Adam Smith

and laissez-faire economics; ancient Greek economics

Donald M. Peppard, Jr.,

Professor of Economics
B.A., Ph.D., Michigan State University
Public sector economics; economics of gambling; the informal sector in Hanoi, Vietnam

Gerald Visgilio, Professor

of Economics
A.B., Providence College; M.S., Ph.D., University of Rhode Island
Microeconomics; environmental and natural resource economics; environmental justice; law and economics

What can you do with a major in economics?

Arik De '00

Carey Fellow in Governmental Finance, New York State Office of the Budget

Earned a master's degree in public policy at the University of Chicago and worked as a research associate at the International Monetary Fund. At Connecticut College, was a scholar in the Toor Cummings Center for International Studies and the Liberal Arts.

Barbara Silk '05

Sales analyst for Boston Beer Co., the maker of Samuel Adams products. Works on performance monitoring, market research and ad hoc projects for both the sales force and corporate office.

Minored in Hispanic studies and previously worked as an analyst for CRA International, an economic consulting firm in Boston.

Christopher Chand '06

Economist and research coordinator at the Jerome Levy Forecasting Center in Mount Kisco, N.Y.

Also studied Japanese at Connecticut College and was named a Winthrop Scholar, the College's highest academic recognition.

Selected Courses

International Politics; Human Rights and World Politics; Environmental Activism and its Impact Around the Globe; Iran in Comparative Perspective; Ethnic Conflict in Europe; U.S. and Vietnam; Theories of International Relations; International Environmental Cooperation, International Terrorism; Middle East Politics; U.S. Foreign Policy; International Trade

About Connecticut College

Connecticut College is a highly selective residential liberal arts college with 1,900 students from all over the country and the world. The academic program offers more than 47 majors in the arts, sciences, social sciences and humanities as well as innovative interdisciplinary programs. Students engage with dedicated faculty and each other to create a vibrant social, cultural and intellectual community in which learning is valued for its own sake — and individuals' diverse perspectives enrich the experience of all.

For more information, visit
www.conncoll.edu/academics/