

New Bachelor

In “Economics”

Bachelor Program in Economics

The Bachelor in Economics, offered with two tracks —“Development Economics and Policies” and “Applied Economics”—builds the competencies needed to assess and guide policymaking in economic development in general, and in agricultural and sustainable rural development in particular. Conceived to provide students with both rigorous theory and hands-on training in applied economics, the program equips graduates with the analytical, policy, and managerial skills required for sustainable economic, rural, and social development.

Program Objectives

The program aims to:

- Provide students with the theoretical principles and analytical tools of economics needed to understand market functioning, the behaviour of economic agents, and the role of public policy in shaping economic development.
- Prepare professionals capable of analysing and assessing economic- and rural-development policies, with particular emphasis on the contribution of agriculture, agribusiness, and natural resources to sustainable growth.
- Develop competencies applicable to managing economic units in rural settings, including economic appraisal, strategic planning, project design, and resource management.
- Foster an integrated understanding of sustainable development by embedding economic, social, and environmental dimensions in policymaking and territorial planning.
- Build the capacity to monitor, analyse, and contribute to European-integration processes through knowledge of EU policies on rural development, agriculture, innovation, and territorial cohesion.
- Form practice-oriented economists able to employ economic metrics, applied statistics, econometric models, and digital tools in analysing development sectors and enterprises in rural areas.

Graduate Competencies

General academic and analytical competencies

Graduates will be able to:

- Critically interpret core economic theories and their implications for development.
- Apply quantitative and qualitative methods to analyse economic phenomena at micro and macro levels.
- Employ precise academic language and logical argumentation in constructing economic analyses and development policies.
- Use scientific sources and legal documentation independently and systematically.

Professional and track-specific competencies

For both tracks graduates will be able to:

- Assess the economic and social impact of public policies—especially in agriculture, rural development, and natural-resource management.
- Analyse rural economic structures and recommend measures that enhance efficiency and sustainability.
- Formulate policy and project proposals that support integrated local development and alignment with EU standards.

Additional competencies by track:

- Development Economics & Policies
 - Interpret development indicators; propose policy interventions to address territorial and social inequalities;
 - Analyse the impact of EU funds and policies in the Albanian context.
- Applied Economics
 - Apply basic econometric and statistical models across economic sectors;
 - Draft development plans and manage rural economic units.

Interdisciplinary and labour-market competencies

Graduates will also be able to:

- Collaborate effectively in multidisciplinary teams on development projects.

- Use digital tools—data-analysis software, GIS, and economic-assessment platforms—for evaluation and management.
- Prepare and present analyses to institutional decision-makers and local communities.
- Build careers in public institutions, development agencies, international organisations, NGOs, and the private sector (economic consultancy, agribusiness, rural development).

Career Opportunities

Graduates may pursue roles such as:

- Government agencies and specialised regulatory bodies – policy analyst, budget specialist, economist, data & research associate, assistant to public officials.
- Consulting firms (management or economic consulting) – economic analyst, financial analyst, strategic consultant.
- NGOs, think tanks, and research institutes – research assistant, economist, data analyst.
- International organisations – programme officer, research assistant, junior policy analyst, monitoring & evaluation specialist.

Program Structure

The Economics program spans three academic years, each building progressively on theoretical foundations, analytical skills, and practical preparation.

- Year 1: Fundamentals of economics, mathematics, and statistics; introductory microeconomics and macroeconomics; interdisciplinary courses from natural and technical sciences.
- Year 2: Deeper theoretical study and advanced analytical training; courses that illuminate sector-specific challenges and dynamics; applied economic policy analysis.
- Year 3: Students choose between the Development Economics & Policies track and the Applied Economics track, aligning studies with their professional interests.
 - Development Economics & Policies track: In-depth study of development theories and their real-world applications in rural and peri-urban settings, emphasising improvements in disadvantaged areas (courses such as Development Economics, Public Economics, Agrifood Systems, Agricultural Policies).
 - Applied Economics track: Focus on diverse fields of economics (Institutional Economics, Labour Economics, Behavioural Economics), management (Public Administration, Agribusiness Management, Organisational Behaviour, Agricultural Markets & Price Analysis / Risk Analysis & Decision-Making), and finance (Financial Analysis, Money & Banking, Financial Markets & Institutions).

Interdisciplinary Approach

Guided by the principle of interdisciplinarity, the program integrates analytical methods and tools from multiple disciplines to generate new knowledge and craft real-world solutions to the economic, environmental, social, and technological challenges of a rapidly changing world. Aligned with international standards (Master Curricula), the program integrates knowledge from technology, natural sciences, and economics to provide a comprehensive education that prepares students for complex challenges: 52 % of credits in social sciences, 22 % in natural sciences, and 26 % in technical sciences.

Why choosing this program?

The Bachelor in Economics is distinctive in both profile and content. It responds to ongoing changes in the private and public sectors and to the structural and institutional dynamics of dual economies. By blending theoretical analysis with practical application, the program ensures graduates are fully prepared for today's labour-market demands. Students develop expertise in economic analysis, policy design, and decision-making for broad-based economic development, with particular emphasis on promoting sustainable local growth. Unlike other bachelor programs in economic sciences, this degree—through its two tracks, “Development Economics and Policies” and “Applied Economics”—is modularly structured to provide both fundamental economic skills and specialised knowledge in contemporary agricultural economics, food policies, and sustainable rural development.

CONTENT OF THE CURRICULUM

BACHELOR STUDIES PROGRAM IN ECONOMICS

Year I, Semester I (1)		
No.	Modules	ECTS
1	Mathematics	5
2	Principles of plant production	5
3	Introduction to Economics	5
4	History of Economic Doctrines	4
5	Business communication	4
7	Business English I	2
8	Rural Sociology	4
	Total	29
Year I, Semester II (2)		
No.	Modules	ECTS

1	Mathematics for economists	5
2	Soil and water management	5
3	Microeconomics	5
4	Statistics	5
5	Macroeconomics	5
6	Academic writing	4
7	Business English II	2
	Total	31
Year II, Semester I (3)		
No.	Modules	ECTS
1	Agrarian Law	4
2	Natural Resources and Environmental Economics	5
3	Finance	5
4	Statistics and Research Methods	5
5	Agricultural Economics	5
6	Environmental assessment and risk management	5
	Total	29
Year II, Semester II (4)		
No.	Modules	ECTS
1	Accounting	5
2	Public Economics	5
3	Principles of livestock and aquaculture production	4
4	Agricultural Policies	5
5	Marketing	4
<i>Elective Module I</i>		
6	Applied Informatics	4
	Programming	4
<i>Elective Module II</i>		
7	Agribusiness Management	4
	Farm Management	4
	Total	31
Profile in Applied Economics		
Year III, Semester I (5)		
No.	Modules	ECTS

1	International Economics	5
2	Labor Economics	5
3	Financial Analysis	5
4	Sustainable rural development	5
<i>Elective Module III</i>		
5	Money and Banking	5
	Financial Markets and Institutions	5
<i>Elective Module IV</i>		
6	Agricultural Markets and Price Analysis	4
	Risk Management and Insurance	4
	Total	29
Year III, Semester II (6)		
No.	Modules	ECTS
1	Institutional Economics	5
2	Economics of innovation	5
<i>Elective modules V</i>		
3	Demography	4
	Behavioral economics	4
<i>Elective modules VI</i>		
4	Climate change and adaptation	5
	GIS	5
	Sustainable energy technology	5
5	Professional Internship	6
6	Bachelor's Thesis	6
	Total	31
Profile in Development Economics and Policies		
Year III, Semester I (5)		
No.	Modules	ECTS
1	International Economics	5
2	European Agricultural Policies	5
3	Development Economics	5
4	Sustainable Agri-Food Systems	5
5	Sustainable rural development	5

<i>Elective modules III</i>		
6	Public Administration and Management	4
	Risk Management and Insurance	4
	Total	29
Year III, Semester II (6)		
No.	Modules	ECTS
1	Tourism Economics	5
<i>Elective modules IV</i>		
2	Economics of European Integration	5
	Economics of Innovation	5
<i>Elective modules V</i>		
3	Demography	4
	Advisory services	4
<i>Elective modules VI</i>		
4	Climate change and adaptation	5
	GIS	5
	Sustainable energy technology	5
5	Professional Internship	6
6	Bachelor's Thesis	6