

FACTSHEET 1

Change to the Economics Major Subject Requirement in the Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree

Overview

A change to the Economics major subject requirement in the BSc degree will take effect from 2016. This change **only** affects the ECON200-level papers that are required for the major and is summarised below:

| Old 200-level requirement | New 200-level requirement |
|--|---|
| ECON202 (Macroeconomics) ECON271 (Intermediate Microeconomic Theory) plus EITHER ECON210 (Introduction to Econometrics) OR ECON270 (Introduction to Mathematical Economics) | ECON202 (Macroeconomics) ECON271 (Intermediate Microeconomic Theory) ECON210 (Introduction to Econometrics) |

All other aspects of the major subject requirement are unaffected.

The reason for the change is that ECON270 (Introduction to Mathematical Economics) has been replaced with a new 300-level paper (ECON377, Mathematical Economics). (See separate Factsheet.)

The new 200-level requirement will apply to all students who begin their Economics major for the BSc degree in 2016 AND those students who began their major before 2016 but who have not completed ECON270. Any student who has already passed ECON270 will be permitted to complete their Economics major under the old regulations.

This change does not affect the Economics major in the Bachelor of Commerce (BCom) or Bachelor of Arts (BA) degrees.

FAQ

Does this change affect the major subject requirements in Economics for the BA or BCom degrees?

ANSWER: No, not at all.

I have already passed ECON270. Do I have to take ECON210 as well to complete my Economics major?

ANSWER: No. ECON270 can still be counted as the third ECON200-level paper in the Economics major by students who began their BSc before 2016.

Can I use the new mathematical economics paper (ECON377) as a substitute for ECON210 in the major?

ANSWER: Yes, but ECON377 could then not be counted as one of the four ECON300-level papers required for the major. (NB: A Special Permission request via eVision must be made to have the substitution approved.)

Isn't ECON270 a prerequisite for ECON371, ECON375 and ECON376 (and hence for entry into the Honours programme)?

From 2016 onwards, ECON270 will not be a prerequisite for these papers. The macroeconomic theory paper (ECON376) will have a new set of prerequisites (ECON202 and ECON271), but students who have the old prerequisite (ECON202 and ECON270) will also be allowed to take the paper. The prerequisites for the Honours and other postgraduate programmes have also changed (as detailed in a separate Fact Sheet).

If you have any questions about this change, please email economics@otago.ac.nz