October 2026

MAJOR IN BUSINESS, ECONOMICS, AND SOCIETY
(2026 Version)
THE COLORADO COLLEGE

OBJECTIVES

The Business, Economics, and Society (BESoc) major expresses the interdisciplinary nature and commitments of the Economics and Business Department. It builds on the commonalities and the differences in the two disciplines as they study human economic behavior—its nature, its sources, and its consequences.

The major analyzes three key relationships. First, it examines the roles business and economics play within society, in particular the place of modern corporations and social enterprises in civil society and in government and economic policy. Second, it evaluates the impact of business on society, focusing on market forces, on market failures, and on services provided to all members of society. Third, it explores the effects of society on business and the economy, exploring how social issues frame business opportunities and strategies, and how corporations respond (or fail to respond) to social concerns.

By promoting knowledge of structures and processes central to democratic society in a global age, it hopes to shape effective citizens. Through this goal and through its emphasis on interdisciplinary thinking, the major contributes to the college's commitment to the liberal arts. It also addresses issues of economic inequality and social injustice, and in so doing reinforces the college's anti-racism agenda and its efforts to promote diversity, equity and inclusion.

PREREQUISITES

Students desiring to major in Business, Economics, and Society (BESoc) are required to pass the following **prerequisites** prior to admission into the major. If a student has not taken these courses, that student may be admitted only if currently scheduled for a later section or by consent of the chair if mitigating circumstances exist.

To get started with this major, students will need our gateway courses of Principles of Economics, either as a 2-block course (EC100) or as two separate blocks (EC101 and EC102) and Introduction to Business and Society (BU201).

EC100 EC101 EC102	Principles of Economics OR Principles of Microeconomics AND Principles of Macroeconomics	**2 units**
BU201	Introduction to Business and Society	**1 unit**
		3 units

International Baccalaureate (IB) Higher Level and Advanced Placement (AP) courses with registrar-approved test scores count as the equivalents of Economics 100, 101 and 102. Those scores, and answers to other IB and AP questions on course equivalents, can be found on the Registrar's website, here.

To graduate as a Business, Economics, and Society major, students must pass the all-college requirements, while completing two units in Mathematics, a minimum of three units in Economics, five-units in Business, two-units in Research Methods, two units of electives, and two units of senior thesis.

A. Required Mathematics Courses (2-3 units total)

MA117 MA217	Elementary Probability & Statistics* OR Intro to Probability and Statistics	**1 unit**
MA125 MA126	Pre-calculus & Calculus* OR Calculus 1	**1 or 2 units**
		2 or 3 units

B. Required Economics Courses (3 units total)

EC100 EC101 EC102	Principles of Economics* OR Principles of Microeconomics* AND Principles of Macroeconomics*	**2 units**
EC301 EC302	Microeconomic Theory OR Macroeconomic Theory	**1 unit**
		3 units

*See above guidelines on International Baccalaureate (IB and Higher Level and Advanced Placement (AP) equivalents.

C. Required Business Courses (5 units total)

BU201	Introduction to Business and Society	**1 unit**
BU205	Principles of Financial Accounting	**1 unit**
BU310	Society, Business, and Economics	**1 unit**
AND Two units from:		
BU315 BU316 BU326 BU329	Business Policy and Strategy OR Theory of Business Finance OR Consumer Marketing OR Business Organization and Management	**2 units**
		5 units

D. Required Research Methods Courses (2 units total)

BU318 OR EC303	Business Analytics OR Econometrics	**1 unit**
BU319	Qualitative Research Methods	**1 unit**
		2 units

E. Electives (2 units total)

Two electives in Economics and Business. Only one elective may be at the 100-level. Only one elective may come from outside the department. For a list of approved electives outside the department, see department website.	**2 units**

F. Thesis in Business, Economics, and Society (2 units total)

BU499	Senior Thesis in Business, Economics, and Society	**2 units**

TOTAL MINIMUM REQUIRED CREDITS.....16 units

DISTINCTION IN BUSINESS, ECONOMICS, AND SOCIETY is awarded by action of the Department to up to the top 20% of graduating majors based on their GPA within the major with the provision that they have also received an A in Senior Thesis.