

# ECONOMICS: An Umbrella Field for Undergraduate Research in STEM & Social Sciences

With Dr. Nestor Garza,  
College of Business  
Administration & Public Policy

THURS  
**FEB 8**  
**2:30–3:30 PM**

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Economics is a particular type of social science for two reasons: 1) its scientific value is determined by the method more than by the topic (the economy), allowing it to engage with a vast variety and topics and problems; and 2) its process of theory development and testing is deductive (not inductive), offering a unified framework for assessment and application.

These two characteristics makes economics an umbrella field to perform research. It has a high degree of generalizability, while simultaneously having clear protocols regarding what is considered a scientific approach to the phenomena under inquiry. We will present and discuss in simple terms the features that makes economics a pathway into graduate education and research, in both, STEM fields and social sciences.

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