General Policies for All Transfer Requests

How do I apply for transfer credit for non-Tufts courses or an “equivalency” review for Tufts study abroad courses?

On SIS, look under the “Courses” menu for the “Transfer/Equivalency” option and follow the steps shown to submit a course for review. The submission must include a link to a course description or syllabus that shows course prerequisites, level and content. The review will determine whether a course is eligible for transfer, and whether it qualifies as a lower or upper level elective for an economics major or minor.

Which courses will be approved by the Department?

- Economics courses that are similar in level and quality to the courses offered by the Department.
- Economics courses taught by economists using material from the teaching and scholarly literature of economics.
- One introductory accounting course that is equivalent to Economics 3.
- One business law course that is equivalent to Economics 6.

Does the Department approve business course transfers?

- No. The Department does not approve transfers for courses that are primarily management, business administration, marketing or other business-related topics. The Gordon Institute/ELS program may approve transfers of some business-related courses.

Does the Department approve online course transfers or internship credit transfers?

- No. Current AS&E policy does not allow the transfer of online courses or internship credit.

How much credit will I receive for each course?

- The Registrar determines the credit that will be given for courses taken elsewhere. AS&E is now under a semester hour system in which a “standard” one semester course will count as 3 semester hours. Courses in quarter or trimester systems will count as fewer semester hours and year-long courses may count as more semester hours.

Policies on Using Transfer Credits Toward any Economics Major or Minor

Which study abroad opportunities are most likely to offer economics courses that will transfer as electives toward an economics major or minor?

Suitable economics electives are most likely to be found in study abroad that allow students to take economics courses that count toward an economics degree in the economics department of a good host university. Suitable economics electives are least likely to be found among courses offered in a “Study Center” or in non-economics departments.

How many transfer courses may be counted toward an Economics major?

- Principles of Economics plus two approved courses (typically totaling 6 semester hours) from one semester of study abroad or three approved courses (typically totaling 9 semester hours) from two semesters of study abroad. Additional approved economics courses may be transferred and will count as graduation credit.

- Transfer Student Petition: Students who transfer to Tufts and wish to major in economics, may petition to waive the transfer limitations in this document. Waivers for courses taken prior to matriculation at Tufts will only be considered if those courses are demonstrably equivalent to Tufts courses in content and level.

How many transfer courses may be counted toward an Economics minor?

- Principles of Economics plus one additional course (typically totaling 3 semester hours). Additional approved economics courses may be transferred and will count as graduation credit.
Policies on Using Transfer Credits Toward any Economics Major or Minor (continued)

When does a transfer course qualify as a lower level elective?
When it meets the level, content and instructor standards; and has Principles of Economics as a prerequisite.

When does a transfer course qualify as an upper level (100-level) elective?
When it meets the level, content and instructor standards; and has Intermediate Microeconomics or Intermediate Macroeconomics as a prerequisite.

Can courses without prerequisites count as economics major or minor electives?
Some economics degree programs require the completion of particular courses in each year of the program. These required courses will be treated as prerequisites. For example, 4th year courses in a four-year economics degree program are likely to be approved as upper-level (100+) electives.

Courses that require no prior background in economics cannot be used as economics electives. They may be transferred and used as general graduation credit.

Can I use transfer courses as Core Courses (Ec 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, or 107) for Economics major requirements?
No. Transfers are not allowed in place of these required courses.

Exceptions are occasionally made when a student’s class has graduated and it is impossible for the student to complete an Economics major without taking a Core Course elsewhere. In this case, approval must be obtained from the Economics T of C Representative in advance of taking the course and the extenuating circumstances must be documented.

Can I use Fletcher courses for Economics major or minor elective requirements?
Fletcher EIB Bxxx courses are business courses that are not accepted toward any economics major or minor. Fletcher EIB Exxx courses are economics courses and some may be suitable as economics major or minor electives. Use SIS to submit a Transfer/Equivalency review for EIB Exxx courses you are considering.

Do courses from Tufts Study Abroad programs automatically count toward an economics major or minor?
No. Economics courses from Tufts Study Abroad programs are generally assigned the number Ec 340 by the Registrar’s Office. Courses numbered as Ec 340 count for graduation credit, but do not count toward economics major or minor requirements. Request approval to use these courses as major or minor electives by using SIS to submit them for an “Equivalency” review.

How will transfer courses from non-Tufts programs be designated on my SIS record and transcript?
Courses from non-Tufts programs are assigned numbers that correspond to the equivalent courses at Tufts. If corresponding numbers are not available, they are designated as Ec 310 when they only qualify for graduation credit, Ec 320 when they qualify as lower-level economics electives and Ec EC 330 when they qualify as upper-level economics electives.

To whom should I address additional questions?
The Economics T of C Representative is Professor David Garman. His email is david.garman@tufts.edu. He is not able to answer questions about individual courses without reviewing them in advance. The quickest way to inquire about individual courses is to submit them through SIS for a Transfer/Equivalency review.