

The reason I'm studying economics today as a master's student is because economics is hard. My very first semester of university, I was working part-time and taking classes just for fun. Those two classes were Art 100 and Economics 202. I felt like such a star, telling people that I was taking "introductory macroeconomics." (At the time, I felt like a whiz because the university actually allowed me to take macro without taking micro first. I figured it was because of my excellent high school transcript. Now I know that actually, everybody gets the "privilege" of taking macro before micro, or vice versa. Turns out, I was nothing special.)

That economics class changed my life. It was incredibly hard. I was working six days a week and going to the university three nights a week, plus homework, paying rent, and buying groceries. But my economics class was blowing my mind. It was like a whole new world of ideas. I was learning about how money really does make the world go 'round. I was so impacted by my very first economics class, that I quit my job (in performing arts) and studied economics fulltime. Seven years later, I have my bachelor's degree in economics, and I'm halfway through my master's.

Part of the reason my bachelor's took six years is because I was so distracted by all the fun electives in economics. Through these electives, I learned about game theory, monetary policy, urban development, and health care systems around the world. I even took an economics class in Hong Kong! (Yes, I flew to Hong Kong for a semester and studied there, and got an economics credit for it. I highly recommend the snorkelling and firefly tours.)

I don't know where all this education (and giant student loan) will take me. My dream is to be a university professor. Some of the Economics Department's professors have invested a lot in me through the semesters. Whatever I do, I want to make them proud.

So, why should you study economics? Because it will broaden your horizon. Take a look at the job postings: A lot of them require a degree in business, economics, or math. Economics is also very broad, so you can focus on almost anything – globalization, urbanization, politics – even cannabis! So if you like math and you are a curious person, you should study economics, and see where it takes you.