

Coyote Economist

News from the Department of Economics, CSUSB

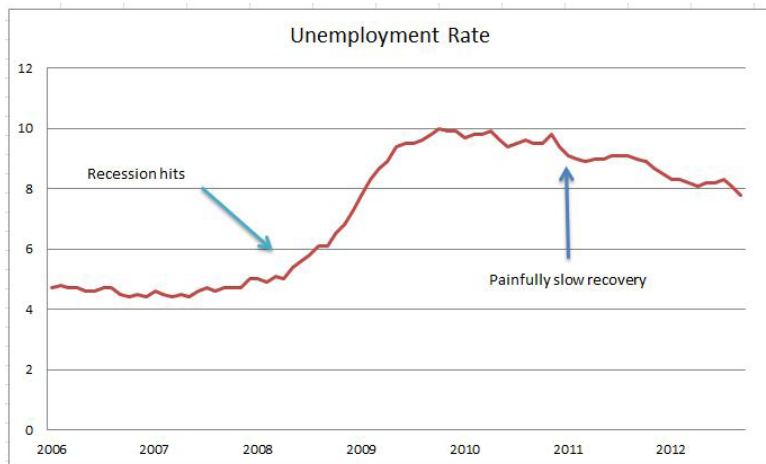
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State of the Laboring Classes

The working class has taken it on the chin over the last few years. The Great Recession brought hard times for many people, and recent unemployment rates have reached levels not seen in a generation. The October 2009 unemployment rate of 10.0% was the highest it has been since June 1983. True, the current unemployment rate (for September 2012) is lower than it has been for over three and a half years, but at the current 7.8% unemployment rate many people are suffering.

The graph below shows the rise of the unemployment rate as the Great Recession hit and the very slow decline of unemployment since it reached its peak in late 2009. The high, and continuing high, rates of unemployment mark this period as, arguably, the worst for the working classes in the U.S. since the Great Depression.



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What may not be so well known is that the U.S. working class has

been taking it in the chin for four decades. The 1970s is well-known as a decade

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New and Revised Economics Majors Revealed

The Economics Department recently made a number of significant changes to the majors it offers to students. The following Q&A covers these changes.

■What happened?

The Economics Department did three things. First, it revised the Economics and Political Economy majors. Second, it created two new majors: Applied Economics and Mathematical Economics. Third, it set in motion a phase-out of the Business Economics concentration of the B.A. in Administration.

■Who might be interested in the two new majors?

Applied Economics will be of interest to students who want training in economics

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State of Laboring

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in which the U.S. became mired in “stagflation”: a combination of high unemployment and high inflation. But the 1970s also saw the beginning of a long period of poor economic outcomes for the U.S. working classes, after what before had been decades of improvement.

The following graph shows the real hourly wage of the working class in recent decades. More precisely, it

shows the real hourly wage of nonsupervisory workers in private non-farm businesses measured in terms of 2011 dollars. The data to generate this graph came from the Bureau of Labor

Statistics (BLS) and is for July of the year indicated.

As can be seen, working class wages peaked in the mid-1970s and then fell until the mid-1990s. Since then, working class wages have grown, but have still failed to reach the level they were 40 years ago. In July of 2012 the average real wage for the working classes reached \$19.50. This still falls short of the \$21.16 average real wage earned in 1973.

... working class wages have suffered since the Great Recession...

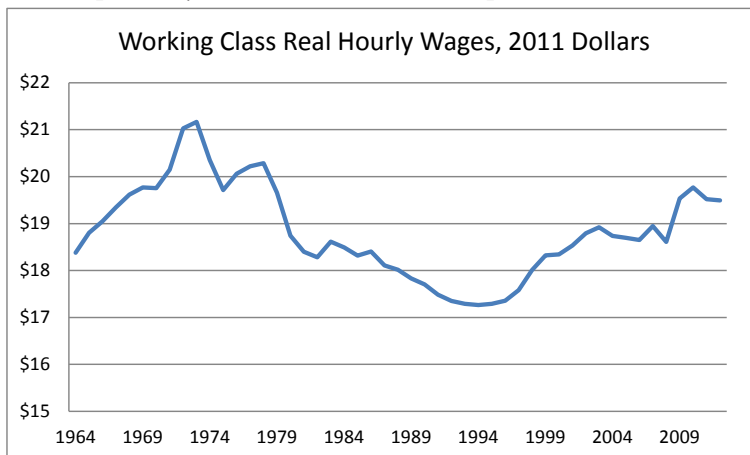
This is worth repeating: *the average real hourly wage for the working class today is below what it was in 1973.*

As can be seen in the previous graph, working class wages have suffered since the Great Recession. It is not known whether wages will grow, remain the same, or fall over the next

decade or two.

A recent analysis published by the Hamilton Project (*Trends: Reduced Earnings for Men in America*) reviewed the path of wages for U.S. workers, focusing on the wages earned by men.

According to this analysis, “For most of the past century, a good job was a ticket to the middle class. Hitched to the locomotive of rapid economic growth, the wages of the typical worker seemed to go in only one direction: up. From 1950 to 1970,



the average earnings of male workers increased by about 25 percent each decade. And these gains were not concentrated among some lucky few.

Rather, earnings rose for most workers, and almost every prime-aged male (ages 25-64) worked.”

Yet this changed: “Over the past 40 years, a period in which U.S. GDP per capita more than doubled after adjusting for inflation, the annual earnings of the median prime-aged male has actually fallen by 28 percent. Indeed,

males at the middle of the wage distribution now earn about the same as their counterparts in the 1950s! This decline reflects both stagnant wages for men on the job, and the fact that, compared with 1969, three times as many men of working age don’t work at all.”

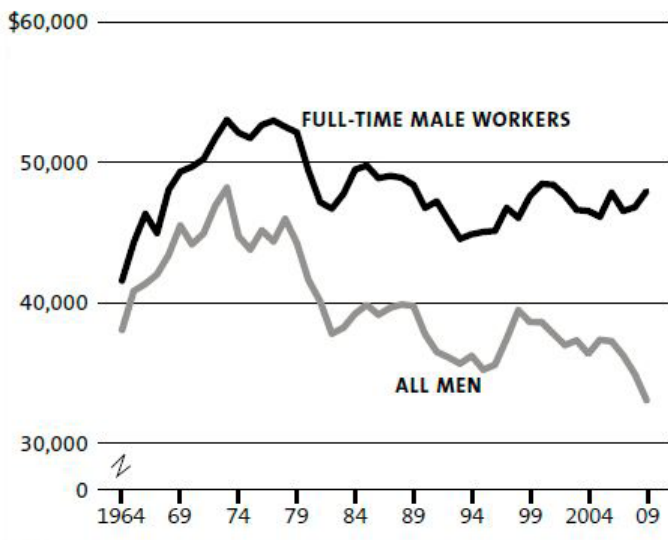
This decline in pay for prime-age males, and of men in general, is seen in the graph below.

The causes for this decline in pay are to changes in technology, in patterns of international trade, and the assault on unions.

Women have done better over this same period. Women’s real median earnings have grown by 71% over the same period, but they still earn less than men (about 75% of male earnings) and have experienced a 6% decline in real median earnings since 2000.

The last couple of years have been particularly tough on the working class. Yet hard times are not something new for the U.S. working class. The past four decades have taken their toll on workers, their families, and the communities in which they live.

MEDIAN ANNUAL EARNINGS (\$2009)



NOTE: Men Ages 25-64. Adjusted for inflation using CPI-U.

SOURCE: “The Problem With Men: A Look at Long-Term Employment Trends,” The Hamilton Project, December 2010. (http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2010/1203_jobs_greenstone_looney.aspx)

New and Revised Economics Majors Revealed

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combined with coursework in business-related fields such as accounting and finance. Mathematical Economics will be of interest to students who want training in economics along with more coursework in mathematics than required in typical Economics majors.

▪What must I do if I am currently an Economics or Political Economy major?

Nothing. You can complete the Economics or Political Economy major as it existed when you first declared these majors. At your choice, however, you can shift into any of the new majors (and then you will be obliged to fulfill the new requirements). But you do not need to do this.

▪What must I do if I'm currently in the Business Economics concentration (of the B.A. in Administration)?

Nothing. You can complete your program, the B.A. in Administration with a concentration in Business Economics, as it existed when you declared this concentration. At your choice, however, you can shift into the Applied Economics major. But you do not need to do this.

Some students currently in the Business Economics Concentration might find that the new Applied Economics major better suits their needs. For instance, students might be interested in knowing that whereas the Business Economic concentration required 92 units, the new Applied Economics major requires only 68 units.

Note, however, that the Business Economics concentration is now closed to new majors: no one is permitted to switch into this concentration. Other B.A. in Administration concentrations do exist, however, and students can switch into these concentrations if they like. Or, they can switch into the new Applied Economics major.

▪How did the Economics and Political Economy majors change?

Both majors now require more units than before. The increased number of units for these majors bring them into line with many Economics majors offered at other CSU campuses and into line with many other majors at CSUSB. Other than that, the Economics and Political Economy majors are mostly unchanged.

▪What are the official names of these majors?

All these majors are actually “tracks” within the B.A. in Economics program. The official names of the Economics, Political Economy, Applied Economics, and Mathematical Economics are:

B.A. in Economics

B.A. in Economics - Political Economy track

B.A. in Economics - Applied Economics track

B.A. in Economics - Mathematical Economics track

The above are what will appear on your diploma and transcripts when you graduate from CSUSB.

▪Where can I find out about these new majors?

Handouts describing these four programs appear below as part of the *Coyote Economist*. Alternatively, you can find information about these new majors online:

<http://economics.csusb.edu/>

<http://www.csusb.edu/majorsPrograms/undergraduate/economicsBA/requirements.html>

You can also request that we send you information about these programs. Just send an e-mail requesting information to economics@csusb.edu. Handouts about these new majors can also be picked up at the Economics Department (SBS 354A).

Unfortunately, one place you cannot find information about these new majors is in the CSUSB *Bulletin of Courses*. The new and revised majors were approved too late to be included in the current *Bulletin*. Despite their not appearing in the *Bulletin of Courses*, these four new majors are now the official majors for the Economics Department.

Tentative Spring 2013 Classes

#	SEC	TITLE	HOURS		DAYS	INSTRUCTOR
104	01	ECON OF SOCIAL ISSUES	1200-0110	PM	MWF	ROSE
200	01	PRIN MICROECON	0920-1030	AM	MWF	STAFF
200	02	PRIN MICROECON	1200-0110	PM	MWF	STAFF
200	03	PRIN MICROECON	0600-0750	PM	MW	ASHEGHIAN
200	04	PRIN MICROECON	1000-1150	AM	TR	STAFF
200	05	PRIN MICROECON	0600-0750	PM	TR	JORGENSEN
202	01	PRIN MACROECON	0800-0950	AM	MW	PIERCE
202	02	PRIN MACROECON	1200-0150	PM	MW	PIERCE
202	03	PRIN MACROECON	0800-0950	AM	TR	NILSSON
202	04	PRIN MACROECON	0200-0350	PM	TR	NILSSON
202	05	PRIN MACROECON	0600-0750	PM	TR	KONYAR
333	01	POL ECON OF WOMEN	1040-1150	AM	MWF	ROSE
335	01	TOOLS OF ECON ANALYSIS	1000-1150	AM	TR	DULGEROFF
357	01	POL ECONOMY OF LGBT	0120-0230	PM	MWF	ROSE
372	01	BUSINESS CYCLES	0400-0550	PM	TR	DULGEROFF
410	01	MONEY & BANKING	0600-0750	PM	TR	PIERCE
445	01	POLITICAL ECONOMY	1200-0150	PM	TR	NILSSON
450	01	GLOBAL ECONOMY	0400-0550	PM	MW	ASHEGHIAN
490	01	ECONOMETRICS	0200-0350	PM	TR	KONYAR
500	01	HIST ECON IDEAS	0600-0750	PM	MW	TORUNO

Tentative 2013-2014 Course Offerings

Fall	Winter	Spring
	Econ 104	
Econ 200	Econ 200	Econ 200
Econ 202	Econ 202	Econ 202
Econ 302	Econ 300	Econ 311
Econ 311	Econ 311	Econ 333
Econ 335	Econ 322	Econ 335
Econ 410	Econ 360	Econ 357
Econ 435	Econ 430	Econ 372
Econ 480	Econ 443	Econ 410
Econ 530	Econ 475	Econ 445
SSCI 320	Econ 520	Econ 450
	Econ 490	
	Econ 500	



End-of-the-Quarter Party

The Economics Department, in conjunction with Econ Radicals, invites you to our “End of the Quarter” party to be held at Trevor’s Rustic Inn on Friday, November 30, 2012, at 6 p.m. Trevor’s Rustic Inn is located at 800 Kendall Drive, San Bernardino, CA 92407. Join us for friendship, interesting political economic discussions, and camaraderie over a pint of beer or two...or another beverage of your choice!

B.A. IN ECONOMICS

The **B.A. in Economics** provides the student with rigorous training in economic theory and public policy.

The major provides good preparation for a variety of jobs in the private sector, in nonprofits, and government. It also provides preparation for a variety of different graduate and professional schools. Students interested in graduate school in economics should supplement the major courses with Math 211, Math 212, Math 251, and Math 331.



The Basics

- 68 Units
- Serious training in economics
- Preparation for a wide variety of jobs that require analytical skills

Where to find us:

<http://economics.csusb.edu/>

Facebook: CSUSB Department of Economics

Economics Department office: SBS 354A

or send an e-mail to: economics@csusb.edu

Lower-division requirements (16 units)

1. ECON 200. Principles of Microeconomics
2. ECON 202. Principles of Macroeconomics
3. One course chosen from:
 - ECON 250. Statistics for Economists
 - MATH 262. Applied Statistics
 - SCM 210. Applied Business Statistics
4. One course chosen from:
 - MATH 110. College Algebra
 - MATH 120. Pre-Calculus Mathematics
 - MATH 192. Methods of Calculus
 - MATH 211. Basic Concepts of Calculus

Upper-division requirements (52 units)

1. ECON 300. Intermediate Macroeconomics
2. ECON 302. Intermediate Microeconomics
3. ECON 335. Tools of Economic Analysis
4. ECON 500. History of Economic Thought
5. A minimum of two courses chosen from:
 - ECON 322. Managerial Economics
 - ECON 340. Adv Tools of Economic Analysis
 - ECON 372. Business Cycles
 - ECON 480. Quant Methods in Economics
 - ECON 490. Introduction to Econometrics
6. A minimum of two courses chosen from:
 - ECON 360. Economics of the Environment
 - ECON 410. Money and Banking
 - ECON 430. International Economics
 - ECON 435. Multinational Corporations
 - ECON 460. Labor Economics
 - ECON 475. Public Finance
 - ECON 545. Economics of Water Resources
 - ECON 571. Economics of Sports
 - ECON 573. Economics of Crime
7. A minimum of two courses chosen from:
 - ECON 333. Political Economy of Women
 - ECON 352. Pol Econ of Poverty/Discrim
 - ECON 357. Pol Economy of LGBT People
 - ECON 421. Economic History of the US
 - ECON 443. Origins of Political Economy
 - ECON 445. Political Economy
 - ECON 450. Global Economy
 - ECON 520. Social Economics
 - ECON 530. The Good Economy
 - ECON 540. Pol Economy of Latin America
8. Three additional economics courses.

POLITICAL ECONOMY

The **B.A. in Economics - Political Economy Track** provides the student with training in economics and political economy. Political economy considers the way that class, power, institutions, and gender affect, and are affected by, economic systems.

This major is designed to provide a critical understanding of capitalism, and provides excellent training for a variety of jobs in the private sector, nonprofits, labor unions, and government. It also provides training for graduate and professional schools.



The Basics

- 68 Units
- Helps students understand, and perhaps change, the world around them
- Preparation for jobs that require a sophisticated understanding of the world

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Lower-division requirements (16 units)

1. ECON 200. Principles of Microeconomics
2. ECON 202. Principles of Macroeconomics
3. One course chosen from:
 - ECON 250. Statistics for Economists
 - MATH 262. Applied Statistics
 - SCM 210. Applied Business Statistics
4. One course chosen from:
 - MATH 110. College Algebra
 - MATH 120. Pre-Calculus Mathematics
 - MATH 192. Methods of Calculus
 - MATH 211. Basic Concepts of Calculus

Upper-division requirements (52 units)

1. ECON 300. Intermediate Macroeconomics
2. ECON 302. Intermediate Microeconomics
3. ECON 443. Origins of Political Economy
4. ECON 445. Political Economy
5. ECON 500. History of Economic Thought
6. A minimum of three courses chosen from:
 - ECON 333. Political Economy of Women: Money, Sex, Race, and Power
 - ECON 352. Political Economy of Poverty and Discrimination
 - ECON 357. Political Economy of Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, and Transgendered People
 - ECON 421. Economic History of the US
 - ECON 450. Global Economy
 - ECON 520. Social Economics
 - ECON 530. The Good Economy
 - ECON 540. Political Econ of Latin America
7. Five additional economics courses. With approval of department advisor, 2 courses in related fields may be counted toward upper-division course requirements in the major.

APPLIED ECONOMICS

The **B.A. in Economics - Applied Economics Track** provides rigorous training in economics combined with coursework in business-related fields such as accounting and finance.

The major provides excellent training for jobs in nonprofits, the private sector, and government. Students majoring in Applied Economics might also consider pursuing a minor from the College of Business and Public Administration.



The Basics

- 68 Units
- Serious training in economics
- Preparation for the business world

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Lower-division requirements (24 units)

1. ECON 200. Principles of Microeconomics
2. ECON 202. Principles of Macroeconomics
3. ACCT 211. Introductory Accounting I
4. ACCT 212. Introductory Accounting II
5. SCM 210. Applied Business Statistics
6. One course chosen from:
 - MATH 110. College Algebra
 - MATH 120. Pre-Calculus Mathematics
 - MATH 192. Methods of Calculus
 - MATH 211. Basic Concepts of Calculus

Upper-division requirements (44 units)

1. ECON 300. Intermediate Macroeconomics
2. ECON 302. Intermediate Microeconomics
3. ECON 322. Managerial Economics
4. ECON 335. Tools of Economics Analysis
5. ECON 372. Business Cycles
6. ECON 500. History of Economic Thought
7. FIN 313. Business Finance
8. One course chosen from:
 - ECON 340. Adv Tools of Econ Analysis
 - ECON 480. Quant Methods in Economics
 - ECON 490. Introduction to Econometrics
9. Two courses chosen from:
 - ECON 360. Economics of the Environment
 - ECON 410. Money and Banking
 - ECON 430. International Economics
 - ECON 435. Multinational Corporations
 - ECON 460. Labor Economics
 - ECON 475. Public Finance
 - ECON 545. Economics of Water Resources
 - ECON 571. Economics of Sports
 - ECON 573. Economics of Crime
10. One course chosen from:
 - ECON 333. Political Economy of Women
 - ECON 352. Pol Econ of Poverty and Discrim
 - ECON 357. Pol Econ of LGBT People
 - ECON 421. Economic History of the US
 - ECON 443. Origins of Political Economy
 - ECON 445. Political Economy
 - ECON 450. Global Economy
 - ECON 520. Social Economics
 - ECON 530. The Good Economy
 - ECON 540. Pol Economy of Latin America

MATH ECONOMICS

MATHEMATICAL ECONOMICS

The **B.A. in Economics - Mathematical Economics Track** provides rigorous training in economics combined with coursework in mathematics.

The major provides excellent training for analytical jobs in the private and public sector. It also provides strong preparation for graduate school in economics.



The Basics

- 68 Units
- Highly rigorous training in economics
- Preparation for economics graduate school

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or send an e-mail to: economics@csusb.edu

Lower-division requirements (24 units)

1. ECON 200. Principles of Microeconomics
2. ECON 202. Principles of Macroeconomics
3. One course chosen from:
 - ECON 250. Statistics for Economists
 - MATH 262. Applied Statistics
 - SCM 210. Applied Business Statistics
4. MATH 211. Basic Concepts of Calculus
5. MATH 212. Calculus II
6. MATH 251. Multivariable Calculus I

Upper-division requirements (44 units)

1. ECON 300. Intermediate Macroeconomics
2. ECON 302. Intermediate Microeconomics
3. ECON 335. Tools of Economic Analysis
4. ECON 480. Quantitative Methods in Econ
5. ECON 490. Introduction to Econometrics
6. ECON 500. History of Economic Thought
7. MATH 331. Linear Algebra
8. Two courses chosen from:
 - ECON 322. Managerial Economics
 - ECON 340. Adv Tools of Econ Analysis
 - ECON 360. Economics of the Environment
 - ECON 372. Business Cycles
 - ECON 410. Money and Banking
 - ECON 430. International Economics
 - ECON 435. Multinational Corporations
 - ECON 460. Labor Economics
 - ECON 475. Public Finance
 - ECON 545. Economics of Water Resources
 - ECON 571. Economics of Sports
 - ECON 573. Economics of Crime
9. Two courses chosen from:
 - ECON 333. Political Economy of Women
 - ECON 352. Pol Econ of Poverty and Discrim
 - ECON 357. Pol Econ of LGBT People
 - ECON 421. Economic History of the US
 - ECON 443. Origins of Political Economy
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 - ECON 540. Pol Economy of Latin America