

What is economics?

Economics studies how individuals, businesses, and governments choose to allocate their resources.

Every day we make hundreds of decisions about what to do, what to spend money on, what to spend time doing, etc, and economics helps to explain *how we make these decisions*.

Making these decisions is difficult because we generally have limited resources but unlimited desires, and so not only do we have to decide what to spend our resources on but we must also decide what not to spend our resources on. This same principle applies to businesses and governments.

What is economics not?

Economics is not a subject about making money or becoming rich. It is not about investing in things like stocks or cryptocurrencies. It is not about preparing you to run a business.

Economics vs LC Business

Leaving cert business is about preparing students to either work in a business career, or to start their own business. This includes topics like managing employees, integrating your business with the local community, and learning about laws which businesses must follow.

Economics does focus a lot on businesses but in a very different way. Economics helps business owners with topics like hiring the most profitable number of employees, knowing what price to charge for your products, and knowing how customers will react if you change the price of your product.

Economics course

On top of learning some key definitions, economics students are required to draw a variety of graphs, to read and interpret charts, and to use some mathematical formulas. There are a very small number of maths formulas which are used in economics, the difficulty of which would be similar to higher level Junior Cert maths. Economics features an in-class project, completed in 6th year, which is worth 20% of the final grade.

[LC Economics subject talk.pptx](#)