

Department of Economics Alumni Testimonials



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I am currently completing the first year of my J.D. at the University of Toronto, having graduated with a double major in political science and economics from Memorial University in the spring of 2016. I entered university with an interest in the social sciences, and a particular focus on public policy. In my first semester, I took a diverse selection of courses in the social sciences and humanities, including introductory microeconomics. This course proved to be deeply engaging, and it initiated my fascination with economic theory and methods. Economics appealed to me as a way of answering questions about human behaviour, and modelling the impacts of public policy. As I took more advanced and specialized courses, I began to appreciate the flexibility of the degree and its methodology. I fondly recall my instructors incorporating current affairs and pressing social issues into the curriculum and appreciating how neatly economic theory can interact with subjects as diverse as environmental preservation, fiscal policy, and consumer behaviour.

Studying economics at Memorial assisted me in many ways. The program's rigorous standards and broad course requirements helped me keep a balance of quantitative and qualitative courses throughout my degree. This became helpful in other social scientific pursuits. Knowledge of economic statistics and mathematical modelling prepared me for research assistant positions in the study of political science and gave me the skills to conduct my own independent research project related to Canadian political behaviour. As a law student, I continue to benefit from an understanding of economics. The intersection between law and economics is enormous. Economics plays a major role in the development of private law theory, and looms large in such important practice areas as competition law and trade regulation. Studying economics has helped me understand and appreciate these fields, and I hope to enter an area of practice in which I can engage with economic materials.

While a student, I was honoured to receive a number of awards with the support of the Department of Economics. These included the Canadian Tire Scholarship, John and Jane Crosbie Scholarship, and Reginald H. Brown Q.C. Memorial Scholarship.

I would advise any student with an interest in social scientific topics to consider a degree in economics at Memorial. The program equips its students with a useful set of analytical skills, while simultaneously immersing them in relevant, important subject matter. Its faculty members are kind, supportive, and insightful, making the degree an excellent choice for new students.