How-to Guide:

...Planning events for the academic year.
Introduction

Events and activities are a rewarding and inclusive way of expanding the movement and learning more about economics. It’s important to plan your events with **diversity and balance** in mind. They can **attract a wide range** of people and are important for showing students and academics what economics education could be like. This document will hopefully help you to deliver a programme of events that will enable your group to **grow and flourish** while giving you experience in varied tasks and developing your own skills.

For advice on how to plan individual events see our ‘How to...Run an Event’ guide.

The options

There’s a **wide range** of things your society can do. Below is a number of **possible ideas** to get your **imagination** going. Local groups have either put these events on before or have plans to this year, if you need any help bring it up in the organisers call or speak to a member of the staff team for **help and advice**!

- Academic Lectures and Seminars
- Activism Workshops
- Film Clubs
- Reading Groups
- The Schools Project
- Trips to Public Events
- Topical Talks
- Conferences

- Socials
- Group Meetings
- Collaboration Events
- Student Led Lecture series
- Revision Sessions
- Debates
- ...The list goes on, however, this list stops here.

Aim to try a **variety** of these options over the year – and any more that seem like a sensible option for **your group**. Every group is different and finding out what works for you is important in finding out how the group can establish itself and become a **mainstay** of university life.

For more resources and how-to guides visit rethink economics.org/helpfulresources
We recommend having a meeting, social and accessible event such as a topical talk, early on in the semester to entice and ease in new and old members during freshers week.

Timing
Think about the timing of when your events are way in advance, if the big varsity game is on, it’s probably not the best time to host a talk in the biggest lecture theatre available, likewise exam time is not only going to limit your members participation but also your own ability to take on tasks for such projects. Taper your events around busy times and organise in advance when your workload is low. Some groups have gone as far as to publicise a schedule of events for each semester, to give attendees as much notice as possible!

Capacity
Similarly your capacity as a group will obviously be a key determinant of what events and activities you can put on. A small group or member base is not necessarily a weak group, you’re likely to have keen group of dedicated members who you know you can rely on. Conversely, big groups don’t always equate to success, too many chefs can spoil the logistical and organisational broth after all. Remember to be ambitious but realistic, and organise according to the strengths of your group. For example if you have someone on your committee that has seen a lot of economics documentaries, then film screenings will be easier to organise whereas if you have someone who is good at chairing discussions then debates could be a good things to do.

Reaching out
As a part of your university union there are lots of societies with diverse aims and interests. One thing that is likely to unite you all is a desire to further your movement and only so many hours free in the day! So why not collaborate? Working together will enable you to lessen your workload, widen your reach, share expertise and knowledge and build your membership, furthering the movement and increasing your impact.

Get Debating Soc involved in your “Question time” special, Feminist Soc on board for your series on Feminist Economics, run a joint workshop for campaigning with other progressive societies, have a bake-off with Baking Soc! There’s as much scope as you want!

Checklist
For more resources and how-to guides visit rethinkeconomics.org/helpfulresources
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Event and Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Freshers Fair &amp; Social</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Accessible talk - “Is rising inequality a problem for developing countries?”</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Film Screening – Terry Jones’ Boom Bust Boom</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Campaigning for curriculum change workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Social/Group meeting</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Panel discussion – ‘Economics in the Media’</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Debate with the Economics Department “Has mainstream economics failed?”</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Social, Behavioural economics workshop at a local school</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Talk on ecological economics “is growth good?”</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Feminist Economics reading group – “Who cooked Adam Smith’s dinner?”</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Debate “Will the markets save us?”</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Social, Fundraiser with other societies- Bake off..?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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