THE PROGRAM

The College of Arts and Sciences, in cooperation with the School of Business Administration, offers two degree options in economics. The faculty of the School of Business Administration teach the courses in the major field, but students are enrolled in the College of Arts and Sciences and must fulfill its degree requirements.

The Bachelor of Arts degree offers students an extensive background in economics for careers in business or government, as well as for advanced study in law or business. The Bachelor of Science degree includes extensive coursework in mathematics, as well as economics, in preparation for graduate study in economics and careers requiring strong quantitative skills. Additionally, students who want to study business but are also interested in economics may major in Business Administration with a concentration in economics through the School of Business.

Courses apply economic principles to the analysis of monetary and fiscal policy, environmental problems, taxation and government spending, antitrust policy and government regulation, economic globalization, and labor markets and income inequality. One distinguishing aspect of the program is how it involves students in economic experiments for both classroom instruction and faculty research. Third- and fourth-year students with a minimum 3.0 grade point average may do an internship as part of their major and may be eligible for membership in Omicron Delta Epsilon, the national honor society in economics.

THE PASSION

Jesuit-educated economists are able to analyze economic problems and determine solutions that will have a positive impact on their communities. Knowing the principles underlying supply and demand, competition, and market structures is essential to resolving the socio-economic inequalities that exist today. The study of economics at Gonzaga University provides the student a means of specializing in a social science, while at the same time acquiring knowledge and skills useful for any career. Organizations of all types increasingly recognize the importance of having personnel who possess a broad background in economics.

THE POTENTIAL

A variety of career opportunities await Gonzaga economics graduates. Positions exist in for-profit and non-profit enterprises, as well as in government. Gonzaga graduates work as analysts, business news reporters, consultants, and educators.

EMPLOYERS OF RECENT ECONOMICS GRADUATES

- D.A. Davidson
- Portland General Electric
- Russell-Mellon
- Safeco Insurance
- Spokane Teachers Credit Union
- The Regence Group
- Watson Wyatt Worldwide
- United States Army
- United States Department of Justice

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Gonzaga economics graduates choose to pursue their graduate studies in a variety of fields at prestigious institutions:

Economics
- Colorado State University
- Columbia University
- George Mason University
- Syracuse University
- University of Colorado, Denver
- University of New Mexico
- University of Oregon
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of Wisconsin

M.B.A./M.Acc.
- Gonzaga University
- University of California, Los Angeles
- Washington State University

Law School
- Georgetown University
- Gonzaga University
- Harvard University
- University of Arizona
- University of Denver
- University of Washington
- Willamette University

Some students pursue graduate studies in other disciplines, such as international finance at Brandeis University, international relations at Georgetown University, government at the University of Maryland, and architecture at the University of Washington.
FACULTY CONTACTS & SPECIALTIES

John Beck | Ph.D., Michigan State University | Professor | state and local tax policy | beck@jepson.gonzaga.edu
Professor Beck teaches Public Finance and History of Economic Thought. As a member of Washington State’s Tax Structure Study Committee in 2001-2002, he became well-known as an advocate for a state income tax.

Randall W. Bennett | Ph.D., Michigan State University | Professor | sports economics | bennett@jepson.gonzaga.edu
Professor Bennett teaches Industrial Organization and Managerial Economics. With Professor Beck, he co-authored “Taxation, License Fees, and New Car Registrations,” Public Finance Review, 31 (September 2003), in which they found that value-based vehicle registration fees discourage people from buying new cars. Behaving according to their own model of economic behavior, after the repeal of Washington’s motor vehicle excise tax, Professor Bennett replaced his 1974 Volkswagen and Professor Beck replaced his 1989 Oldsmobile.

Kevin Henrickson | Ph.D., University of Oregon | Erwin Graue Chair of Economics | Associate Professor | applied microeconomics and labor economics | henrickson@jepson.gonzaga.edu
Professor Henrickson teaches Labor Economics and Environmental Economics. His current research interests include examining the decisions of workers prior to entering the labor market and the effect of those decisions on labor market outcomes.

Ryan Herzog | Ph.D., University of Oregon | Assistant Professor | open economy macroeconomics and time series econometrics | herzogr@jepson.gonzaga.edu
Professor Herzog teaches Principles of Economics, Intermediate Macroeconomics, and Money and Banking. His research interests include testing the relationship between savings and investment rates applied to external imbalances and growth rates.

Erica Johnson | Ph.D., University of Oregon | Assistant Professor | environmental and health economics | johnsone@jepson.gonzaga.edu
Professor Johnson teaches Health Economics and Econometrics. Her current research interests include estimating the benefits of improved human health; these estimates can be used in cost-benefit analyses of environmental and health policies.

Annie Voy | Ph.D., University of Oregon | Assistant Professor | international and development economics | voy@jepson.gonzaga.edu
Professor Voy teaches Advanced Microeconomics, International Economics, and Global Economic Issues. Her research interests include the relationship between international trade and economic development, especially child labor.