



Economics

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 socioeconomic inequalities that exist today. One great reason to study economics is that the knowledge and skills of the discipline are very useful in any career. Organizations of all types increasingly recognize the importance of having personnel who possess a broad background in economics.

THE PROGRAM

The College of Arts and Sciences, in cooperation with the School of Business Administration, offers two degree options in economics. The economics professors at Gonzaga are faculty members in the School of Business Administration, but economics majors are enrolled in the College of Arts and Sciences and will fulfill its degree requirements for graduation.

The **Bachelor of Arts degree** offers students a strong foundation in economics for careers in business or public policy, as well as for advanced study in law or business. The **Bachelor of Science degree** includes, along with studies in economics, extensive coursework in mathematics. This degree option provides the best 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 Administration.

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, 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.

OUTCOMES

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, as well as pursue graduate studies in a variety of fields at prestigious institutions.

Employers of Recent Economics Graduates

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

Economics

- Colorado State University
- Columbia University
- George Mason University
- Michigan State University
- University of Colorado, Denver
- University of Oregon
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of Wisconsin
- Washington State University

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 finance at the University of Southern California, international finance at Brandeis University, and international relations at Georgetown University.

FACULTY CONTACTS & SPECIALITIES

John Beck

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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

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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

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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

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macroeconomics, forecasting, and regional labor markets
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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

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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.

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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.

