



Jones Hall

## Economics

Successful economists have a strong grasp of microeconomic theory (the study of the behavior of individual consumers, firms, and markets) and macroeconomics (the study of the overall performance of the economy).

Economics addresses questions like: How do markets set prices for goods? How does the number of firms in a market affect the manner in which the firms set prices? What strategies should firms follow to maximize profits? When should the government intervene in markets? What determines the distribution of income? What can the government do to keep inflation and unemployment low? Who gains and who loses from international trade? How does the banking system work?

### Employment Opportunities

As an economics graduate, you will enjoy employment opportunities in both the public and private sector. A number of our alumni hold positions with the federal government, including the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, and the Federal Reserve Bank. Other alumni have worked in local economic development departments.

Alumni in the private sector have worked as forecasters for utility companies, while others have held a variety of different positions in banks and other financial institutions. A degree in economics is also excellent preparation for law school.

In both the public and private sectors, career opportunities are greatly enhanced for students who earn a Master of Arts (MA) degree. The department offers an MA degree in economics that may be completed within one to two years.

A number of our graduates have entered doctoral programs in economics, either immediately after completing their bachelor's degree or after finishing the MA in economics. Graduates with a BA have been admitted to a variety of Ph.D. programs, including the University of Michigan. MA graduates have been admitted to Ph.D. programs at the Ohio State University, Pennsylvania State University, University of Pittsburgh, and West Virginia University.

Salaries for economists are very competitive with those in other disciplines. According to the *Occupational Outlook Handbook* published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the median annual earnings of economists was \$72,780 in 2004.

### Degree Options

Students majoring in economics may earn the Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree through the College of Arts and Sciences or the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA) degree through the Williamson College of Business Administration (WCBA).

The BA degree is most appropriate for students intending to pursue graduate study in economics, a law degree, or combine their work in economics with another liberal arts discipline. The BSBA is designed for students who plan to work in the private sector or pursue an MBA.

### Faculty

YSU maintains a faculty-student ratio of 1:19, among the best of state-affiliated universities in Ohio.

Introductory classes in economics are limited to a maximum of 60 students; upper-division classes usually have 15 to 25 students in each class. There are 10 full-service faculty members in the Department of Economics, all of whom have earned doctoral degrees. Faculty members hold Ph.D.s from a number of institutions, including the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Ohio State University, Syracuse University, West Virginia University, University of Kansas, and University of Connecticut. All members of the department serve as academic advisors and are involved in all phases of instruction from freshman to graduate courses.

### Outside the Classroom

Economics students are encouraged to participate in the Economics Club, which provides students with closer access to faculty members as well as local business leaders and economists. The department regularly invites past graduates of YSU economics programs to return to campus to discuss the nature of their work and career prospects for graduates.

### Curriculum Overview

#### *Required courses*

Principles 1: Microeconomics  
 Principles 2: Macroeconomics  
 Intermediate Microeconomic Theory  
 Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory  
 Business and Economic Statistics/Workshop  
 Analysis of Economic Problems

#### *For a specialization in international economics:*

Money and Banking  
 Comparative Economic Systems  
 Current Problems in Money, Banking, and Financial Markets  
 International Trade  
 International Finance

#### *For a specialization in labor markets:*

Economics of Poverty, Discrimination and Transfer Programs  
 Labor Markets and the Economics of Unions

#### *For a specialization in money and banking:*

Money and Banking  
 Public Finance  
 Current Problems in Money, Banking, and Financial Markets  
 Managerial Economics

#### *For a specialization in quantitative economic methods:*

Applied Time Series Analysis of Economic and Business Data  
 Applied Econometrics  
 Topics in Quantitative Economics

**For more information about this program, go to**

<http://www.as.ysu.edu/~econ/>



To obtain the Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid Application and/or a copy of the current Undergraduate Bulletin, please contact the Office of Admissions at:

Telephone: (877) 468-6978 330-941-2000 TDD: 330-941-1564 Fax: 330-941-3674 E-mail: [enroll@ysu.edu](mailto:enroll@ysu.edu)

The Office of Admissions is open Monday and Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Office is also open every other Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon, except on holiday weekends and during term breaks