Economics is the science that examines many of society's most fundamental and controversial issues. Among these are the strengths and the limitations of market-based systems of production and distribution, the creation and distribution of wealth, the appropriate role of government in the economy, the incidence and alleviation of poverty, methods of preserving environmental quality, the determinants of economic growth, business cycles, inflation and unemployment. It should be recognized, however, that economics is not a body of fixed conclusions and policy prescriptions. Rather, economics is a method, or a technique for thinking, which helps one draw sound inferences about difficult and often confusing problems. The economics major is designed to provide students with the understanding of these concepts so that they can be applied in alternative paths that lead to careers in business, government, nonprofit, or education.

Economists study the operation of markets for goods, services, and resources and analyze the structure of institutions such as banks, the stock market and labor unions. People who have studied economics also deal with problems arising from inflation, taxes and international trade.

There are three possible Economics degrees at JMU: BBA, BA, and BS. Also, at JMU students may select general Economics or select from five concentrations: Political Economy, Financial Economics, International Economics, Environmental and Natural Resources Economics and Socioeconomics. Economics' graduates will have developed strong analytical and critical thinking skills through a variety of interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary forms of education. The writing, research, statistical and econometric skills gained will be highly valuable in business, government and the non-profit sector.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

- Bank Advisor
- Editor
- Market Research Analyst
- Chamber of Commerce Director
- Estate Planner
- Mediator/Negotiator
- Commodities Analyst
- Export-Import Specialist
- Operations Specialist
- Commodities Trader
- Financial Analyst/Consultant
- Pricing Analyst
- Consumer Advocate
- Financial Sales Agent
- Professor
- Consumer Services Consultant
- Forecast Analyst
- Program Analyst
- Consultant
- Fund Raiser
- Property Manager
- Contract Administrator
- Trust Fund Officer
- Government Research Associate
- Public Administrator
- Contract Specialist
- Insurance Underwriter
- Research Analyst
- Corporate Planner
- International Trade Specialist
- Risk Manager
- Credit Analyst
- Job Analyst
- Statistician
- Cost Estimator
- Journalist/Columnist
- Stockbroker
- Economic Advisor
- Labor Economist
- Technical Writer
- Economic Analyst

Online Resources:

Economics Website
http://www.jmu.edu/cob/economics/

What are JMU Economics Graduates doing?
http://oirsacs.jmu.edu/alumni/alumempl.asp

Career Information for Economics
http://www.oswego.edu/∼economic/careers.html

Federal Jobs
http://www.ourpublicservice.org/OPS/programs/calloserve/toolkit/#3
MAJOR REQUIREMENTS for ECONOMICS

General Education 41 hours
BBA Core Curriculum 45 hours
Non-Business Electives hours 4-8 hours
Economics Courses 33 hours

ECON 201. Principles of Economics (Micro)
GECON 200. Introduction to Macroeconomics
ECON 331. Intermediate Microeconomic Theory
ECON 332. Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory
ECON 385. Econometrics
ECON 488. Senior Capstone Seminar in Economics
ECON electives—15 credits
(at least six credits must be at the 400 level, not including ECON 488, ECON 490 or ECON 499)

For the B.B.A. degree in Economics, each of the required courses ECON 331, ECON 332 and ECON 385 must be completed with a grade of at least "C."

All business majors must complete 60 non-business credit hours which include general education courses. In counting the 60 credit hours of non-business courses, B.B.A students may include all hours taken in General Education, up to nine hours in economics (GECON courses must be counted as economics) and three hours of COB 191, Business and Economic Statistics.

A minimum of 120 hours is required for graduation as well as an overall grade point average of 2.00 and a 2.00 within the major.

Co-curricular Activities and Organizations:

Madison Economics Club: http://cob.jmu.edu/econclub/
Omicron Delta Epsilon: http://www.jmu.edu/cob/economics/ODE.shtml

College of Business Acceptance Requirements

The College of Business has acceptance requirements for all three degrees (B.A., B.B.A., and B.S.). All students planning to take upper-level business courses must first be accepted. For more information on current requirements, contact the College of Business Academic Services Center in Suite 205 of Zane Showker Hall or call 540-568-2785.