Department of Economics

Chairperson: Salti, Nisreen I.
Professor Emeritus: Makdisi, Samir
Professor: Neaime, Simon E.
Associate Professors: Dagher Leila N.; Salti, Nisreen I.
Assistant Professors: Mabsout, Ramzi R.; Martin, Darius D.; Montero Kuscevic Casto, Martin G.; Mouganie, Pierre; Radmard, Hossein; Sadaka, Richard A.
Senior Lecturer: Sirhan, Ghazi A.
Lecturers: Bou Nassar, Makram; El-Khalil, Youssef A.; Nahas, Charbel; Nasser, Yassar A.; Ramadan, Usamah H.
Instructors: Abboud, Montaha A.; Alam, Jean-Frederic; Boghossian, Myrna G.; Elbaba, Nora N.; El Hariri, Sadika; El-Khalil, Iyad A.; Ghabboura, Yehya; Jibali, Rania A.; Kanaan, Maya Z.; Kanaan, Niveen M.; Khoury, Nicole M.; Koujou, Yasime; Majdalani, Joelle F.; Makki, Malak Z.; Mecherkany, Rami R.; Nader, Pamela M.; Rebeiz, Sylvia; Sraje, Souraya; Tabsh, Hala M.; Wehbe, Layal A.

BA in Economics

Mission Statement

The undergraduate program in Economics is a rigorous quantitative program which enhances students’ analytical skills and critical thinking. In addition to broader economic concepts, the understanding of economic issues pertaining to the Middle East and North Africa region is given special attention. The Department is committed to a liberal arts philosophy and the development of leadership skills in the field of economics. The Program develops its students’ professional competencies and responsible citizenship skills, and prepares them for a variety of careers in economic research, financial economics, and banking.

Degree Requirements

Students accepted in economics must attain an average of 70 or above in major courses during the first three semesters in order to remain in the program. Economics majors are expected to take ECON 213 during their sophomore year and ECON 214 during their junior year. They must also complete CMPS 209 or its equivalent; MATH 218 or MATH 219; and ACCT 210. Holders of the Lebanese Baccalaureate Philosophy section must complete MATH 101 and MATH 102 before MATH 201.

The program for a BA in economics, which consists of 36 credits of economics courses numbered 210 or above, includes ECON 211, ECON 212, ECON 213, ECON 214, ECON 215, ECON 217, and ECON 227. Economics majors whose economics average falls below 70 in their first two semesters in the major will be placed on departmental probation. Majors who have an average below 70 in their economics courses at the end of their third regular semester in the major will be dropped from the major.
The minor program in economics requires 18 credits: ECON 211, ECON 212, and ECON 214, plus three electives other than ECON 213 chosen from available economics offerings, provided their prerequisites (or equivalent) have been satisfied.

The requirements for a BA degree in Economics are 90 credits for students entering the department at the sophomore level. The distribution of these courses is as follows:

### University General Education Requirements

- Refer to the General University Academic Information: General Education Requirements section of this catalogue.

### Major Requirements

- Major Courses: 36 credits of Economics courses including 21 credits as required courses, and 15 credits as elective economics courses.
- Electives outside the Department: 9 credits of free electives.

Transfers from other programs to a major in economics require a cumulative average of 70 or more; a minimum grade of 70 in each of ECON 211, ECON 212, and ENGL 203; and a minimum cumulative average of 70 in MATH 201 and MATH 202.

### Course Descriptions

**ECON 101  Introduction to Microeconomics 3.0; 3 cr.**
An introductory survey of the principles of microeconomics, designed primarily for freshman students. *Annually.*

**ECON 102  Introduction to Macroeconomics 3.0; 3 cr.**
An introductory survey of the principles of macroeconomics, designed primarily for freshman students. *Annually.*

**ECON 203  Survey of Economics 3.0; 3 cr.**
Elementary principles of microeconomics and macroeconomics and applications. No credit is given for students majoring in economics. Students who take ECON 203 may not receive credit for either ECON 211 or ECON 212. *Every semester.*

**ECON 211  Elementary Microeconomic Theory 3.0; 3 cr.**
General principles of microeconomics; includes elements of supply and demand, consumer behavior, costs, market structures, and income distribution. *Students cannot receive credit for both ECON 211 and AGSC 212; however, the courses will not be treated as equivalent. Students cannot receive credit for both ECON 203 and ECON 211. Every semester.*

**ECON 212  Elementary Macroeconomic Theory 3.0; 3 cr.**
General principles of macroeconomics; aggregate supply and demand framework is used to analyze overall movements in prices and national output, inflation and unemployment, and monetary and fiscal policies. *Students cannot receive credit for both ECON 203 and ECON 212. Every semester.*
ECON 213  Economic Statistics I  3.0; 3 cr.
Display of data, properties of probability, methods of enumeration, conditional probability and independent events; univariate and bivariate distributions corresponding to both discrete and continuous variables; expectation, variance, covariance and correlation, moment generating functions, independent random samples and the central limit theorem; basics of confidence intervals and hypothesis testing. Co- / prerequisite: MATH 201. Equivalent course: STAT 230. Students can get credit for only one of BUSS 200, ECON 213, EDUC 227, STAT 201, STAT 210, STAT 230, or STAT 233. Every semester.

ECON 214  Economic Statistics and Econometrics  3.0; 3 cr.
Classical linear regression model and the multiple regression model in matrix form; the criteria for estimators; multicollinearity, serial correlation, heteroskedasticity; identification and estimation of simultaneous equation models and applications. Prerequisites: ECON 211, ECON 212, ECON 213 or STAT 201, STAT 210, STAT 230, BUSS 200, EDUC 227, and MATH 201. Every semester.

ECON 215  Applied Econometrics  3.0; 3 cr.
A comprehensive treatment of econometric techniques applied in cross-sectional and time series models. Topics include but are not limited to the estimation of bivariate and multiple regression models; validation tests; corrective methods employed when assumptions are violated; regressions with a qualitative dependent variable; logit models; VAR; and cointegration. Prerequisite: ECON 214. Every semester.

ECON 217  Intermediate Microeconomics  3.0; 3 cr.
Theory of allocation of resources; consumers’ choice and classical demand theory, exchange and welfare; theory of production and cost; price and output determination under alternative market structures; game theory and applications to oligopoly. Prerequisites: ECON 211 and MATH 201. Every semester.

ECON 218  Intermediate Microeconomics II  3.0; 3 cr.
Factor markets and theories of income distribution, general equilibrium and input-output analysis, welfare economics. Prerequisite: ECON 217. Annually.

ECON 219  Economics of Financial Markets  3.0; 3 cr.
A survey of capital markets and asset pricing models; determination of the links between financial markets, monetary policy, and economic growth. Prerequisites: ECON 214 and ECON 227. Annually.

ECON 221  History of Economic Thought  3.0; 3 cr.
A survey of the history of economic thought, both theory and policy, with an emphasis on contemporary economic thought. Prerequisites: ECON 217 and ECON 227, or consent of instructor. Annually.

ECON 222  Labor Economics  3.0; 3 cr.
A survey of the demand for and supply of labor, investment in human capital, market structure and efficiency of labor markets, collective bargaining, income distribution, and unemployment. Prerequisite: ECON 217. Annually.
ECON 223  Economics of the Middle East  3.0; 3 cr.
A study of the resource endowment of the Arab Middle Eastern economies; their development experience, and the general outlook for growth and development. Prerequisites: ECON 211 and ECON 212. Occasionally.

ECON 226  Public Economics  3.0; 3 cr.
Introduction on the nature and the role of governments in the economy. This course covers market failure and government intervention, government failure and public choice, economic analysis of public policy, inequality and tax policy. Prerequisite: ECON 217. Annually.

ECON 227  Intermediate Macroeconomics  3.0; 3 cr.
A study of the aggregate approach to economics, including the determination of output, employment, interest rates, and the price level. Inflation and stabilization policies, budget deficits and the national debt, business cycles, theories of consumption, and investment behavior. Prerequisites: ECON 211, 212, and MATH 201; corequisite: MATH 202. Every semester.

ECON 228  Intermediate Monetary Economics  3.0; 3 cr.
Central banking and instruments of monetary management, alternative theories of the demand for money, the balance of payments and the processes of its adjustment. Prerequisite: ECON 227. Annually.

ECON 230  Economic History  3.0; 3 cr.
Economic development of Europe and other areas up to 1914, with special emphasis on a number of distinct problems in different countries and historical periods. Prerequisites: ECON 211 and ECON 212. Occasionally.

ECON 232  Economic Policy in Developing Countries  3.0; 3 cr.
Economic policy in developing countries in the context of globalization, policy challenges facing developing countries, impact of regional blocs, and requirements for successful integration into the world economy. Prerequisite: ECON 227. Occasionally.

ECON 235  Intermediate International Trade Theory  3.0; 3 cr.
Classical trade model, the Heckscher-Ohlin theorem and subsequent theoretical developments, tariffs, domestic distortions, customs union, trade, and economic growth. Prerequisite: ECON 217. Annually.

ECON 236  Intermediate International Economic Policy  3.0; 3 cr.
Systematic analysis of policies in an open economy, the balance of payments, foreign exchange markets and adjustment under different exchange rate standards; basic policy issues in trade and development. Prerequisites: ECON 217 and ECON 227. Annually.

ECON 237  Economic Development I  3.0; 3 cr.
An introduction to development economics that covers the theory and empirics of development, quality of life, poverty, inequality, and knowledge based policy making in the context of the challenges faced by developing countries including market-oriented reforms, impact of globalization, urbanization, agricultural development, and gender equality. Prerequisite: ECON 217 or ECON 227. Annually.
**ECON 239  Introduction to Mathematical Economics  3.0; 3 cr.**
Linear algebra, single variable optimization, multi-variable optimization, and constrained optimization- basic theoretical concepts and practical applications- with an emphasis on the use of general functional forms and on comparative statics and with several examples drawn from the economics of uncertainty. **Prerequisite: ECON 217. Annually.**

**ECON 240  Economic Development II 3.0; 3 cr.**
Models of economic development and growth; macroeconomic planning; policy formulation and implementation in developing countries. **Prerequisite: ECON 227. Annually.**

**ECON 241  Industrial Organization and Public Policy  3.0; 3 cr.**
Application of microeconomics; analysis of factors affecting market structure, conduct and firm behavior in imperfectly competitive industries; survey of theories relating to intensity of competition and maintenance of market dominance; rationale for antitrust laws. **Prerequisite: ECON 217. Annually.**

**ECON 242  Energy Economics  3.0; 3 cr.**
This course introduces key aspects of major energy markets including oil, natural gas, coal, electricity, nuclear power, and renewable energy. It focuses on building economic models to analyze the various energy markets and uses these models to explore taxes and social welfare, government regulation and deregulation, public policy, and externalities. **Prerequisite: ECON 217. Occasionally.**

**ECON 243  Introduction to Game Theory and Economic Behavior  3.0; 3 cr.**
Basic concepts and methods of game theory with applications to economic problems, Nash equilibrium, mixed strategies, zero sum games, repeated games. **Prerequisite: ECON 217. Annually.**

**ECON 295  Senior Seminars in Economics  3.0; 3 cr.**
## 36 Credits in Economics (21 + 15)

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<th>Modes of Analysis</th>
<th>English and Arabic (9)</th>
<th>Humanities (12)</th>
<th>Economics and Social Sciences (21+15+3+3)</th>
<th>Natural Sciences (Min. 6)</th>
<th>Quantitative Thought (Min. 12)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lecture courses (9+12+21+15+6+12)</td>
<td>• Required Arabic course: 201A or any General Education Arabic communication skills (3)</td>
<td>• Required credits in the humanities: 12 credits including 6 credits from CVSP</td>
<td>• Required economics courses (18): ECON 211(3), 212(3), 213(3), 214(3) [P213], 215, [P214], 217(3) [P211, 212, 227(3) [P211, 212]</td>
<td>• Electives (min. 6)</td>
<td>• Required mathematics courses: MATH 201(3), 202(3) [P201], 218(3) or 219(3) and CMPS 209(3)</td>
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<td>• Required English courses: ENGL 203(3), 204(3)</td>
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<td>• Five elective economics courses from the following and/or seminar courses (18): ECON [P214], 218(3) [P217, 219(3) [P214, 227], 221(3) [P217, 227], 222(3) [P217], 223(3) [P211, 212], 226(3) [P217], 228(3) [P227], 230(3) [P211, 212], 232(3) [P227], 235(3) [P217], 236(3) [P217, 227], 237(3) [P217, 239(3) [P217], 240(3) [P227], 241(3) [P217, 242(3) [P217], 243(3) [P217], and 295(3).</td>
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<td>• Required business course (3): ACCT 210(3)</td>
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<td>• One social science must be an approved General Education course from outside the major</td>
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<td>Research project (0)</td>
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**P** Prerequisite