

FACULTY OF ECONOMICS (FSE)

HISTORY

In October 1955, a teaching unit was established at the Faculty of Law at the Saint Joseph University of Beirut, offering both a bachelor and a PhD.

To formally recognize the growing importance of economic disciplines, the traditional title of the “Faculty of Law” was supplemented on March 27, 1958, with the words “and Economics”. This change was made at the request of His Excellency the President of the Republic, who presided over the Faculty Board on that day, in accordance with the decree of February 12, 1958. The bylaws adopted on January 15, 1969, transformed the teaching unit dedicated to economic disciplines within the Faculty into a Department of Economics.

In October 1957, a Business Administration Institute was established within the Faculty of Law at the Saint Joseph University of Beirut. Its curriculum, spread over two years in evening classes, was intended for young people who had already entered professional life. The Faculty decided, in October 1969, to establish a Bachelor in Business Administration, featuring a three-year program for full-time students and a five-year program for those employed. In October 1972, a *Maîtrise* in Business Administration was created to complement this program. These programs were assigned to the Department of Business Administration.

On January 20, 1975, the Departments of Economics and Management were separated from the Departments of Law and Political Science to form the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration. On February 13, 1980, the University Board decided to separate the Department of Business Administration from the Department of Economics. Consequently, the Department of Economics became the sole entity of the Faculty of Economics.

MISSION

Located on the Innovation and Sports Campus on Damascus Road, the Faculty of Economics is committed to training professionals who can effectively and successfully integrate diverse sectors of the economy. Highly sought after in both the private and public sectors, these professionals are prepared to assume positions of responsibility within organizations. Indeed, upon graduation, they can put to good use the comparative advantages of a solid and versatile economic education in their roles.


Fundamental courses in theoretical and applied economics (microeconomics, macroeconomics, international trade and monetary relations, industrial economics, public economics, monetary and financial economics, etc.) are spread over six consecutive full-time semesters (Bachelor’s degree) and lead to a second program (Master’s degree) that broadly opens up to specializations in economic analysis and artificial intelligence, as well as financial economics. Master level courses challenge the most capable students to deepen their knowledge and undertake independent research projects.

The Faculty programs also include courses in quantitative techniques (mathematics, statistics, econometrics). In addition to their own formative contribution, these quantitative disciplines give students the opportunity to delve more deeply into certain economics subjects, to assimilate various economic calculation techniques and to adopt working tools that are playing an increasingly important role in efficient business administration. With this in mind, several courses focus on modeling, taking full advantage of computer simulation and processing of microeconomic, macroeconomic and econometric models.

Courses are taught on a semester basis, according to the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). Teaching methods now make extensive and appropriate use of telematic tools. This shows that distance learning software now support in-person teaching.

At all levels, the evaluation of courses is subject to a continuous assessment system that attests to students’ progress in acquiring knowledge and mastering work methods. In addition to its virtues of objective and fair judgment of students’ academic performance, this assessment system is designed to instill in students the habit and taste for assiduous and organized work. It also helps students better adapt to the demands of the career they aspire to be active and ambitious in.

The USJ Faculty of Economics launched its PhD program within the framework of the Doctoral School of Economics (EDSE). This program is designed for candidates holding a Master in Economics or an equivalent diploma. The PhD educational program consists of a research and innovation educational program. It can facilitate the construction of an international career path, particularly through the joint supervision of a dissertation.



To complement the purely academic aspect of young economists' educational program, the Faculty provides its instructors, students, and external researchers with the necessary framework and resources for pursuing theoretical and practical research. In particular, the library of the Faculty houses an extensive collection of very recent publications and specialized economic magazines of high standing, published in Arabic, French, and English.

ADMINISTRATION

Dean: Jean-Francois VERNE

Director of the Doctoral School: Rosette GHOSSOUB SAYEGH

Director of the Center for Economic Research and Documentation: Loubna (AL) SAGHIR OUEIDAT

Director of the Master Program: Loubna (AL) SAGHIR OUEIDAT

Pedagogical Coordinators of the Bachelor: Siham RIZKALLAH (1st year and elective courses) - Chantal CHLELA MANSOUR (2nd year) - Sarah HARIRI HAYKAL (3rd year).

Academic Coordinators of the Bachelor: Racquel ANTOUN NAKHLE (Microeconomics) - Amal TORBEY CHAHINE (Finance) - Rosette GHOSSOUB SAYEGH (Macroeconomics).

Academic Affairs Administrative Coordinator: Cynthia MENASSA MAALOUF

Administrative Support Officer: Perla ABDEL NOUR GHAWITIAN

Academic Support Officer: Micheline ATALLAH

FACULTY

Professors

Joseph GEMAYEL, Rosette GHOSSOUB SAYEGH, Irma MAJDALANI, Jean-Francois VERNE

Associate Professors

Georges ANDREA, Racquel ANTOUN NAKHLE, Sarah HARIRI HAYKAL, Roula MOUJAES GHOSTINE, Siham RIZKALLAH, Loubna (AL) SAGHIR OUEIDAT

Assistant Professors

Marie-Claude CHAFTARI KAMAR, Lara GORAEIB HADDAD, Nisrine HAMDANE SAADE

Lecturers

Chantal CHLELA MANSOUR, Tala SINNO BADREDDINE, Amal TORBEY CHAHINE

Instructors

Nicole ACHKAR BEJJANI, Georges ATTIEH, Eliane BADER GHAYA, Stephane Bernard BAZAN, Christian BORG, Carine COMATY, Tahsine DOUEIK, Camil FARES (EL) KHOURY, Christophe HURLIN, Roger KHOURI MELKI, Lina KOLEILAT GHALAYINI, Suzy MAMOULIAN SAMARDJIAN, Cynthia MENASSA MAALOUF, Youssef NOHRA, Georges NOUR, Nour ROUMIEH, Antoine SFEIR, Alice TABET, William TOHME, Maria TOUMA CHKEIBAN

Faculty members of another USJ institution

Marianne ABI AAD (EL) KHOURY, Christiane DIAB MAALOUF RUBEIZ

DEGREES, DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES AWARDED

Bachelor in Economics


Master in Economics

PhD in Economics

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Consulting firms, financial companies and banks, commercial and industrial companies, governmental organizations (Ministries and Central Bank) and non-governmental organizations, international organizations (World Bank, International Monetary Fund, etc.), teaching and research, economic journals.

Web professions: E-business, E-banking, international Internet and web organizations, E-strategies of financial institutions, digital strategy consulting firms.





TUITION FEES

For the 2024-2025 academic year: 110 \$ and 2,640,000 LL/credit.

SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE INTERNAL REGULATIONS OF STUDY

Title One: Studying at the Faculty of Economics

Article 1: Study Programs

- a) The study programs at the Faculty of Economics are the Bachelor in Economics (180 credits), the Master in Economics (120 credits), and the PhD in Economics (180 credits) (in accordance with Article 2 of the University Internal Regulations of Study).
- b) The concentrations of the Master in Economics are as follows: Economic Policy, Banks and Financial Markets, and Web Science and Digital Economy.
- c) Descriptions of the courses can be found in the Directory of the Saint Joseph University of Beirut. This directory is accessible on the USJ website www.usj.edu.lb and on the FSE website www.fse.usj.edu.lb.

Article 2: Mandatory Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Any behavior characterized by frequent and unjustified absences will be penalized (in accordance with Article 8 of the University Internal Regulations of Study).

Article 3: Student Guidance

Students are guided throughout their studies by the academic coordinators of the faculty (one coordinator per study year) as well as by tutors.

Article 4: Prerequisite Courses

In accordance with Article 4 of the University Internal Regulations of Study, registration for certain courses may require the successful completion of other previously taken courses (known as “prerequisites”). The Faculty Board is responsible for determining which courses have prerequisites and what those prerequisites are.

Article 5: French Proficiency Requirements

In accordance with the Article 6.b of the University Internal Regulations of Study.

Article 6: English Proficiency Requirements

At the beginning of the bachelor program, an English Placement Test (TALA) is administered. It is used to place students into different levels (in accordance with Article 6.d of the University Internal Regulations of Study). English language courses are offered to students in parallel to their studies, according to their placement. To obtain their Bachelor, students who have been placed in level “A” on the English Placement Test (TALA) or who have passed levels “E”, “D”, “C” or “B” and reached level “A” must pass the corresponding level “A” course.

Article 7: Arabic Proficiency Requirements

In application of Article 6.c of the University Internal Regulations of Study, all students are required to validate a minimum of 4 credits of Arabic language courses during their bachelor program and a minimum of 2 credits during their master program. Exceptions from Arabic language courses may be granted by the USJ Equivalence Commission. Those students will be required, as a replacement, to enroll in closed elective courses offered by the Faculty.

Article 8: Level of Mathematics


Newly enrolled students in the bachelor program are required to take additional courses in mathematics.

Article 9: Professional Project / Research Project

To earn a bachelor’s degree, students are required to complete an end-of-study project, which can be either a professional or research project.

To be eligible for the professional project preparation course, students must have completed an internship of at least six weeks at a recognized company during the previous summer and must have validated at least 100 credits. The project is assessed through a written report and an oral defense before a jury.

To be eligible to enroll in the research project preparation course, students must have validated at least 120 credits. The project is assessed through a written submission and an oral defense before a jury.





Article 10: Scholarships

1. Merit Scholarships: Merit Scholarships are granted to the top-performing Baccalaureate students living in Lebanon. These scholarships cover all or part of university tuition fees in accordance with the regulations in vigor (in accordance with Article 23 of the University Internal Regulations of Study).
2. Dean's scholarships
 - a) The faculty grants Dean's scholarships per semester for the bachelor and master programs.
 - b) The amount allocated to these scholarships is divided equally among the students.
 - c) The eligibility requirements are:
 - i. For the bachelor's degree, students with the highest average for each semester, respectively for S1, S2, S3, S4, and S5, are eligible. The required average cannot be less than 15/20. The student must be enrolled in at least 24 credits for the current semester.
 - ii. For the master's degree, students with the highest average in each of the 3 concentrations for each of the three semesters M1, M2, and M3 are eligible. This average cannot be less than 14/20. The student must have validated the credits for all required courses of the semester in question, excluding courses that require prerequisites.
 - d) If the abovementioned conditions are not met, particularly regarding semester overlaps, the number of recipients, or the required average, the Faculty Board has the authority to make appropriate decisions on how the amount will be distributed.
 - e) If the student ranked first already receives a merit scholarship or a full tuition exemption, the Dean's scholarship will be granted to the next student in the ranking, as outlined in paragraph c of the present Article.
3. The University grants social scholarships, MAGIS grants, athletic scholarships, as well as other types of scholarships (in accordance with Article 23 of the University Internal Regulations of Study).

Article 11: Master End-of-study Dissertation

To earn a master's degree, students must prepare a dissertation, which requires the successful validation of the Research Methodology course as a prerequisite.

To be eligible to enroll in the Specialized Research I course, students must have successfully validated at least 40 credits.

- a) The dissertation is assessed through a written submission and an oral defense before a jury.
- b) If students enroll in the Specialized Research II course (10 credits), they are required to finish the first draft of their dissertation within six months of enrollment.
- c) If students enroll in the Master Dissertation course (6 credits), they must submit the final version of their dissertation and defend it within six months of enrollment.

Article 12: Plagiarism

Any form of plagiarism will result in the cancellation of the dissertation or project.

Title Two: Registration and Admissions

Article 13: Admission Requirements

To be admitted to the Bachelor in Economics program, students must meet the requirements specified in the University Internal Regulations of Study (Articles 12 and 13 of the University Internal Regulations of Study). Admission to the first year of the Bachelor is automatic.


To be admitted to the Master in Economics program, students must hold a Bachelor in Economics or an equivalent degree. Students who register at the Faculty for the first time must also demonstrate level A proficiency on the University's French Placement Test.

Article 14: Registration Applications

Registration applications must be submitted to the Faculty Secretariat within the deadlines and according to the admission requirements set out in Article 13 of the present Regulations. Re-enrollments can be done both at the Secretariat and online on etudiant.usj.edu.lb.

Article 15: Summer Term

A summer term for course retakes may eventually be offered to students who are awaiting graduation.





Title Three: Validation of Program Learning Outcomes

Article 16: Assessment Modalities

- a) Generally, the grade is subdivided into several components: midterm exam grade(s), continuous work grade, and final exam grade.
- b) The continuous work modalities for each course are distributed to students during the first two weeks of the course.
- c) In application of Article 25 of the University Internal Regulations of Study, students must pass each of the chosen courses.
- d) A second final exam session is scheduled in accordance with Article 27 of the University Internal Regulations of Study. In all cases, the grade of the second session replaces the grade of the first session. The grades of midterm exams and continuous work will maintain the same weighting in the calculation of the average.

Article 17: Absence to Assessments

Any student who is absent for an assessment must justify their absence by presenting a valid written excuse within three working days. The Exam Session Deliberation Jury decides whether to accept or reject this excuse. The Dean and instructor will specify, if applicable, how this absence is compensated.

Article 18: The Jury

In accordance with Article 30 of the University Internal Regulations of Study.

Article 19: Verifying the Grades

In accordance with Article 31 of the University Internal Regulations of Study.

Title Four: Regulations of Written or Other Exams

In addition to Title Four of the University Internal Regulations of Study.

Article 20: Process of Written Exams

- a) Punctuality: in accordance with Article 33 of the University Internal Regulations of Study.
- b) Cell phones must be turned off. They may not be consulted under any circumstances. Any infraction results in the cancellation of the exam paper. This decision is final.
- c) No documents are allowed in the exam room. Any infraction results in the cancellation of the exam paper. This decision is final.
Any attempt at fraud will result in the cancellation of the exam and may even lead to referral to the Faculty's Disciplinary Board.
- d) Programmable calculators are forbidden unless otherwise specified on the exam paper. Authorized calculators must be removed from their cases and/or pouches.
- e) It is strictly forbidden to send personal messages to exam correctors under penalty of cancellation of the exam paper. Similarly, any distinctive mark that is not related to the subject matter of the exam will result in the cancellation of the exam paper.
- f) The student is responsible for the neat presentation of their copy. They must not use red ink as it is reserved for the corrector. Unreadable handwriting or turning the copy into a draft may result in a penalty up to and including the cancellation of the exam paper.
- g) During final exams and in order to avoid a disorderly exit, students are requested to remain seated once they have finished writing. The supervisors will be responsible for collecting and stamping the exam papers.

Title Five: Behavior and Discipline

Article 21: Punctuality

Students are required to arrive on time for classes. Any delay exceeding 5 minutes may result in exclusion from the session. This exclusion is equivalent to an absence.

Article 22: General Behavior

In accordance with Article 38 of the University Internal Regulations of Study.

Article 23: Behavior on the Premises

In accordance with Article 39 of the University Internal Regulations of Study.





Article 24: Notifications

It is the duty of every student to keep informed of any administrative decision duly posted by the Faculty's secretariat. Students must also keep themselves informed of the exam schedule and the results they have obtained.

All student-initiated postings must be approved by the Faculty administration, except for the boards reserved for student chapters.

Article 25: Access to the Faculty

Access to the Faculty premises is reserved solely for students and instructors of the University, as well as individuals authorized by the Faculty administration. Consequently, the administration may, without notice, prohibit any strangers from accessing to the premises of the institution (in accordance with Article 43 of the University Internal Regulations of Study).

Students must have their student ID for the current year at all times. This card may be required for all academic activities, notably for written and oral exams and participation in student elections.

Article 26: Disciplinary Sanctions

In accordance with Article 44 of the University Internal Regulations of Study.

Title Six: Student Life

Article 27: Class Representatives

- a) Each year of the bachelor's and master's program is represented by 1 class representative and 1 substitute.
- b) Role of the class representatives: In accordance with Article 45 of the University Internal Regulations of Study.
- c) Elections: In accordance with Article 46 of the University Internal Regulations of Study.

Article 28: Student Chapter

In accordance with Article 47 of the University Internal Regulations of Study.

Article 29: Student Clubs / Spiritual and Social Activities

In accordance with Articles 48 and 49 of the University Internal Regulations of Study.

