

FACULTY OF ECONOMICS (FSE)

HISTORY

In October 1955, the Faculty of Law at the Saint Joseph University of Beirut established an academic unit offering both a bachelor's degree and a PhD.

On March 27, 1958, the Faculty of Law was renamed the Faculty of Law and Economics, following a request by the President of the Republic, who presided over the Faculty Board that day, in line with the decree of February 12, 1958. On January 15, 1969, new bylaws elevated the section of economic disciplines within the Faculty to a Department of Economics.

In October 1957, the Business Administration Institute was established, offering a two-year evening program for young professionals. In October 1969, the Faculty launched a Bachelor in Business Administration, with a three-year track for full-time students and a five-year track for those already employed. In October 1972, a *Maîtrise* in Business Administration was created to complement this program, both of which 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 separated Business Administration from Economics, making Economics the sole department of the Faculty of Economics.

MISSION

Located on the Innovation and Sports Campus on Damascus Road, the Faculty of Economics trains professionals equipped to successfully integrate into diverse sectors of the economy. Graduates are highly sought after in both the private and public sectors, ready to take on leadership roles and apply the strong, versatile foundation provided by their economic education.

The Bachelor's program spans six consecutive full-time semesters and covers fundamental courses in theoretical and applied economics, including microeconomics, macroeconomics, international trade and monetary relations, industrial economics, public economics, and monetary and financial economics. The program continues at the Master's level, offering specializations in economic analysis, artificial intelligence, and financial economics. Master's courses challenge students to deepen their expertise and undertake independent research projects. The Faculty programs also include courses in quantitative techniques (mathematics, statistics, econometrics). These courses not only build essential skills but also allow students to explore economic subjects in greater depth, master key calculation methods, and adopt tools increasingly important for effective business management. Several courses emphasize modeling, making full use of computer simulations and analyses of microeconomic, macroeconomic, and econometric models.

Courses are organized by semester and follow the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). Teaching methods increasingly incorporate digital tools, with distance learning software complementing in-person instruction.

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. This system not only provides a fair and objective measure of performance but also encourages disciplined, organized work habits and helps students adapt to the demands of their future careers.

The USJ Faculty of Economics offers a PhD program through the Doctoral School of Economics (EDSE) for candidates holding a Master in Economics or an equivalent diploma. The PhD program emphasizes research and innovation and supports the development of an international career, particularly through joint dissertation supervision.

To complement the academic program, the Faculty provides instructors, students, and external researchers with resources for both theoretical and practical research. The Faculty library houses an extensive collection of recent publications and specialized economic journals in Arabic, French, and English.

ADMINISTRATION

Dean: Jean-Francois VERNE

Director of the Doctoral School: Rosette GHOSSOUB SAYEGH

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

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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

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

Academic Coordinators of the Bachelor Program: 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: Maria AOUN

FACULTY

Professors

Joseph GEMAYEL, Rosette GHOSSOUB SAYEGH, Sarah HARIRI HAYKAL, Irma MAJDALANI, Loubna (AL) SAGHIR OUEIDAT, Jean-Francois VERNE

Associate Professors

Georges ANDREA, Racquel ANTOUN NAKHLE, Roula MOUJAES GHOSTINE, Siham RIZKALLAH

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

Faculty members of another USJ institution

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

DEGREES, DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES AWARDED

Bachelor in Economics (French and English sections)

Master in Economics, concentrations: Banks and Financial Markets; Economic Policy; Web Science and Digital Economy

PhD in Economics

JOB OPPORTUNITES

Consulting firms, financial companies and banks, commercial and industrial companies, governmental organizations (ministries and the central bank), non-governmental organizations, international organizations (World Bank, International Monetary Fund, etc.), teaching and research institutions, and economic journals. Web-related professions: e-business, e-banking, international Internet and web organizations, e-strategies of financial institutions, and digital strategy consulting firms.

TUITION FEES

Bachelor in economics and Master in economics, concentrations: Banks and Financial Markets; Economic Policy; Web Science and Digital Economy: 128 Fresh USD and 4,922,000 LBP (for semester 1), equivalent in Fresh US Dollars to 183 (exchange rate = 89,500 LBP)

PhD in economics: 76 USD and 2,865,000 LBP (for semester 1), equivalent in Fresh US Dollars to 108 (exchange rate = 89,500 LBP)

SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE INTERNAL REGULATIONS OF STUDY

Title One: Studying at the Faculty of Economics

Article 1: Study Programs

- a) The study program at the Faculty of Economics is divided into three cycles: Bachelor in Economics (180 credits), Master in Economics (120 credits), and 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. Frequent or unjustified absences will be subject to penalties, 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 tenured instructors.

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 prerequisite courses. The Faculty Board is responsible for determining which courses have prerequisites and specifies what they 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

Before registering in the Bachelor program, candidates must take the English Placement Test (TALA), which determines their level (in accordance with Article 6.d of the University Internal Regulations of Study).

English language courses are offered to students alongside the regular program based on placement. To earn their Bachelor's degree, students must successfully complete the level "A" English course, whether they were initially placed at level "A" on the TALA test or advanced from levels "E," "D," "C," or "B" to reach level "A."

Article 7: Arabic Proficiency Requirements

In accordance with Article 6.c of the University Internal Regulations of Study, students must 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 must instead enroll in closed elective courses offered by the Faculty.

Article 8: Level of Mathematics

Newly enrolled Bachelor's students must take additional courses in mathematics.

Article 9: Bachelor's End-of-Study Project

To earn a Bachelor's degree, students must complete an end-of-study project. This involves applying econometric methods to economic theories and/or concrete economic and financial problems at both micro and macro levels.

Students must submit a short research paper, including an econometric section, and present it orally.

Article 10: Scholarships

1. Merit Scholarships: Merit scholarships are awarded to the best high school graduates residing in Lebanon. They totally or partially cover the university tuition fees according to the regulations in force (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's and Master's programs.
 - b) The amount allocated to these scholarships is divided equally among the recipients.
 - c) Eligibility requirements:
 - i. Bachelor's degree: Students with the highest average for each semester, respectively for S1, S2, S3, S4, and S5, are eligible, provided their average is at least 15/20 and they are enrolled in a minimum of 24 credits for the current semester.
 - ii. Master's degree: Students with the highest average in each of the 3 concentrations for semesters M1, M2, and M3 are eligible, provided their average is at least 14/20 and they have validated all required course credits for that semester, excluding courses with prerequisites.
 - d) If the abovementioned conditions are not met, due to semester overlaps, the number of recipients, or the required average, the Faculty Board may decide on an appropriate method for distributing the scholarship amount.
 - e) If the top-ranked student already receives a Merit Scholarship or full tuition exemption, the Dean's scholarship will be awarded to the next eligible student in the ranking, as outlined in paragraph c.
3. The University awards social grants, 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 Thesis

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

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

- The thesis is assessed through a written submission and an oral defense before a jury.
- Students enrolled in the Specialized Research II course (10 credits), must complete the first draft of their thesis within six months of enrollment.
- Students enrolled in the Master Thesis course (6 credits), must submit the final version of their thesis 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

Bachelor in Economics: Admission is governed by Articles 12 and 13 of the University Internal Regulations of Study. First-year admission is automatic.

Master in Economics: Candidates must hold a Bachelor in Economics or an equivalent degree. First-time registrants at the Faculty must also be placed level A proficiency on the University's French Placement Test.

Article 14: Registration Applications

Application forms must be submitted to the Faculty Secretariat within the deadlines and according to the admission requirements outlined in Article 13 of the present Regulations. Re-enrollments can be done either at the Secretariat or online on etudiant.usj.edu.lb.

Article 15: Summer Term

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

Title Three: Validation of Program Learning Outcomes

Article 16: Assessment Modalities

- a) The grade is generally divided into several components: midterm exam(s), graded assignments, and the final exam.
- b) The modalities of graded assignments for each course are communicated to students during the first two weeks of the course.
- c) In accordance with Article 25 of the University Internal Regulations of Study, students must pass each of their 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 graded assignments 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, and 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 unrelated 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 must remain seated once they have finished writing. Supervisors are 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 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.