

DEPARTMENT FACULTY

David Ayers, Ph.D.

Professor of Sociology

Peter Frank '95, Ph.D.

Professor of Economics

Caleb S. Fuller '13, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Economics

Jeffrey Herbener, Ph.D.

Professor of Economics

Shawn Ritenour, Ph.D.

*Professor of Economics***DEPARTMENT DESCRIPTION**

The Department of Economics and Sociology equips students for careers in economics, sociology, studies in graduate school, and to be lifelong contributors to a free and virtuous society. On the foundation of the Christian view of God, man, and nature, the department explores the consequences on human life and flourishing of the operation of societies ranging from statist to free. In the traditions of economists Ludwig von Mises, F.A. Hayek, and Hans Sennholz and sociologists Herbert Spencer, Max Weber, and Robert Nisbet, we seek to understand how a verdant and just social order emerges from the working of institutions that emanate from a Christian worldview such as private enterprises for production, families for child rearing, churches for evangelism, voluntary associations for charity, and government for defense of life, liberty, and property.

MAJORS**Bachelor of Arts in Economics**

The B.A. in Economics is a degree in economics as a social science. It consists of 58 hours of major requirements including 27 hours in the economics core to establish a deep and broad foundation and 15 hours of economics elective courses for majors to tailor the degree to their interests. Sixteen elective areas are offered including Economic Expansion & Development, Law and Economics, and American Economic History.

Bachelor of Science in Economics

The B.S. in Business Economics is a degree in economics as applied to business. It consists of 70 hours of major requirements including 36 hours in the business core to cover the main functional areas of business and 30 hours in the economics core to lay a firm foundation for understanding the economics of business. The curriculum includes courses in Industrial Organization, Financial Markets and Institutions, and a Seminar in Organizational Economics.

Bachelor of Arts in Sociology

The B.A. in Sociology is a comprehensive study of the foundational aspects of sociology. It consists of 38 hours of major requirements. The curriculum covers historical and contemporary sociological theory, research, and concepts and focused study on topics including social problems, deviant behavior, crime, medical and cultural anthropology, marriage, race, gender, religion, poverty, and globalization.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Students work with faculty members on their research projects. Some research assistantships are paid, such as the Koch Fellowship program sponsored by the Center of Vision and Values. All economics majors and sociology majors complete a major research project in the final year of their studies. Sociology majors routinely win awards for their research at professional conferences. The annual Austrian Student Scholars Conference brings undergraduate and graduate students from around the world to campus to present their research along with Grove City students.

INTERNSHIPS

A wide variety of internships are available for students. Financial institutions, such as Bloomberg financial, PNC, and Laffer Associates, and think-tanks, like Heritage Foundation and the Foundation for Economic Education are popular internships for economics majors. Sociology majors have applied their research skills in internships at pregnancy crisis centers, churches, businesses, and policy institutes.

CAREER AND GRADUATION OPPORTUNITIES

Economics majors have gone to top law schools, including Harvard University and the Universities of Chicago and Michigan and top 25 Ph.D. programs in economics, including the University of Pennsylvania and Ohio State and Michigan State Universities. Sociology majors go on to prestigious graduate programs such as Case Western Reserve and Georgetown, George Washington, Rutgers, Purdue, and Ohio State Universities.

“The College hosts one of the few economic programs in the country that teaches the Austrian school of economics, advocating limited government and individual rights. The professors have become my mentors, and I’ve frequently gone to them for advice about classes, careers and opportunities.”

– Chesterton Cobb '15



Grove City College is a highly ranked, nationally recognized private liberal arts and sciences college that equips students to pursue their unique callings through an academically excellent and Christ-centered learning and living experience distinguished by a commitment to affordability and promotion of the Christian worldview, the foundations of a free society and the love of neighbor. Established in 1876, the College is a pioneer in independent private education and accepts no federal funds. It offers students degrees in 60 majors on a picturesque 180-acre campus north of Pittsburgh, Pa. Accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, Grove City College is routinely ranked as one of the country's top colleges by U.S. News & World Report, The Princeton Review and others based on academic quality and superior outcomes.

**CONTACT**

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