Olin’s PhD program in Business Economics prepares you for an academic career in economics with rigorous training grounded in the central areas of the field. You’ll have opportunities for cross-disciplinary work, combining economics with strategy, finance, or marketing. Student success is fostered by the faculty’s active interest in supporting student learning, along with advising and supervising overall research efforts to help students realize their full potential. Olin Business Economics faculty members have a special interest in empirical and theoretical industrial organization. Research pursuits cover a wide range of subjects, including industry studies, incentives in organizations, organizational design, health economics, and the determinants of industry structure.

The Center for Research in Economics and Strategy (CRES) advances the understanding of firms and markets by supporting scientific research employing state-of-the-art analytical and empirical methods. Intended for publication in top-tier academic journals, CRES-sponsored research addresses substantive questions in many areas of economics and strategy. In addition to research assistance, which includes PhD student funding and data collection, CRES supports frequent presentations of internal and external research, national and international short-term visitors, CRES Fellows, and a website that includes extensive research listings.

Collaborative Research—Business Economics Faculty and PhD Students

Working Papers:


*Indicates current or former student
CHAIR: Mariagiovanna Baccara
Associate Professor of Economics
PhD, Princeton University
Research interests: innovation and intellectual property rights, organized crime, matching, social networks

Siddhartha Chib
Harry C. Hartkopf Professor of Econometrics and Statistics
PhD, University of California, Santa Barbara
Research interests: Bayesian statistics and econometrics, Markov chain Monte Carlo methods

Daniel Gottlieb
Assistant Professor of Economics
PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Research interests: contract theory, behavioral economics, insurance

Barton H. Hamilton
Robert Brookings Smith Distinguished Professor of Entrepreneurship
PhD, Stanford University
Research interests: entrepreneurship, health economics, labor economics, econometrics

Glenn MacDonald
John M. Olin Distinguished Professor of Economics and Strategy and Director of the Center for Research in Economics and Strategy
PhD, University of Rochester
Research interests: industry evolution, strategy and value appropriation, microeconomics/industrial organization, investor protection, compensation

Robert A. Pollak
Hernreich Distinguished Professor of Economics
PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Research interests: environmental economics and policy, consumer demand analysis and consumer behavior, demography, labor economics, economics of the family

Stephen Ryan
Professor of Economics
PhD, Duke University
Research interests: industrial organization, applied econometrics

Bernardo Silveira
Assistant Professor of Economics
PhD, New York University
Research interests: applied microeconomics, political economy, industrial organization, law and economics

Mark P. Taylor
Dean and Professor of Finance
PhD, University of London
Research interests: financial markets, international finance, international macroeconomics, macroeconomics