“Students in Olin's PhD program receive an unparalleled amount of personalized attention. This experience strengthens and accelerates the start of their research careers.”

—Stephen P. Ryan, Professor of Economics

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