



ECONnections

An e-newsletter for Mason undergraduate BS/BA ECON students, and ECON minors...

Dear ECON Students:

SEPTEMBER 2021

*Fall is in the air! Congratulations on finishing the first month of the fall 2021 semester. Much has changed since our last newsletter, Mason welcomes students back to campus as students, faculty, and staff continue to do their part to stay safe and healthy and take COVID precautions to ensure we can make the most of our campus and academic experiences. The Economics Advising Team is prepared to support you with **spring 2022 registration**, and to **assist seniors graduating in the upcoming fall 2021 and spring 2022 semesters.***



*This is a content heavy newsletter, but only because **there are so many exciting new opportunities** this fall semester for students now that events are returning to in-person participation!*

Now more than ever is the time for ECON students to take advantage of all Mason and the community has to offer.

Please scroll below to read this fall 2021 newsletter in its entirety, as it covers important academic deadlines, announcements, graduation guidance, registration information for math placement and foreign language placement tests, and internship/job/research opportunities, free student conferences with the Federal Reserve Bank, and more. Ensure you mark your calendars of upcoming events and opportunities.

*Don't miss the internship and job announcements section of this newsletter to **learn about opportunities with the Federal Reserve Bank Richmond, The Brookings Institution, the International Economics Development Council, and more.***

If you have any questions about your ECON academic program, want to change your major, add a concentration or minor, or have other campus-related inquiries, please email us at econbsba@gmu.edu. Many questions may also be answered at the [Economics FAQs page](#).

Please continue to stay safe, happy, and healthy, find time to get outdoors to absorb some autumn sunshine, and enjoy the fall foliage the Virginia Piedmont has to offer!

Sincerely, Ms. Mary Getsey Bernier (Undergraduate Program Coordinator) and the ECON Undergraduate Advising Team

Important Academic Deadlines and Updates from other Campus Units...

Economics Important Updates:

- Need economics undergraduate advising for spring 2022 registration? Make an appointment at: [Economics Undergraduate Advising](#), or email econbsba@gmu.edu. **Please include your full name and G#.** To make an appointment directly with Ms. Getsey Bernier, go to: www.calendly.com/mbernier
- Mark your calendars with priority Registrar/Registration dates for Fall 2021 and Spring 2022:
 - [Fall 2021](#)

- [Spring 2022](#)
- **Important College of Humanities and Social Sciences and Registrar Updates and Deadlines:**
 - **If you plan to graduate fall 2021 or spring 2022**, please email econbsba@gmu.edu to consult with an ECON advisor and ensure you have fulfilled your degree requirements. Check the Registrar's web site for [Graduation Guidance](#) on when to submit your graduation application (note important deadlines), how to apply to graduate, and more.

****Fall 2021 Graduation Application Deadline, 9/30:** on September 30, the graduation application will be inactivated on Patriot Web, and Registrar's Office review will begin shortly thereafter.**
 - **[SAM on Thursdays Begins, 9/30:](#)** each Thursday between 10am-12pm, starting on September 30, students who need to complete their SAM form requirement can attend an open (virtual) session with Diana Keay. Students who have not completed the SAM form will receive the session links via email and advisors are welcome to email Diana with any questions (dkeay@gmu.edu).

NOTE: Students on academic probation, warning, or suspension, please contact an ECON Academic Advisor at econbsba@gmu.edu for guidance and advising support and to learn more about the [College of Humanities and Social Sciences PASS program](#) and/or to complete a have not yet submitted the [Student Advising Meeting \(SAM\) form](#) that is required for all students with a GPA below 2.0.

- **[Registrar deadlines:](#)** Check for the deadlines for **Unrestricted Withdrawal (September 27th)**, **Selective Withdrawal (October 27th)**, **Incomplete work to be submitted (October 22nd)**, and more. If you have questions about Unrestricted Withdrawals or Selective Withdrawals, email econbsba@gmail.com.

We strongly recommend **you do not drop courses with the Unrestricted Withdrawal or the Selective Withdrawal process before consulting with an Economics Advisor**. If you are required to be full-time enrolled due to housing, international student status, financial aid status, or third-party sponsorship, an Unrestricted or Selective Withdrawal might negatively impact your student status, registration requirements, or visa (if you are an international student). You are strongly recommended to consult with an advisor before doing an Unrestricted or Selective Withdrawal.

- **The spring 2022 catalog will be available on [Patriot Web](#) approximately the second week of October 2021.**
 - Click on "Student Services" -> "Registration" -> "Search for Classes – Classic". Select the term, the subject codes, and select your courses.
 - Click on "Student Services" -> "Registration" -> "Registration and Planning" -> "Plan Ahead" function to put courses in a saved plan; when your registration time ticket opens, pull up the plan and register with one click of a button. Learn more from the Registrar's helpful [Patriot Web Tutorials](#).
 - Before scheduling an academic advising appointment in mid-October for spring 2022 registration, students are encouraged to [log into Patriot Web Degree Works](#) and evaluate their outstanding requirements or credit requirements. Consult the catalog, make a list of spring 2022 courses to share with your advisors. **Students may schedule an advising appointment by emailing the Economics Advising Team at econbsba@gmu.edu.**
- **There will be a higher demand for academic advising from mid-October through mid-November for spring 2022 registration.**
 - If students wish to receive a **personalized video advising session** instead of scheduling a live virtual advising session (this may be beneficial for students out of state or outside of the United States, in different time zones, or working students who are unavailable during weekdays), please email a **detailed list of your advising questions** to [Ms. Mary Getsey Bernier](#). She will respond with a recorded video advising session, which will be uploaded and viewable in your Mason Student Blackboard account, saved under "My

Media". Login instructions will be included with the email you receive to view your advising video.

If you have not used MyMedia in Blackboard, log into Blackboard, click on MyMedia. Once you have done so it will activate MyMedia. Then, email mbernier@gmu.edu to let us know you activated it, so we can add your Mason ID onto the video so you can watch it and view/listen to my advising video clip. Once we tag you in the advising video, you can access this video by logging into Blackboard (<https://mymasonportal.gmu.edu>). Once you log into Blackboard, go to the "Tools" tab in the left green column. On the page you will see "Kaltura MyMedia." Click on this tab and you will find the advising video we uploaded and shared privately with you, answering your questions from your email.

- If you plan to graduate fall 2021 or spring 2022, please schedule a pre-graduation advising session to ensure your degree requirements for graduation are complete. Email econbsba@gmu.edu.
- **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE ECONOMICS SYNTHESIS/CAPSTONE COURSE:** ECON 309 is no longer the economics synthesis/capstone course for BA and BS majors (the last semester it qualified for the synthesis/capstone was summer 2020).
 - The new synthesis/capstone course options are: [ECON 491](#); [ECON 493](#); and [ECON 495](#). All three courses are registration restricted and require senior status, as well as completion of most economics upper-level electives. **Read more about the ECON capstone courses, [here](#).** Please email econbsba@gmu.edu if you need individual advising regarding the synthesis/capstone.
- **Interested in an internship for upper-level Economic elective credit?** The new economics course for domestic economics-related internships for credit is [ECON 398](#). Learn more about internships for credit, [here](#). Email the Economics Advising Team at econbsba@gmu.edu to schedule an advising appointment regarding the internship application process and the internship requirements. **Email Dr. Jason Dunick at jdunick@gmu.edu to request an internship application package. Internship applications for spring 2022 should be submitted before the beginning of the spring 2022 semester. Internships in the state of Maryland are not eligible for credit.**

Other Campus Unit Updates:

- **Update from the [Department of Modern and Classical Languages \(MCL\)](#)** Visit the Modern and Classical Languages web site for more information about foreign language requirements, the foreign language placement tests, and foreign language waivers.
- **Updated [Math Placement Test Policies](#):** Visit the Math Department website to learn more about math placement tests, math tutoring, and download the [Math Study Guide](#) to prepare for math placement tests.

Please look at the [Testing Center FAQ's](#) first, if you still have questions, send an e-mail to Sarah Khankan at skhankan@gmu.edu. If you have questions about the Online Algebra Tutorial Program, please send an e-mail to Gary De La Pena at gdelape2@gmu.edu.

- **Mason Law**
[The 3+3 Accelerated Mason Law program](#) (offers highly motivated undergraduate students a fast track to earn both a bachelor's degree and a law degree in six, rather than seven, years of study) or the Mason2Mason Law program.

[Mason2Mason](#) ("M2M") program is a special admissions program for current George Mason University undergraduate students. M2M uses the American Bar Association's ("ABA") 503 rule which **allows law schools to accept applicants from their own university without the normally required LSAT score** if students meet certain academic criteria.

The Schar School is delighted to announce the [Patriot Pre-Law Program's LSAT Scholarship Initiative](#). If you have any questions, please contact Professor Mink – pmink@gmu.edu

Internship/Career Opportunities/Career Fair



Career Bulletin

What's new from Career Services?

Career Fair Events Begin Monday, September 27

The traditional two-day Fall Career Fair is going to be a little different this year! There will be one in-person date (Sept 29) and one virtual date (Oct 6) with preparation events for both.

What students need to know

The fair is open to all Mason students and alumni. Employers will be providing resume reviews and personalized feedback to help students improve their resume in advance of each fair day. 100 different employers will be attending each day of the fair seeking candidates for full-time, part-

time, and internship opportunities. Several opportunities are open to ALL majors and fields of study. Starting dates range from now until summer 2022. Students must register:

- Sept 29 in-person fair: <https://go.gmu.edu/careerfair> (Resume clinic and Prepare for the Fair Workshop to be held 9/2)
- Oct 6 virtual fair: <https://go.gmu.edu/virtualcareerfair> (Resume clinic and Prepare for the Fair Workshop to be held 10/4)
- **Meet former Mason ECON students at the Career Fair:** The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Transportation Security Administration will be at the Career Fair next Wednesday, September 29th. Along with a representative from Human Capital, ask for Salvatore Pitino at the DHS/TSA booth to inquire about a spring and/or summer internship within the Economic Analysis Branch.

Other Internship/Job/Research/Economics-related Conference Opportunities:

Federal Reserve Bank Research Assistants

Each year, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (the Board) hires a new cohort of Research Assistants (RAs) who gain real-world experience by working alongside PhD economists to assist with [original economic research](#) and provide critical support for [policy analysis](#).

The RA position is a two-year program, and most RAs leave the role well-suited to pursue a graduate degree, often in economics, or several different careers at the Board or with other organizations. While at the Board, RAs often become involved in a variety of other projects, including collaboration with various government agencies and Federal Reserve System Banks, and participate in efforts to provide [economic and financial literacy instruction](#) to local high school students. RAs are encouraged to attend academic [research seminars](#) and presentations given by Board economists and visiting scholars.

The Board is committed to attracting, developing, and retaining a diverse workforce. We recognize the benefit derived from different perspectives and experiences, and we look carefully at candidates' records to identify individuals whose perspectives could benefit our work. As such, we especially encourage submissions from groups traditionally less represented in economics.

Want to learn more about the RA experience across the Federal Reserve System?

Visit [fedeconjobs.org](https://www.fedeconjobs.org). While there, be sure to navigate to [Opportunities ~> Washington, DC](#) to learn more about our focus on policy and the national outlook, as well as the application, offer, and onboarding process.

- **Exploring Careers in Economics:** What is ECE? Organized to broaden awareness of careers in economics and to further develop a diverse pool of talent interested in the field, ECE offers students a chance to learn and discuss opportunities in economics generally and learn about career paths within the Federal Reserve System.
- **Past Events:** You can view past events [here](#). Past keynote speakers at these events include Governor Lael Brainard (Fall 2020), Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta President Raphael Bostic (Fall 2019), and Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco President Mary Daly (Spring 2019).
- Please visit www.fedeconjobs.org for additional information on Research Assistantships and internship opportunities across the entire Federal Reserve System.

More from the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond: Diverse Economics Conference (DivEc)...

The Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond has numerous fall virtual programs available to students! **For those interested in a career in economics, the *Diverse Careers in Economics Conference (DivEc)* provides undergraduate economics (and related fields) students with information on the range of career paths open to them and a forum to discuss the importance of having a variety of perspectives in the field of economics.** Students who are curious about and would like to learn more about this field and future internship opportunities at the FRB are welcome to participate. **All programs are free, and students are encouraged to attend.**

Join us - *Diverse Careers in Economics Conference* – November 16-18 from 5-7:30 p.m. (EST) and with keynote speaker, Dr. Peter Blair, Harvard Graduate School of Education faculty on November 16th. *To learn more and to register click the link below.*

[Diverse Economics Conference \(richmondfed.org\)](https://richmondfed.org)

Our *Richmond Fed on Campus Fall Webinar Series* is back by popular demand! We now have an economist and their Research Associate present some of their work followed by Q&A. Join us for these timely topics. The programs listed below will be recorded, and an access link will be sent to registrants.

[Inflation: Why it Matters, What to Look for and What's Happening Today](#) - Presented by Senior Policy Economist John O'Trakoun with Research Associate Zachary Edwards (October 14th 10-11 a.m. EST) To learn more and to register click the link below.

[Richmond Fed on Campus: Inflation: Why It Matters, What To Look For, and What's Happening Today](#)

[The Future of the Workforce](#) - Presented by Sonya Waddell, Vice President and Economist with Research Analyst Hailey Phelps (November 18th from 10-11 a.m. EST) To learn more and to register click the link below.

[Richmond Fed on Campus: The Future of the Workforce and Changes to the Labor Market](#)

The Economic Studies Program at the Brookings Institution

The Economic Studies Program at the Brookings Institution is conducting our fall Research Assistant recruitment, for positions starting in summer 2022. Each year they employ approximately fifteen research assistants for two-year appointments, preferably beginning between June 1 and August 1, 2022. This cycle, they are seeking to hire approximately eight new assistants. This is an excellent opportunity for recent graduates!

Read more here: <https://www.brookings.edu/join-the-top-ranked-think-tank-for-domestic-economic-policy/>

Applicants should have a bachelor's degree by summer 2022 in Economics, Mathematics/Statistics, Public Policy, or other Social Sciences with a minor in Economics and will need to submit a cover letter, resume, two letters of recommendation, and a transcript. **The application deadline is October 15, 2021.**

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC)

- The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is a non-profit, non-partisan membership organization serving economic developers. With more than 5,000 members, IEDC is the largest organization of its kind. Economic developers promote economic well-being and quality of life for their communities, by creating, retaining, and expanding jobs that facilitate growth, enhance wealth and provide a stable tax base. From public to private, rural to urban and local to international, IEDC's members are engaged in the full range of economic development experience. Given the breadth of economic development work, members are employed in a wide variety of settings including local, state, provincial and federal governments, public-private partnerships, chambers of commerce, universities, and a variety of other institutions. IEDC members create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities, and improve the quality of life in their regions. **The IEDC has internship opportunities currently listed on [Handshake](#). Learn more about IEDC internships by emailing: intern@IEDCOnline.org**

Mason Campus Events, Activities, Information

Mason's Interdisciplinary Center for Economic Science: Participate in experiments on human behavior and decision making. During these extraordinary times ICES continues to conduct experiments. However due to social distancing guidelines all experiments are currently conducted entirely online. The Interdisciplinary Center for Economic Sciences (ICES) is looking for students to join our subject pool. Sessions usually last between 1 to 2 hours and most subjects make between \$15-\$20 in an hour. A web browser with working internet connection is required. [Click here to sign up.](#)

Need a 1-credit course? Consider enrolling today for one of these courses: [UNIV 320 Internship/Career Readiness](#) covers internships - why they are important and how to get them. You will learn to write resumes and cover letters, and even get to spend your class time finding and applying to internships you want. [UNIV 421 College to Grad School](#) focuses on getting into grad school. Even if you are only just considering grad school, this class will give you a better understanding of what it takes and what you need to do now to get in. [UNIV 422 College to Career](#) prepares you for success in the workplace, such as building skills employers demand, advocating for yourself in challenging situations, preparing for performance reviews, understanding employment benefits such as compensation, health, and financial plans, and more. This course helps prepare students for meeting 21st century workplace challenges in a practical, experiential, and collaborative workplace-simulated environment.

Are you a soon-to-graduate student? If your career path might not be fully defined yet, that's ok! That's great because this is your opportunity build career-development into your schedule. And **Career Prep Courses** make that possible! Best of all, Career Prep Courses are taught by career counselors and local employers, so you know you're getting information from the experts. The other great thing about these classes is that they demystify career-related and grad school jargon like GRE, personal branding, and networking We break down these ideas to help you master them step by step. **Consider signing up for a zero or 1 credit option (when you register for the course, it defaults to zero credit, to receive the 1 credit option you must log into Patriot Web after you register, click on the credit for the course to change it to 1 credit. If you need assistance with this, consult with an [Economics Advisor](#).**

Academic Resources and Around Campus Events...

- Need tutoring for ECON 100-level courses? Email econbsba@gmu.edu to be added to the Economics Tutoring Organization within Blackboard.
- **Mason Learning Services** has updated their web page for tutoring not only in Economics, but in many other academic departments. Read more and find tutoring for your non-ECON courses on their [web site](#).
- **Interested in learning a foreign language, or want to practice your foreign language skills?** Mason Students have free access to the Mason Rosetta Learning Stone. Learn more, [here](#).
- **The Mason Economics Society welcomes new members and has posted upcoming events, featuring guest speakers, and more.** To join the Economics Society, and learn more about upcoming events, [visit their web page](#).

Mason GEO/Study Abroad

[Mason GEO/Study Abroad has updated its website regarding upcoming winter break and spring 2022 programs.](#) Before considering a study abroad program, it is required students consult with their Economics advisor. Email econbsba@gmu.edu.

Safe Return to Campus and Daily Check Ins

Mason continues to provide resources to help you plan your activities and understand ongoing changes brought to our university in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Students who will be on campus are still required to complete the [“Safe Return to Campus.”](#) Safe Return to Campus Training is currently available in [Blackboard](#) to take now or before returning to campus. It outlines the precautions Mason is taking to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, new university policies and procedures, and student responsibilities when studying, working, and living on campus.

- Log into [Blackboard](#).
- Register using the training link in the top right corner of the page.
- Select Student Training.
- Select Sign up for Safe Return to Campus Training.
- Select “submit.”
- Select “training” from the green menu on the left side of the page.

Students will also be asked to review a consent form and choose whether or not to allow the health department to share information with Mason to help identify potential outbreaks on campus. Consent is not required to receive credit for training, and a student’s decision does not have any impact on student records or future opportunities at Mason.

Everyone planning to be on campus must complete the health check every day.

Access the Mason COVID Health✓™

[LOGIN TO THE SECURE PLATFORM](#)

Who Must Complete Mason COVID Health✓™?

Mason COVID Health✓™ (Mason COVID Health Check™) is an online screening tool that must be completed daily (7 days a week) by students, faculty, staff, and contractors planning to visit campus in any capacity this fall. Visitors and guests should complete this survey before visiting campus and may be required to complete Mason COVID Health✓™ for themselves and/or their dependents to access university facilities.

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****DISCLAIMER**:** All content of this email communication is an advising evaluation, not a guarantee of degree fulfillment. Course and degree requirements are subject to change. Students are responsible for knowing the requirements of their Mason degree using the Mason catalog for their catalog and degree year and the Degree Works program.