Dear ECON Students:

Welcome back for the spring 2022 semester. The Economics Advising Team is prepared to support you with upcoming summer and fall 2022 registration, and to assist seniors graduating in the upcoming spring and summer 2022 semesters.

Please scroll below to read about important academic, advising, and Registrar deadlines, graduation guidance, appointment information for math placement and foreign language placement or waiver tests, new internship/job/research opportunities, the upcoming in-person Career Fair, and Mason Campus Events, Activities, Information, and Mason Study Abroad.

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 are also answered on the Economics FAQs page. You may also schedule an advising appointment with a member of the Economics Undergraduate Advising Team, here.

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

Important Academic, Advising, Registrar, and Financial Aid Deadlines

Need economics undergraduate advising for summer and fall 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

New state financial aid available for undocumented Mason students and prospective students
January 6, 2022, the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) launched the Virginia Alternative State Aid (VASA) Application and related web portal at www.VASAapp.org. With this application, Virginia students who are ineligible to complete the federal FAFSA form, including Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and undocumented students, now have a way to access state financial aid to help pay for college.

Browse the Registrar’s website for updated information about priority academic and university deadlines (Unrestricted Withdrawals, Selective Withdrawals, Incomplete fall 2021 work submission deadlines) and more for spring, summer, and fall 2022.

If you plan to graduate in spring or summer 2022, please email econbsba@gmu.edu to consult with an ECON advisor and ensure you have fulfilled your degree requirements. Check the Registrar’s website for Graduation Guidance on when to submit your graduation application (note important graduation application deadlines), how to apply to graduate, 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.

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.

The summer 2022 catalog is available on Patriot Web.

- 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-March for summer and fall 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 summer and fall 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-March through May.

- 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 in spring or fall 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 summer 2022 should be submitted before the beginning of the summer 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

- **Mason Turns 50!** Just how extraordinary is Mason’s rise? In only 50 years, we’ve grown from a small commuter campus to Virginia’s largest, most diverse, and most innovative public university. Our alumni power the Northern Virginia economy. Our faculty do onsite research that tackles the interlocking grand challenges of assuring a healthy planet, healthy people, healthy economies, and healthy societies. Our many institutes and research initiatives help the nation’s cybersecurity. And with our athletics and cultural offerings, we are an indispensable contributor to making Northern Virginia a vibrant place to live and work.

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**Career Fair**

Mason’s 2-day Spring Career Fair is back and coming up soon! Students are invited to meet in-person with any of the more than 150 employers seeking undergrad and graduate students for internships, part-time, and full-time positions.

**When**: February 23 & 24, from noon to 4 pm  
**Where**: Johnson Center, Dewberry Hall, Fairfax Campus  
**Who will be there**: 150+ employers: gmu.joinhandshake.com/career_fairs/28753/student_preview

**What else**: Required registration opens February 16
**RESUME CLINIC:** Get expert feedback on your resume before the Career Fair
Day 1: Feb 21, 11 am - 5 pm in SUB I, Room 3400, Fairfax
[gmui.joinhandshake.com/events/920959/share_preview](gmui.joinhandshake.com/events/920959/share_preview)
Day 2: Feb 22, 1 - 7 pm in SUB I, Room 3400, Fairfax
[gmui.joinhandshake.com/events/920965/share_preview](gmui.joinhandshake.com/events/920965/share_preview)

**PREPARE FOR THE FAIR WORKSHOP:** Get strategies for meeting employers at the Career Fair
Feb 21, 1 - 2 pm in SUB I, Room 3B, Fairfax
[gmui.joinhandshake.com/events/950032/share_preview](gmui.joinhandshake.com/events/950032/share_preview)
Feb 21, 5 - 6 pm, Virtual
[gmui.joinhandshake.com/events/950016/share_preview](gmui.joinhandshake.com/events/950016/share_preview)

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

**Federal Reserve Bank**

**Richmond Fed on Campus: Black-White Gaps in Income and Wealth**
College students and professors are invited to join [Urvi Neelakantan](#), Senior Policy Economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, as she provides insight and data on income and wealth gaps, discussing the underlying factors from the economics perspective. This Richmond Fed on Campus event is cohosted by the Economic Forum at Virginia State University.

[The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau’s (CFPB) Office of Research (OR)](#) is currently hiring Research Assistants. The posting for the position opened February 4, 2022 and will be open until February 18, 2022. The link to the posting can be found here.

**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](mailto:intern@IEDConline.org)

Updated: Now accepting applications for the IEDC Summer 2022 Internship. Intern is responsible for conducting research on economic and policy issues that support the team working on foundation grants and technical assistance for IEDC, the nation’s leading trade organization of local economic developers. The intern will work in a wide range of economic development subject matters. Topics include disaster/economic and COVID-19 recovery; equitable economic development; strategic planning; and small business and entrepreneurship support. This job relates to economic development in the U.S. principally, not international economic development.

**Selected Areas of Responsibility**
- Supporting team members with primarily qualitative information required for research reports, publications, technical assistance, proposals and other projects.
- Assisting with presentations relevant to current economic development issues for contracts and for general IEDC presentations.
- Responsible for writing articles and producing story ideas for newsletters and periodicals as needed.

**Required Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities**
- Graduate and undergraduate students majoring in economics, public policy, urban planning, political science, finance, and/or business are strongly preferred.
Demonstrated skills, knowledge and experience in research and analysis.

- Ability to complete projects on time
- Excellent oral and written communications skills.

**Application Deadline: March 15th at 5 p.m.**

Please include a writing sample with your resume and cover letter. Thank you. **We’re an equal opportunity employer. All applicants will be considered for employment without attention to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, veteran or disability status.**

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**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. **If you want this course for 1-credit, you must manually change the default 0 credit to 1-credit in Patriot Web after you register for the course.**

**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](#).

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**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.
- Looking for some outdoor adventures and want to meet other Mason students? Check out the Events pages as [Mason Recreation](#) as well as [Mason 360](#).
- 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 has updated its website regarding 2022 programs. Before considering a study abroad program, it 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.”

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.

**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.