



**Scott A. Carson, Ph. D.**  
**Professor of Economics**

Dr. Carson is a professor of economics in the College of Business. His research interests include labor economics and labor market development, the interaction between economics and health, and the influences of institutions on economic growth. Dr. Carson's current research considers the biological consequences of America's 19th century transformation in the Deep South from slavery to free labor on both African-Americans and European-Americans. Dr. Carson is a Research Fellow at the University of Munich and teaches the summer microeconomics and econometrics courses at the University of California – Berkeley.

The Economics program is designed to afford students the opportunity to prepare as economists or to serve other disciplines, such as accounting, finance, management, marketing, government, education, sociology or history. Economics includes two broad areas: microeconomics and macroeconomics.

A basic understanding of economics is essential for a well-informed citizenry since most of today's problems have important economic aspects. It is also a vital discipline for, and is of practical value in, business decision-making. An understanding of the overall operation of the economic system puts businesses in a better position to formulate policies.

Microeconomics is an area applicable to any study of human endeavor where scarce resources must be allocated among competing uses. It is the study of humankind's behavior in producing, exchanging and consuming material goods and services. Macroeconomics includes the study of the performance of the economy as a whole and includes such problems as inflation, unemployment and the rate of economic growth. Both areas include forecasting, a skill enabling individuals, firms and governmental bodies to adjust to anticipated economic conditions. In economics, problems are examined from a social, rather than an individual, point of view.

A Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in Economics aims to prepare students for participation in public affairs, positions in business and government service. It offers a strong foundation for pre-law students and for further graduate study leading to teaching and research positions in universities, government and private enterprise.