

Economics

2014-15 Department at a Glance

Points of Pride

- Robert Pollin is appointed Distinguished Professor by the UMass Board of Trustees.
- Léonce Ndikumana was named UMass Spotlight Scholar.
- Mwangi wa Githinji received the SBS Outstanding Teaching Award.
- Professor Emeritus Nancy Folbre received the Beth Shulman Award from the National Employment Law Project.
- James Boyce's *Economics, the Environment and Our Common Wealth* was selected as 2013 Outstanding Academic Title by the American Library Association's Choice magazine.
- Fidan Kurtulus received a Jacob Wertheim Fellowship for the Betterment of Industrial Relationships at Harvard Law School.
- Michael Ash received the Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Accomplishments in Research and Creativity.
- Gerald Friedman published an alternative microeconomics textbook, *Microeconomics: Individual Choice in Communities*.
- James Heintz, associate director of the Political Economy Research Institute, is appointed to the Andrew Glyn Professorship.
- Thomas Piketty, Professor of Economics, Paris School of Economics and the École des hautes études en sciences sociales, and best-selling author of *Capital in the 21st Century*, presented the annual Gamble Lecture to a standing-room-only crowd.

Education

- The BA in economics provides training for public and private decision makers.
- MA and PhD programs give students the opportunity to deepen understanding and conduct original research.
- Online courses from UMass Amherst Economics open the discipline to students around the world.
- The Certificate Program in Cooperative Enterprise combines courses, independent research, and an internship for students interested in careers in worker cooperatives and other innovative ventures.

Leadership & Outreach

- Lee Badgett presented her research on the economic impact of sexual orientation and gender-identity discrimination to the World Bank and OECD.
- Gerald Friedman testified before the Senate's Health, Education, Labor & Pensions (HELP) Committee on health care finance. Friedman serves on the board of Health Care Now and toured Oregon, Missouri and Pennsylvania to speak on health care reform.
- Diane Flaherty was invited to the Economics Institute in Zagreb as a visiting researcher to launch a partnership.
- James Boyce, Gerald Epstein, and Léonce Ndikumana delivered a capacity-building workshop for African senior policymakers in Nairobi, Kenya.
- James Boyce's *Carbon Dividend* is published in the *New York Times*.
- Rus Janis's *Redistribution, Anyone?* is published in the *New York Times*.



By the Numbers FY14

Tenure-System Faculty	32
Undergraduate Majors	716
Graduate Students	86

Research Areas

Economic Development

- Policy, growth, and well-being in different countries
- Agrarian change

Political Economy and Marxian Economics

- Power, institutions, and economic performance
- Economic crises and the evolution of economy and society
- Class and group inequality

Feminist Economics and Economics of Gender

- Economic growth over time
- Systems of production and property
- Changes in the organization of production and distribution

Economic History and Theory

- Economic growth over time
- Changing systems of property and production
- Mainstream and heterodox approaches
- Methodology and history of economic thought

International Trade and Finance

- Trade between countries
- Foreign exchange and international financial flows

Labor Economics

- Compensation systems and productivity
- Income inequality, poverty, and minimum and living wages
- Unions and the labor movement
- Discrimination

Macroeconomics and Finance

- Growth, investment, and unemployment
- Monetary and fiscal policies
- Financial markets and regulation
- Environmental and social sustainability



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