

JOURNAL CLASSIFICATIONS AND PROCEDURE

Department of Economics

Fall 2026

General Principles

The Department of Economics adheres to the rules governing the ranking of journals promulgated by the Faculty Roles and Rewards Document (henceforth FRRD) of the Fogelman College & Business, as revised on March 31, 2026.¹

The FRRD mandates (page 19) that each Department will develop, and periodically revise, an externally validated categorization of journals. It defines the categories of journals as follows:

- A+** This category comprises the area's top journals, easily recognized as such by those in the discipline.
- A** This category comprises the area's prestigious journals. These journals are rigorously refereed. Publication in these quality journals provides obvious visibility within the academic community. Examples within a discipline include major general interest journals and the top journals of the area's sub-disciplines.
- B** This category comprises well-regarded journals offering excellent national exposure. Selection typically is blind refereed or by stringent editorial evaluation.
- C** This category comprises recognized outlets offering good exposure. Selection typically is refereed by editorial evaluation.

For purposes other than promotion and tenure (such as awards and summer grants) these categories will correspond when appropriate to A+ = Tier I, A = Tier II, B = Tier III.

The FRRD (page 20) stipulates that papers published in journals outside the college should be judged by the departmental faculty with consideration of the opinion/rating of the outside department and relevance to the mission of the home department.

This ranking will take effect beginning on August 21, 2026. Papers accepted prior to that date will be ranked using the pre-existing journal ranking document, which was in effect from September 17, 2027.

Criteria

As in the previous ranking, this ranking is based upon that of the Australian Business Deans Council (henceforth ABDC).² The virtues of the ABDC ranking are:

¹Faculty Roles and Rewards Document: https://www.memphis.edu/fcbe/faculty-staff/docs/fcbe-roles-rewards-document_updated_3.31.26.pdf

²ABDC Ranking: <https://www.abdc.org.au/ABDC-JQL-2025-v1-260326.xlsx>

- It was developed scientifically and carefully and is now binding on all business departments in Australia.
- It is designed to establish comparability across disciplines.
- It reveals that the proportions of the total number of economics journals in each of the tiers are comparable to those of other disciplines. For example, using the total number of journals in each discipline according to the Australian ranking, the percentages in the top three tiers for each of the departments in the College, as defined by their current rankings (as of December 2022) are:

Department	A+	A	B
Economics	5.6	12.1	7.1
FIR	8.7	18.0	37.7
Marketing	5.7	12.3	11.5
Management	2.5	5.0	4.4
Accounting	6.9	20.8	25.9
BIT	3.2	12.5	19.5

*In the ABDC rankings, the Management category has a total of 655 journals and includes many non-business and interdisciplinary journals. This makes comparisons of Management journals across the College and ABDC rankings difficult.

- It is renewed periodically.
- It is simple.
- It is broadly consistent with other, cross-discipline rankings such as (1) the French ranking of the Groupement de Recherche en Économie Quantitative d'Aix-Marseille (2010), and (2) the British ranking of the Association of Business Schools (2010).
- It is consistent with other rankings of economics journals alone, such as Engemann & Wall (2009) and Kodrzycki and Yu (2006). All these rankings indicate that there are journals of substantial quality all the way down to 100-plus journals.

In 2012 we adopted the ABDC ranking almost in its entirety, denoting its A* = A+; we did so again in 2015, 2018, 2020, 2022 then in 2025. The only change we have made in 2026 to our 2025 ranking was to add *Social Science & Medicine* (SS&M) as an A journal, since it is now ranked as an A by the most recent ABDC ranking, for 2025.

The Ranking

A+ Journals

American Economic Review
AER Insights
American Economic Journal: Microeconomics
American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics
American Economic Journal: Applied Economics
American Economic Journal: Economic Policy
Econometrica
Economic Journal
Economic Theory
Energy Economics
European Economic Review
Games & Economic Behavior
Health Economics
International Economic Review
Journal of Applied Econometrics
Journal of Development Economics
Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization
Journal of Economic Dynamics & Control
Journal of Economic Growth
Journal of Economic Theory
Journal of Health Economics
Journal of Human Resources
Journal of International Economics
Journal of Labor Economics
Journal of Law and Economics
Journal of Monetary Economics
Journal of Money Credit & Banking
Journal of Political Economy
Journal of Public Economics
Journal of the European Economic Association
Journal of Urban Economics
Quarterly Journal of Economics
RAND Journal of Economics
Review of Economic Dynamics
Review of Economics and Statistics
Review of Economic Studies
Theoretical Economics

A Journals

American Economic Association Papers & Proceedings
American Journal of Health Economics
American Law & Economics Review
Applied Economics
BE Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy
BE Journal of Macroeconomics

BE Journal of Theoretical Economics
Brookings Papers on Economic Activity
Canadian Journal of Economics
China Economic Review
Contemporary Economic Policy
Econometric Reviews
Econometrics Journal
Econometric Theory
Economic Development and Cultural Change
Economic Geography
Economic Inquiry
Economic Modeling
Economica
Economics Letters
Economics of Education Review
Economics and Human Biology
Economics of Transition
The Economic Record
Education Finance and Policy
Environmental and Resource Economics
European Journal of Health Economics
European Journal of Political Economy
Experimental Economics
Explorations in Economic History
Health Policy
Health Services Research
International Journal of Forecasting
International Journal of Game Theory
International Journal of Industrial Organization
International Monetary Fund Staff Papers
International Review of Economics & Finance
IZA Journal of Labor Economics
Journal of Comparative Economics
Journal of Development Studies
Journal of Economic Psychology
Journal of Economic Surveys

Journal of Economics and Management Strategy
Journal of Environmental Economics and Management
Journal of Human Capital
Journal of Forecasting
Journal of Industrial Economics
Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics
Journal of Law, Economics and Organization
Journal of Macroeconomics
Journal of Mathematical Economics
Journal of Policy Analysis & Management
Journal of Population Economics
Journal of Population Research
Journal of Productivity Analysis
Journal of Public Economic Theory
Journal of Regional Science
Journal of Regulatory Economics
Journal of Risk and Uncertainty
Journal of Time Series Analysis
Kyklos
Labour Economics
Macroeconomic Dynamics
Mathematical Finance: An International Journal of Mathematics, Statistics and Financial Economics
Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics
Oxford Economic Papers
Oxford Review of Economic Policy
Public Choice
Regional Science and Urban Economics
Resource and Energy Economics
Review of Black Political Economy
Review of Income and Wealth
Review of Industrial Organization
Review of International Economics
Scandinavian Journal of Economics
Scottish Journal of Political Economy
Small Business Economics: An Entrepreneurial Journal
Social Choice and Welfare
Social Science & Medicine
Southern Economic Journal
World Bank Economic Review
World Economy
World Development

B Journals

American Journal of Economics and Sociology
Applied Economics Letters
Asian Economic Journal
Australian Journal of Labour Economics
Bulletin of Economic Research
Business Economics
China and World Economy
Comparative Economic Studies
Eastern Economic Journal
Econometrics
Economia, the Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA)
Economic Systems
Economic Theory Bulletin
Education Economics
Emerging Markets Finance and Trade
Games
Health Economics, Policy and Law
International Journal of Economic Theory
International Journal of Health Care Finance and Economics
International Journal of Social Economics
International Review of Applied Economics
International Labour Review
International Trade Journal
Japan and the World Economy
Journal of Applied Economics
Journal of Demographic Economics
Journal of Economics
Journal of Economics & Finance
Journal of Economic and Social Measurement
Journal of Economic Education
Journal of Family and Economic Issues
Journal of International Development
Journal of Labor Research
Journal of Markets and Morality
Journal of Public Policy
Journal of Public Transportation
Journal of Sports Economics
Journal of World Trade
Labor Studies Journal
Labour
Managerial and Decision Economics
North American Journal of Economics and Finance
Open Economies Review
Research in Economics
Review of Development Economics
Review of Law and Economics
Review of Radical Political Economics
Review of World Economics

References

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Kristie M. Engemann and Howard J. Wall, "A Journal Ranking for the Ambitious Economist," *Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis Review*, May/June 2009, 127 – 139.
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