

Master of Arts in Economics

The Department of Economics presents a curriculum leading to the Master of Arts (MA) degree. Courses of study allow a concentration in one of three tracks: Economic Analysis, Financial Economics, or International Economics. All three tracks seek to provide students with analytical skills useful in decision making and a broader understanding of the overall economic environment. Options provide as much flexibility as is compatible with the student's background and career interests.

The economic analysis track is particularly suitable for students who wish to continue their studies in economics at the doctoral level. Financial Economics includes course work in financial management and areas related to money and capital markets, monetary policy, and financial and monetary institutions. It is particularly suited to those seeking employment in the financial sector. International economics is geared to those with an interest in the international economy, both from a business and policy perspective.

Financial Aid

The Department of Economics offers a limited number of graduate assistantships on a competitive basis. The assistantships provide a stipend, eligibility for waiver of non-resident tuition fees and student health insurance for qualified students.

All applicants will be considered for assistantships; there is no formal application process or form. Decisions on assistantships for an upcoming academic year are made in early May of the preceding year.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must have earned a four-year undergraduate degree from a regionally accredited institution or a recognized institution in another country whose

requirements for the bachelor's degree are substantially equivalent to an American four-year bachelor's degree. Admission to the program is based primarily on the applicant's grade point average (GPA) and background in economics.

For admission to full-standing, applicants must have a grade point average of at least 2.75 on a 4.00 scale for the last 60 semester hours of course work and for all courses in economics and required mathematics.

Applicants must have completed principles of macro- and micro-economics, plus one course in statistics and one in calculus. Additionally, students must have completed (or complete within one year of admission) intermediate level macro- and microeconomics. A minimum grade of *C+* (*equal to 2.3 grade points*) is required for the two intermediate-level classes as well as statistics and calculus. The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is not required.

Non-native speakers of English must have received a minimum score of 550 on the paper based or 79 on the internet based TOEFL or a minimum overall band score of 6.5 on the IELTS; or have attended another U.S. university as a full-time academic student enrolled in academic courses for a minimum of one year; or have earned a bachelor's degree (or higher) from a U.S. university within two years of their proposed semester of admission.

Degree Requirements

All three tracks require either a thesis (30 credit hours) or an independent research project and an additional course in the student's area of interest (33 credit hours). The Master of Arts (MA) degree in Economics is typically completed in four semesters, although it's not unusual for students without prerequisites to finish in three semesters.

The graduate coordinator or the department chairperson must approve the candidate's plan of study. All plans of study must include at least 18 hours of graduate level courses in economics or courses approved by the graduate coordinator. Courses identified as back-ground fundamentals of the MBA program and other courses designated by the economics department may not be included in the hours required for the degree.

Core Courses – All Tracks

Courses	Hrs
ECON 702, Math. Methods in Econ	3
ECON 731, Applied Econometrics I	3
ECON 801, Macroeconomic Analysis	3
ECON 802, Microeconomic Analysis <i>or</i>	
ECON 804, Managerial Economics	3
ECON 803, Analysis of Business	
Conditions and Forecasting	3

In all tracks, at least 70 percent of credit hours must be at the 700-800 level.

Economics Analysis Track

Five additional courses in economics or related areas and a 3 hour research project (18 credit hours) or four additional courses in economics or related areas and 3 hours of thesis (15 credit hours).

Financial Economics Track

FIN 850, Managerial Finance	3
ECON 740, Monetary Problems & Policy	3

Three additional courses in economics or finance and a 3 hour research project (12 credit hours) *or* two additional courses in economics or finance and 3 hours of thesis (9 credit hours).

International Economics Track

ECON 672, Intl. Econ & Business	3
ECON 674, Intl. Finance	3
ECON 870, Intl. Finance & Investment	3

Two economics/international-related courses (such as International Business & Competitiveness) and a 3-hour research

project (9 credit hours) *or* one economics/international course and 3 hours of thesis (6 credit hours).

Faculty

J.Cheng, PhD, Vanderbilt University, 1989. International Economics, Macroeconomics.
D.Cho.PhD, University of Illinois, 1973. Money and Banking, Financial Economics.
J.Clark, PhD, Northwestern University, 1976. Transportation, Regulation, Economic Education.
P.Hersch, PhD, Ohio State University, 1982. Applied Microeconomics.
W.Miles, PhD, University of Illinois, 1998, International Economics, Money and Banking, Macroeconomics.
J. Pelkowski, University of Kentucky, 2000, Labor Economics, Health Economics.
M.Perline, PhD, Ohio State University, 1965, Collective Bargaining, Labor Economics.
C. Vijverberg, PhD, University of Pittsburgh, 1982; PhD, Southern Methodist University, 2002. Econometrics.

For More Information

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