

ECONOMICS, M.A.

Degree Requirements (30 Hours)

The M.A. in economics normally takes three full semesters of work. Each student must complete 30 credit hours, successfully complete a comprehensive exam, and maintain a B average (3.00) in the program. The student may elect the Economics track or the Financial Economics track. Within the Economics track, the student may elect the thesis option or non-thesis option. The thesis option requires 24 credit hours of coursework and a 6-credit hour thesis. The non-thesis option requires 30 credit hours of coursework. The Financial Economics track requires 30 credit hours of coursework.

In the first year of the program, all students must complete the four core courses listed below. Elective courses and thesis hours will depend on the track selected, and whether the thesis or non-thesis option is chosen, as specified below.

| Course | Title | Credits |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| Core Courses | | |
| ECON 711 | Applied Microeconomics | 3 |
| ECON 712 | Applied Macroeconomics | 3 |
| ECON 736 | Applied Econometrics | 3 |
| STAT 515 | Statistical Methods I | 3 |
| Tracks | | |
| Select one of the following tracks: | | 18 |
| Economics | | |
| Financial Economics | | |
| Total Credit Hours | | 30 |

Economics Track

Non-Thesis Option

With this option, in addition to the 4 core courses, a total of 6 three-credit-hour elective courses must be taken. Up to three elective courses can be taken outside the department. All coursework must be completed within two years of passing the comprehensive exam and not later than six years after entering the program.

Thesis Option

With this option, in addition to the 4 core courses, a total of 4 three-credit-hour elective courses and 6 credit hours of thesis preparation must be taken. Up to two elective courses can be taken outside the department. The student must present and successfully defend a completed thesis that gives evidence of mature research within two years of passing the comprehensive exam and not later than six years after entering the program.

Note

For the thesis and non-thesis option, at least half of the credit hours must be earned in courses numbered 700 and above (exclusive of thesis preparation course hours).

Financial Economics Track

Students in the Financial Economics Track take 6 three-credit hour courses in addition to the four core courses listed above. All coursework must be completed within two years of passing the comprehensive exam and not later than six years after entering the program.

Of the six courses, there are two required courses:

| Course | Title | Credits |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| FINA 761 | Advanced Financial Management | 3 |
| FINA 762 | Investment Management | 3 |
| Total Credit Hours | | 6 |

Electives

The other courses will be chosen from finance courses at the 700-level or above, with approval by the academic advisor. Exceptions will be at the discretion of the advisor.