Economics, PhD

Requirements

The Doctor of Philosophy program in economics requires a minimum of 72 s.h. of graduate credit. Students must maintain a cumulative grade-point average (GPA) of at least 3.00 to earn the degree. The program provides rigorous training in economic theory, econometrics, and applied economics. It has six components: a coordinated sequence of core courses, a qualifying examination, a research paper, a set of major field courses, a dissertation proposal and comprehensive examination, and a dissertation.

The department partners with the College of Law to offer a combined JD/PhD degree program; see Combined Programs [p.] in this section of the catalog. It also participates in the MBA program; see the Master of Business Administration Program in the catalog.

The PhD in economics requires the following coursework.

Core Sequence

First Semester

Course #	Title	Hours
ECON:5115	Fundamentals of Microeconomics	3
ECON:5200	Macroeconomics I	3
ECON:5805	Statistics for Economics	3

Second Semester

Course #	Title	Hours
ECON:5110	Microeconomics II	3
ECON:5210	Macroeconomics II	3
ECON:5800	Econometrics	3

Third Semester

Course #	Title	Hours
ECON:5810	Applied Econometrics	3
ECON:6320	Labor Economics	3
ECON:6420	Macroeconomics III	3
ECON:6900	Contemporary Topics in Economics	3

Qualifying Examination

The qualifying examination is normally taken the summer after the first year.

Research Paper

The research paper is normally completed the summer after the second year.

Major Field Courses

Students choose a major study area in addition to the core courses. The requirement for the major area is a minimum of 24 s.h. of intensive study in a field and in courses that enable students to understand the relationship between their specialty and related fields.

Dissertation Proposal and Comprehensive Examination

Students must defend a dissertation proposal in a comprehensive examination within one year of completing the research paper requirement.

Dissertation

Submission of the completed dissertation and an oral defense of the dissertation research completes the PhD program.