ECONOMICS (ECO)

425 Stevenson Hall, (309) 438-8625
Economics.IllinoisState.edu
Chairperson: David Cleeton

Programs Offered


Program Requirements

All master’s degree programs require a minimum of 50 percent of the non-thesis credit hours applied to the degree to be 400-level courses or above.

Applied Economics

This option is appropriate for students whose interests lie outside one of the applied fields noted above and for those who intend to pursue doctoral level studies in economics or a related discipline.

Option I—Non-Thesis: The 34 hour program includes:

- 19 hour core: ECO 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 495
- 3 hours: ECO 492
- 9 hours in Economics electives at the 400 level
- 3 hours of additional electives at the 300 or 400 level within Economics and selected in consultation with the Graduate Program Director

Option II—Thesis: The 34 hour program includes:

- 19 hours: ECO 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 495
- 6 hours: Thesis ECO 499
- 6 hours in Economics electives at the 400 level
- 3 hours of additional electives at the 300 or 400 level within or outside Economics and selected in consultation with the Graduate Program Director

Applied Community and Economic Development Sequence

The Applied Community and Economic Development (ACED) sequence is designed for returned Peace Corps Volunteers, and students with equivalent domestic or international experience with other agencies. This 34 hour program includes:

- 19 hours: ECO 437, 438, 440, 441, 492, and 495
- 15 hour ACED core: 490A04, POL/SOC 470, POL/SOC 477, ECO/POL/SOC 478, and ECO 498A03 or 498A90 (5 hours—the sequence ends with a required 11-month internship arranged through the Stevenson Center)

Electricity, Natural Gas, and Telecommunications Economics Sequence

This sequence emphasizes the application of economic analysis to the telecommunications, electric, and natural gas industries. This 34 hour program includes:

- 19 hour core: ECO 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 495
- 3 hours: ECO 492
- 12 hours: ECO 335 (3 hours), 435 (3 hours), and 436 (3 hours); ECO 498A02 (3 hours), or a 3-hour elective may serve as a substitute for ECO 498A02

Financial Economics Sequence

This sequence provides students training in the financial theory of the firm, financial markets and institutions to complement their training in applied economic analysis.

This 34 hour program includes:

- 25 hour core: ECO 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 444, 492, 495
- 6 hours of finance courses: FIL 440 and 3 hours in an FIL 400-level elective
- 3 hours of additional electives at the 300- or 400-level within or outside of Economics and selected in consultation with the Graduate Program Director.

Before enrolling in the sequence, students must consult the Graduate Program Director of the Department of Economics and the MBA Program Office and obtain approval for registering for FIL courses. Students in the graduate program in the Department of Economics who satisfy the following requirements may take graduate level finance courses offered by the College of Business: (1) The student must have taken and passed ECO 437 with a grade of B or better; (2) The student must have a graduate GPA of 3.0 or above.

Economics Courses

320 INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION
3 sem. hrs.
Theoretical and empirical analysis of basic influences on industrial markets and performances. Market practices, the role of competition, and related policy issues. Prerequisite: ECO 240.

326 ECONOMICS OF HUMAN RESOURCES
3 sem. hrs.
Theoretical and empirical analysis of labor markets. Education and training, labor mobility, wage structure, discrimination, unemployment, wage and income policies. Prerequisite: ECO 225 or 240.

335 ECONOMICS OF REGULATION AND ANTITRUST
3 sem. hrs.
The origins, aims, methods and effects of economic regulation and antitrust with an emphasis on case studies. Prerequisite: ECO 239 or 240.

340 HEALTH ECONOMICS AND POLICY
3 sem. hrs.
Study of the production of health care and the market forces that act on individuals, providers, institutions, and policy design. Prerequisite: ECO 240.

343 COMPETITION AND MANAGERIAL STRATEGIES
3 sem. hrs.
Applications of game theory to managerial decisions in competitive, oligopolistic, and monopolistic markets. Prerequisites ECO 239 or 240.
345 INTERNATIONAL TRADE
3 sem. hrs.
Study of the causes and consequences of international trade. Analysis of tariffs, quotas, other trade restrictions, current trade policy and multinational corporations. Prerequisite: ECO 240 or 245.

346 INTERNATIONAL FINANCE
3 sem. hrs.
Analysis of mechanisms of international payments and evaluation of the international monetary system. Topics include exchange rates, balance of payments, international monetary cooperation, and connections between the domestic and international economy. Prerequisite: ECO 241 or 245.

350 PUBLIC FINANCE
3 sem. hrs.
Analysis of the economic impacts of government expenditures and taxes on the allocation of resources and the distribution of income. Prerequisite: ECO 240.

353 REGRESSION AND TIME SERIES ANALYSIS
4 sem. hrs.
Regression and time series methods for business and economic applications, including exponential smoothing and Box-Jenkins methods. Computer statistical package used. Also offered as MAT 353. Prerequisite: Grade of C or better in MAT 351 or equivalent or consent of the instructor.

372 HISTORY OF ECONOMIC THOUGHT
3 sem. hrs.
A study of economic analysis from the Mercantilists to the American Institutionalists. Relates earlier schools of thought to the contemporary. Prerequisites: Two 200-level ECO courses or consent of the instructor.

401 SURVEY OF ECONOMIC PRINCIPLES
3 sem. hrs.
Compresses into a single semester matters ordinarily covered in two semesters of Economic Principles. Enrollment is limited to graduate students who have had no more than one semester of previous study in economics. Cannot be presented for graduate credit by a degree candidate in Economics or in the MBA program.

405 THEORIES OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
3 sem. hrs.
Consideration of economic development theories and their implications for development policy to further economic growth. Prerequisite: ECO 205.

425 ADVANCED LABOR ECONOMICS
3 sem. hrs.
Advanced theoretical and empirical analysis of labor demand, labor supply, inter-industry wage differential, social interaction, and household decision models. Emphasis on contemporary econometric methods. Prerequisites: ECO 326, 437 and 440.

435 PUBLIC UTILITY ECONOMICS
3 sem. hrs.
Principles and institutions of economic regulation, with applications to regulatory reform in the electricity, natural gas and telecommunications industries. Prerequisites: ECO 335 and 440.

436 SEMINAR IN REGULATORY POLICY
3 sem. hrs.
Analysis of the economic issues facing the electric, natural gas, and telecommunications industries. Prerequisite: ECO 435.

437 FUNDAMENTALS OF ECONOMETRICS
3 sem. hrs.
Review of basic statistics. Study of linear regression model and tests of model assumptions. Prerequisites: ECO 105, 138; MAT 121 or 145.

438 MICROECONOMETRICS
3 sem. hrs.
Econometrics techniques related to microeconomics. Topics include instrumental variables, model specification tests, simultaneous equations, cross-section and panel estimation, and binary choice models. Prerequisite: ECO 437.

439 APPLIED TIME SERIES ECONOMETRICS AND FORECASTING
3 sem. hrs.
Study of structural models, univariate and multivariate time series models, and volatility models along with generation of forecasts. Prerequisite: ECO 438.

440 ADVANCED MICROECONOMIC THEORY I
4 sem. hrs.
Optimization techniques, theory of consumer choice, theory of the firm, market equilibrium, and welfare economics. Prerequisites: ECO 240 and work in calculus.

441 ADVANCED MACROECONOMIC THEORY I
3 sem. hrs.
National income analysis with emphasis on the contemporary theories of consumption, investment and interest, also consideration of the level, growth, and fluctuations of national income. Prerequisites: ECO 241 and work in calculus.

443 GAMES AND STRATEGIES
3 sem. hrs.
Foundations of game theory with an emphasis on formal methods. Applications are given to classic games and economic models. Prerequisite: ECO 240 or consent of the instructor.

444 FINANCIAL ECONOMICS
3 sem. hrs.
Analysis of consumers and business firms’ capital budgeting, financing and dividend/payout policy, with focus on asset pricing models. Prerequisites: ECO 437, 440, 441.

445 INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ANALYSIS
3 sem. hrs.
Pure theory of trade, and international finance, growth and trade, balance of payments adjustment, and the theory of exchange rate determination are considered. Prerequisite: ECO 345.

478 TOPICS IN ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING
2 sem. hrs.
Emphasizes skills needed for community and economic development domestically and internationally, including strategic planning, non-profit administration, and feasibility studies. Also offered as POL/SOC 478. Prerequisite: Graduate standing in ECO, POL, or SOA or consent of the instructor.

490 SEMINAR IN ECONOMICS
1-4 sem. hrs.
Multiple enrollments allowed if different topics (see topics below). Prerequisites: Consent of the department chairperson; in addition, for 490A04, must have had at least one course in Economics.
490A04 SEMINAR IN LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
1-4 sem. hrs.
Prerequisites: Consent of the department chairperson; must have had at least one course in Economics.

491 INTERNSHIP IN COLLEGE TEACHING IN ECONOMICS
3 sem. hrs.
Credit for the course is given in the School of Teaching and Learning (see TCH 491).

492 GRADUATE READINGS IN ECONOMICS
1-3 sem. hrs.
For the graduate student who would benefit from a more specialized independent type of study adapted to his/her background and needs. Prerequisite: Consent of the department chairperson and instructor.

495 GRADUATE RESEARCH IN APPLIED ECONOMICS
3 sem. hrs.
Seminar course in applied economics research. Topics will vary by instructor, with students undertaking a substantial research project. Prerequisites: ECO 437, 438, 440, and 441.

498 PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE IN ECONOMICS
1-9 sem. hrs.
Refer to General Courses. Practical experience in a professional capacity under the mentorship of a faculty member. See available topics below. A maximum of six hours may be submitted toward degree completion. Will not count toward the 400-level course requirement. Prerequisites: ECO 437, 438, 440, and 441 and a 3.0 or better GPA.

498A01 PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE: COOP/INTERNSHIP IN ECONOMICS
1-9 sem. hrs.
Refer to General Courses. Practical experience in a professional capacity under the mentorship of a faculty member. A maximum of six hours may be submitted toward degree completion. Will not count toward the 400-level course requirement. Prerequisites: ECO 437, 438, 440, and 441 and a 3.0 or better GPA.

498A02 PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE: COOP/INTERNSHIP IN ELECTRIC, NATURAL GAS AND TELECOMMUNICATION
1-9 sem. hrs.
Refer to General Courses. Practical experience in a professional capacity under the mentorship of a faculty member. A maximum of six hours may be submitted toward degree completion. Will not count toward the 400-level course requirement. Prerequisites: ECO 437, 438, 440, and 441 and a 3.0 or better GPA.

498A03 PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE: COOP/INTERNSHIP IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
1-9 sem. hrs.
Refer to General Courses. Practical experience in a professional capacity under the mentorship of a faculty member. A maximum of six hours may be submitted toward degree completion. Will not count toward the 400-level course requirement. Prerequisites: ECO 437, 438, 440, and 441 and a 3.0 or better GPA.

498A15 PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE: STEVENSON CENTER ASSISTANTSHIP
1 sem. hr.
Refer to General Courses.

499 MASTER'S THESIS
1-6 sem. hrs.
Refer to General Courses.