Why GRADUATE STUDIES in ECONOMICS?

The Economics MA program prepares students for both applied and theoretical research, and for non-academic careers in both the private and public sectors. The program involves a core of courses in economic theory and quantitative methods, together with a range of specialized electives chosen according to each student’s interest and designed to impart economic knowledge that is at the forefront of the discipline. It also involves an independent research component in the form of a MA essay, which helps students develop intellectual independence that is necessary for continuing professional development. There are opportunities to collaborate with the Smith School of Business, Policy Studies, Law and other departments.

Why QUEEN’S?

Economics at Queen’s is widely recognized as one of the leading Economics departments in Canada. The programs are challenging, rigorous, and of small to medium size. Graduates have had great success in initial job placements and in their subsequent careers. All students are assigned an office with a phone and a computer to provide network access.

At Queen’s, graduate students from all disciplines learn and discover in a close-knit intellectual community. You will find friends, peers and support among the graduate students enrolled in Queen’s more than 130 graduate programs within 50+ departments & research centres. With the world’s best scholars, prize-winning professional development opportunities, excellent funding packages and life in the affordable, historic waterfront city of Kingston, Queen’s offers a wonderful environment for graduate studies.

Program STRUCTURE

MA (1 year): Course work, independent research project/essay.

Master’s students have to take three required courses and four elective courses and complete a MA essay under the supervision of a faculty member.

RESEARCH Areas

- Macroeconomics
- Macroeconomic Theory
- Applied Microeconomics
- Applied Econometrics
- Economic History

Visit the Economics website to read faculty profiles and learn more about faculty members’ research areas. Typically, students find a supervisor after joining the MA program and in the course of taking their Fall and Winter semester courses, during which most students percolate towards a specific area of research interest.

“The Queen’s Economics Department is a fantastic place to be a graduate student. The coursework is challenging and the professors are approachable. The department hosts regular workshops in microeconomics, macroeconomics and econometrics and provides grad students with the opportunity to meet and engage with visiting researchers.”

– Kevin Andrew, PhD
### Economics

**MA MAP**

#### GETTING STARTED
- **Achieve Your Academic Goals**
  - Start with key priorities like completing core courses and choosing elective courses that align with your interests and career goals.
  - Consider how your course papers can contribute to your MA essay or thesis.
  - Find your way through the academic process with help from departmental and Expanding Horizons' professional development workshops.
- **Maximize Research Impact**
  - Start to think about the audiences for your research.
  - If you will be continuing graduate studies, apply for SSHRC and OGS funding.
- **Build Skills and Experience**
  - Consider positions in student services, the SGSA, or media outlets like the Queen's Journal, CFRN, and the SGS Blog. Look in the AMS Clubs Directory for more ideas.
  - Serve on departmental, faculty or university committees. Talk to the Economics Graduate Student Executive for tips on getting involved.
  - Check out professional development workshops from Expanding Horizons and the Economics Department.
- **Engage with Your Community**
  - Explore how you can connect with your community through experiential opportunities on- and off-campus.
  - Consider volunteering with different local community organizations, such as Martha's Table or Loving Spoonful.
- **Launch Your Career**
  - Finding a career that fits starts with knowing yourself. Get help by taking a Career Services career planning workshop or meeting with a career counsellor.
  - Check out books like So What Are You Going to Do? With That? or The Academic Job Search from the Career Resource Area for advice on various career options.
  - Start reading publications like University Affairs and the Chronicle of Higher Education. Browse non-academic labour market websites. Stay on the lookout for special events like Graduate Student Career Forum to explore your career pathways.
  - Check admission test deadlines if needed for further studies.

#### INTERMEDIATE STAGE
- **Complete your coursework; find a supervisor and begin to research and write your MA essay or thesis.**
- **Start keeping an eportfolio of your skills, experiences and competencies.**
- **Use a Research Assistant or Teaching Assistant position to develop your research or teaching skills.**
  - For help with teaching, get support from the Centre for Teaching and Learning. Enroll in SGS901 or the PROF certificate for more professional development in teaching and learning.
- **Participate in your graduate and professional community through activities such as graduate student outreach programs, organizing conferences, and research groups.**
- **Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking the Dual and Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre's Training Certificate.**
  - If you are an international student interested in staying in Canada, consider the QUIC and Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre's Training Certificate.
- **Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest, through Queen's Connects on LinkedIn, the Queen's Alumni Association, professional associations, and at conferences. Get help from a Career Services workshop.**
- **Practice articulating the skills you have been developing in settings outside the university, such as casual conversation, networking, and interviews. Get help from a Career Services workshop.**
- **Consider publication options for your research.**
- **Attend a major conference in your field, such as the Canadian Economics Association Conference, CEA annual meeting, or the Canadian Economic Theory Conference.**
- **Set up a meeting with the School of Graduate Studies for a Grad Chat to discuss your research interests.**

#### WRAPPING UP
- **Complete your MA essay or thesis.**
- **Consider publication options for your research.**
- **Attend a major conference in your field, such as the Canadian Economics Association Conference, CEA annual meeting, or the Canadian Economic Theory Conference.**
- **Set up a meeting with the School of Graduate Studies for a Grad Chat to discuss your research interests.**

### WHAT WILL I LEARN?
- A graduate degree in Economics can equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:
  - Knowledge and technical skills
  - Effective communication skills
  - Information management
  - Project management,
  - Creativity and innovation
  - Leadership,
  - Independence and experience as a collaborative worker,
  - Professionalism
  - Research and cultural sensitivity
  - Research organizations of interest and start putting together your CV or resume for potential positions of interest. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes, or interviews.

### WHERE CAN I GO?
- A Master's degree in Economics can take your career in many directions.
  - Many of our MA students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a PhD. Our Master's students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:
  - Public sector
  - Banking
  - Economic research
  - Consultancy
  - Law
  - Statistics
  - Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.
Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
- Most students accepted for admission to our M.A. program possess an honours bachelor degree with a major concentration in economics. Applicants who do not possess a degree in economics must be able to demonstrate a strong background in economics.
- Grade requirements: a minimum average of 80% is typically competitive.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- List of the five most recent courses and marks in economics, math, or statistics.
- Two official transcripts.
- Minimum 2 academic reference letters (maximum of 4 references)
- A Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score may be required.
- If English is not a native language, prospective students must meet the English language proficiency requirements in writing, speaking, reading, and listening. The School of Graduate Studies requires the following minimum scores: TOEFL (paper-based): 550, (2) TOEFL iBT: Writing (24/30); Speaking (22/30); Reading (22/30); Listening (20/30), for a total of 88/120 (applicants must have the minimum score in each test as well as the minimum overall score), or (3) IELTS: 7.0 (academic module overall band score), or (4) PTE Academics: 65.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES
- Application due: January 15th.
- Notification of acceptance: Mid-February and onwards.

Before you start your application, please review the Graduate studies application process.

What about FUNDING?

Most M.A. students in Economics receive funding in the form of scholarships and Teaching Assistantships. The amount of funding varies, depending on the strength of the application package. In the past 2 years, the average level of funding provided was $15,000.

Apply for external funding from OGS, SSHRC and other sources. Queen’s will automatically issue a $5,000 top-up to Masters winners of federal government tri-council awards. For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies’ information on awards and scholarships.