

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- Completion of a **bachelor's degree** with a GPA of 3.0 or better
- Program prerequisites: Intermediate Microeconomics (ECON 4010) and Intermediate Macroeconomics (ECON 4020); Proficiency in Linear Algebra, Calculus, and Statistics
- 3 Letters of Reference
- International Applicants: TOEFL-IBT = 80+, IELTS = 6.5+, or Duolingo English Test = 105+

See page 2 for application process.

Application + materials deadline: January 15 (Fall admission only).

Visit economics.utah.edu for detailed information and to apply.

MATH EXAM (Summer before First Year): An optional [mathematics refresher tutorial](#) is offered by the department before the first semester of the PhD course. Students must take the department's [math exam](#) before the start of Fall semester. Students are not required to pass the exam in order to continue.

1. PHD CORE (First Year): All PhD students are expected to be full-time during their first year, registering for 12 credit hours in Fall and 9 credit hours in Spring.

Fall Semester	Spring Semester
<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7005 Microeconomics I	<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7006 Microeconomics II
<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7007 Macroeconomics I	<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7008 Macroeconomics II
<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7003 Political Economy I	<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7004 Political Economy II
<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7590 Econometrics	<input type="checkbox"/> *** ECON 7800 Econometrics I

***ECON 7800 is a required core course; it is generally taken during the second year.

QUALIFYING EXAMS (End of First Year): Qualifying exams covering Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, and Political Economy are given during May and June following Spring semester of the first year. Students are allowed to retake these exams **once**. [Sample exams](#) are available.

CREDIT HOUR REQUIREMENT (Additional 8 Courses/24 Credit Hours): After completion of the Core courses, students must take an additional 24 credit hours including one Methodology course, 6 electives, and one research workshop course.

2. METHODOLOGY SEMINAR (Second or Third Year): Take one

Methodology (offered alternate years)
<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7400 Economic History
<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7600 or 7601 History of Economic Doctrines

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

- Minimum coursework credit hours: 48; Minimum dissertation research hours: 14
- A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required for graduation
- Completion of all courses with C- or better (B- or better for research methodology course; B or better in ECON 7590 and 7800) (see [PhD Policy](#))
- Successful defense of dissertation and release through [Thesis Office](#)

3. ELECTIVE COURSEWORK (Second and Third Years): Students are required to complete 6 doctoral-level courses (18 credits) in economics elective courses. See table below for a list of courses that are regularly offered. Graduate-level coursework in other departments may be substituted for an economics elective on a limited basis and based on consultation with and prior approval of the student's committee chair and the doctoral program director.

Electives	Electives
<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7020 International Economics I	<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7320 Advanced Health Economics
<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7021 International Monetary Econ	<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7400 Economic History
<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7100 Industrial Organization I	<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7500 Advanced Monetary Theory
<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7150 Labor and Gender I	<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7560 Economic Development I
<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7180 Labor and Gender II	<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7600 History of Economic Doctrines I
<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7250 Advanced Natural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7801 Econometrics II
<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7251 Advanced Environmental Econ	<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7960 Special Topics (Vary)

4. RESEARCH WORKSHOPS (Second and Third Years): All second- and third-year students are required to participate in research workshops organized by the faculty. These workshops vary, but typically reflect the department's emphases in inequality, globalization, and sustainability. As part of their active participation in these workshops students are required to:

- attend,
- present,
- submit a research idea to their workshop by the end of their second year,
- submit and have an extended research abstract approved through their workshop by the end of their third year.

Third-year students register for [ECON 7900 Research Workshop](#) in the Spring semester to earn credit for their two years of participation in these Research Workshops. Grading is cumulative and based on the above steps a-d during their second and third years.

5. DISSERTATION RESEARCH (After Completing Coursework):

Dissertation research begins during the third year and ends with a final defense. Throughout the dissertation stage, student research is supervised by a committee of faculty who are expert in the student's area of study. Students must register for a total of at least 14 credit hours of ECON 7970 while carrying out their dissertation research.

Dissertation
<input type="checkbox"/> ECON 7970 Research

Planned 2024-2025 Elective Offerings	
Fall 2024	Spring 2025
<input type="checkbox"/> 7021 International Monetary Economics	<input type="checkbox"/> 7180 Labor and Gender II
<input type="checkbox"/> 7100 Industrial Organization I	<input type="checkbox"/> 7250 Adv. Natural Resource Economics
<input type="checkbox"/> 7150 Labor and Gender I	<input type="checkbox"/> 7400 Economic History
<input type="checkbox"/> 7560 Economic Development I	<input type="checkbox"/> 7960 Topics: Antitrust
<input type="checkbox"/> 7801 Econometrics II	

Tentative 2025-2026 Elective Offerings	
Fall 2025	Spring 2026
<input type="checkbox"/> 7020 International I	<input type="checkbox"/> 7251 Adv. Environmental Economics
<input type="checkbox"/> 7600 History of Economic Doctrines I	<input type="checkbox"/> 7320 Adv. Health Economics
<input type="checkbox"/> 7801 Econometrics II	<input type="checkbox"/> 7500 Adv. Monetary Theory
<input type="checkbox"/> 7960 Topics: Behavioral/Experimental	<input type="checkbox"/> 7960 Topics: Bayesian Statistics

The schedule of elective offerings is subject to change. For the latest updates on course schedules, please see catalog.utah.edu.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

Applications open August 1.

Applications to the PhD program are made online through the [Slate system](#).

All materials should be uploaded through the system, not sent to the Department of Economics or to the University of Utah Admissions Office.

- Three letters of recommendation from academic sources. The recommendation process will be completed online through the Slate system. **Please confirm** with your referees before submitting your application that they have a valid email address and internet access.
- A brief statement of personal academic goals (2 page maximum)
- Unofficial transcripts (If you are admitted, official transcripts will be required)
- For International Applicants: **Official [English Proficiency test scores](#)** (IELTS, TOEFL, or Duolingo) submitted electronically

Applications and all required materials must be submitted by January 15th.

We recommend that applicants submit by January 1st to allow time for the Office of Admissions to prereview the application and request any missing materials.

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