

**Policy on Standards of Academic Performance and Academic Conduct for  
the Master's programs in Economics  
Department of Economics  
University of Utah**

The Department of Economics has the right to dismiss Master's students who do not make satisfactory academic progress or who engage in academic misconduct. In particular:

- Master's students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- The minimum passing grade for required economics core courses (ECON 6610, 6620, and 6630) is a B-.
- Master's students must pass all courses with a minimum grade of C-. The Graduate School will not accept any grade below a C- as credit towards a graduate degree.
- Master's students must successfully defend a project/thesis by an oral examination attended by members of their selected project/thesis committee within 4 years from their first enrollment in the program.
- Academic dishonesty is not allowed as defined by the University of Utah Student Code, Policy 6-400 (<http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php>).

Failure to obtain the minimum grade in a core course as specified above or a cumulative GPA below 3.0 means the student has not demonstrated competence in the discipline necessary for success within the Program. For these reasons, the following actions are recommended:

- Students who receive a grade lower than a B- in an economics core course are on Departmental probation. The student will be notified in writing in a timely manner that he or she is on Departmental probation and that a plan of remediation will be implemented by the Department.
- As remediation the student can take a core course at most twice. The student will be dismissed from the program if he or she fails to secure the minimum letter grade specified above on the second try.
- Failure to secure a grade of B- in three economics core courses is grounds for the student's dismissal from the program. This policy will be implemented as follows: students will be automatically dismissed from the program if they get a grade lower than C- in three core courses; students who fail to secure a letter grade B- or above but whose grades are C- or better in an economics core course will be placed on Departmental probation and a plan of remediation will be implemented by the Department.
- A student whose cumulative GPA falls below 3.0, even if he/she meets the minimum grade requirements above, will be on Departmental probation. Probation means that the student is expected to bring his/her GPA above 3.0 within a specified timeframe, usually two academic semesters (excluding the summer semester).

- If the student fails to bring his/her GPA above 3.0 within the specified time frame, the student will work with the Department on a plan of remediation. Although the Department will try to tailor the remediation plan to each individual case, it may, for example, involve a set of courses recommended by the faculty (or the director of the program) which the student must pass with grades that will bring the student's GPA above 3.0.
- Students who fail the project/thesis defense have to complete the required revisions on the project/thesis and secure the approval of their advisor (Master's Committee Chair) within one academic year.
- Students are expected to graduate within 4 years from their first enrollment in the program. Students must file a request for extension or for a leave of absence if they need more time to successfully complete the program.

This policy applies to Master's in Economics students. Actions arising from this policy may be appealed by the student using the appeals process outlined by the University of Utah – Appeals of Grades and Other Academic Actions.