



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

MASTER OF ARTS (MA) PROGRAM IN ECONOMICS

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Welcome from the Graduate Chair



Welcome to our graduate programs in Economics at the University of Saskatchewan! I would like to share with you with a couple of great initiatives we introduced to our programs in 2019.

We have established a PhD program in Applied Economics jointly with the Jonhson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, the Department of Finance (Edwards School of Business) and the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics (College of Agriculture and Bioresources) at the U of S. This is an exciting opportunity for students to advance their education while staying in Saskatoon. This is a very unique program in Canada since it combines four different academic units. Please check <https://appliedecon.usask.ca/> for what the program has to offer.

We have introduced paid co-op internships for our MA students. This is an excellent opportunity for those who plan to enter professional careers upon completion of our program. It gives hands-on learning experience for our students to apply concepts and skills learned in courses to real world problems. For more information please visit <https://artsandscience.usask.ca/economics/graduates/coop-internships.php>

I wish our graduate students and faculty a successful academic year! If you would like to learn more about our programs please do not hesitate to contact us.

Dr. Maxym Chaban
Associate Professor
Grad Program Chair

GRADUATE STUDIES IN ECONOMICS

2. *Disclaimer*

This booklet is for current students in the program. The current course catalogue and Graduate Student Handbook (General Information and Regulations) of the College of Graduate Studies and Research (CGSR) takes precedence over this handbook. Should there be any point of contradiction between the two, the CGSR's Calendar and Handbook takes precedence. The Department of Economics reserves the right to change the procedures described in this handbook; the information following may not always reflect such changes.

3. *Curriculum*

All master's students must complete the following four (12 cu) core courses in economics:

Econ 800.3	Microeconomic Theory	Econ 801.3	Macroeconomic Theory
Econ 805.3	Mathematical Analysis	Econ 808.3	Econometrics I

M.A. Thesis Option:

In addition to the 12cu of core courses, students are required to take at least one elective graduate level course (3 cu) in his/her area of specialization. A thesis must be submitted and successfully defended in partial fulfillment of the M.A. degree. Each student must have a thesis supervisor and two additional faculties as members of his/her advisory committee. Students are required to register in ECON 994 every term until the requirement for thesis completion are satisfied.

Guide to Preparation of Theses

<https://artsandscience.usask.ca/economics/documents/GUIDETOPREPARATIONOFTHESES.pdf>

M.A. Research Paper Option:

In addition to the 12cu of core courses, students are required to take at least four elective graduate level courses (12 cu). An independent Project (ECON 992) must be completed under the supervision of a faculty member and must be submitted in partial fulfillment of the M.A. degree. The research paper is evaluated by the supervisor and two other faculty members. Students must register in ECON 992 every term until all requirements for project completion are satisfied.

ECON 990

Students in both Thesis and Project options must register in ECON 990 until the requirements of the course are satisfied. The first requirement is that students attend eight seminars presented by faculty speakers in the Economics Seminar Series during the first year of study. <http://artsandscience.usask.ca/economics/research/seminars.php>

Students are required to submit a written report to the Graduate Chair about the eight seminars once all eight seminars are attended. The form for the report is provided by the Graduate Chair. The second requirement is that students attend all ECON 990 presentations by fellow graduate students while registered in the course. Finally, when determined by the supervisor, students shall do their ECON 990 presentations. Once all requirements are

satisfied the Graduate Chair enters the credit for the course. There is no registration for ECON 990 in the summer term.

GSR 960 - Introduction to Ethics and Integrity

Students register in GSR 960 in Term 1 of the first year of their program. It is an online course which is completed during Term 1.

ECON 987 – MA Co-op Internships

This course is for those MA students who are on a co-op placement. Students register in this course once they receive and accept a placement offer that is approved by the Graduate Programs Chair. There is an additional tuition fee for this course. The current rates are \$500 for domestic and \$790 for international students per term in addition to the regular tuition rates. The current tuition rates at the U of S for graduate students: <https://students.usask.ca/money/tuition-fees/graduate-tuition.php#GraduatetuitionratesSept2019Aug2020>

4. *MA Economics with Co-op designation*

Co-op internships are available to MA Economics students upon enrollment in the MA Economics with co-op designation degree. Internships are intended to complement study terms with work terms and to provide students with hands-on experience. Such internships are valuable for students seeking Canadian work experience and for students planning to enter the job market upon completion of the program. Companies participating in co-op internships gain an opportunity to observe students in the working environment. Such companies gain a first-mover advantage in the hunt for talent.

- The program is open to any MA Economics student with 70% GPA. There is no enrollment fee.
- Each co-op placement is for 4 months (or 12-17 weeks)
- At least one placement is **mandatory** for the degree
- Co-op internship experience is an integral part of the program leading to the “**MA Economics with co-op designation**” degree
- A student can participate in a maximum of 3 co-op terms with the same or different employers
- Co-op terms start in January, May, or September
- Students can participate in consecutive co-op terms, or can alternate between study and co-op terms
- Students on co-op terms register in Econ 987.0 *Co-op Internships* course and pay differential tuition. Students also required to maintain registration in Econ 990 and Econ 992 (or Econ 994)
- At the end of each co-op placement, students are required to submit a written report to receive a credit for Econ 987
- International students **must** obtain a Co-op Work Visa: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/work/intern.html>
- The first co-op placement can take place in May of the first year of studies, provided all required coursework is completed
- Co-op terms can not exceed 50% of the time in the program

- Reallocation costs are responsibility of students unless the host organization covers such costs
- Co-op internships are full-time (37.5-40 hours per week) and paid by host organizations according to the market conditions

5. *Academic Advising*

Graduate Students will sign a Supervisor Agreement upon arrival on campus. The Graduate Chair establishes the Program of Study (POS) for each student in October of the first year, following a meeting to determine the course sequence and research interest. By the end of the first year students are expected to choose a research topic and advisor.

Please refer to our website for a list of Current Faculty Members:

<http://artsandscience.usask.ca/economics/people/> and Faculty Research:

<https://artsandscience.usask.ca/economics/research/faculty.php>

Elective courses can be taken outside the Department, but in an area related to the student's field of specialization. All elective courses are approved by the Graduate Chair. The graduate committee may grant transfer credits for graduate course equivalent completed at another university.

6. *Course Offerings*

The Department offers graduate level courses in Microeconomic Theory, Macroeconomic Theory, Econometrics and Mathematical Analysis each year. In addition, we offer a selection of courses from among Econometrics II, Macro II, Micro II, Game Theory, Economics of Behavior, Health Economics, International Trade and Environment, Public Finance, and Labour Economics. [For Current Course Offerings refer to: <http://students.usask.ca/academics/classes.php>]

7. *Thesis Proposal*

Each master's student will prepare a thesis/project proposal consisting of a problem, objectives, literature review, conceptual/theoretical model, and approach to study (methodology), prior to undertaking the research.

8. *Graduation Standard*

Students must obtain 60% in each graduate course required in their Program of Studies, and a cumulative weighted average of at least 70% for all courses.

9. *University Policy on Academic Dishonesty*

Academic dishonesty is subject to severe penalty at the University of Saskatchewan. Please refer to the University Calendar: Student Rights, Discipline, and Appeals. The Regulations on Student Academic Misconduct of the University of Saskatchewan Council can also be found at <https://secretariat.usask.ca/documents/student-conduct-appeals/StudentAcademicMisconduct.pdf>

10. *Research Publication*

Following the CGSR regulation, electronic copies of all theses are submitted to the College of Graduate Studies. Refer to <https://students.usask.ca/graduate/thesis->

[etd.php#Submissiondeadlines](https://artsandscience.usask.ca/economics/graduates/thesis.php) for electronic submission of thesis. List of recently completed Theses and Projects is located at: <https://artsandscience.usask.ca/economics/graduates/thesis.php>

11. *Time Limit*

All requirements for a Master's Degree must be completed within five years of the date of registration in the first course, or other requirement of the Program of Studies as approved, for the award of the degree.

12. *Facilities*

Graduate Student Study Spaces

All graduate students are provided study space and lockers by the College of Arts and Science. These study spaces are located in Arts 22. All graduate students are assigned a mailbox located in Arts 824.

Computing & Library Facilities

Room 22 Arts Building is equipped with computers and a printer for use by our graduate students. All the computers in the grad room are connected to the Arts and Science network. In addition, graduate students also have access to the Arts and Science computer labs. All the necessary software required for graduate student research is available. Please aim to print no more than 500 pages per student per term.

The seminar room, called the Timlin Room (Arts 807), in the Department contains a small library with leading economics journals. Items may be **not to be removed**. However, older theses may be borrowed, with permission. The Murray Memorial Library is the main university library which contains collections of economics journals and books. Internet learning resources, such as electronic journals and databases, can be accessed through the library webpage.