

Preparing for a PhD in Economics

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- A PhD in economics is a research degree. You should pursue this degree only if you are interested in a career in which you use economic models and data to answer research questions.
- PhD economists are employed in academia, government, think tanks and industry.

Calendar

- Before You Apply
- Academic Year of Application

Before You Apply: Coursework

- Math
 - Multivariate Calculus
 - Linear Algebra
 - Real Analysis
 - Second Semester of Analysis*
 - Differential Equations*

*Not required for admission; but will help you get out of graduate school

Before You Apply: Coursework

- Economics (avoid PhD level coursework)
 - You don't have to major in economics
 - Intermediate Micro
 - Intermediate Macro
 - Econometrics (two semesters)
 - Coursework in Field of Interest
 - More mathematical theory (125, 126, 135, 136, 350, 351)*
 - Advanced courses in probability and statistics in the math or stats departments*

Before You Apply: Coursework

- Many of the preparatory courses are hard. The admissions committee recognizes this. A *B* in any of these classes is not disqualifying.

Before You Apply: Masters?

- You do not need a masters to enter a PhD program in the US.
- You may choose to enter a masters program that has coursework that looks like the first year of the PhD program. Many of these masters programs are in Europe.

Before You Apply: Research

- Research Experience
 - Work for economics professor during academic year or summer
 - Write a senior essay
- Speak with Economics Professors (and Graduate Students)
 - Learn more about getting a PhD
 - Secure recommendations

Academic Year of Application: Fall

- Research Programs and Create Your Target List
 - Grades, GRE needed
 - Fields Offered (Do not choose a school based on one professor)
 - Program Culture (competitive, cooperative)
- Take GRE
 - Math score critical (770+ or 161+)

Academic Year of Application

- Winter: Applications Due
 - Apply for both admission and outside funding (NSF, Ford)
- Spring: Receive acceptances
 - Visit Schools (culture of students; faculty you want to work with)
 - Compare funding packages
 - Choose

Resources

- <http://economics.yale.edu/undergraduate/pursuing-a-phd>
- <https://www.aeaweb.org/resources/students/grad-prep>
- **Professor Guinnane**, 27 HH #12, generally Tuesdays 2:30-4:30 pm, Thursday 7:30-8:45 am (<https://sites.google.com/site/timothywguinnane/office-hours>)
- **Professor Washington**, 37 HH #36, generally Thursdays 1:30-3:30 pm (<http://economics.yale.edu/undergraduate/dus-office-hours>)