PhD in Economics

Admission Requirements

Applicants are considered on an individual basis. Transcripts from all colleges and universities attended in the last eight years must be submitted. In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, applicants must meet the following program requirements:

- **Baccalaureate Field** Applicants must have a BA or BS to matriculate, but an undergraduate degree in economics is not required. Prior academic work should include three semesters of calculus, as well as linear algebra, statistics, intermediate microeconomic theory, and intermediate macroeconomic theory.

- **Grade Point Average** At least 3.00/4.00 for the final 60 semester hours (90 quarter hours) of undergraduate study.

- **Tests Required** GRE.

- **Minimum English Competency Test Score**
  - TOEFL 80, with sub-scores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Speaking 20, and Writing 21 (iBT Internet-based); 60, with sub-scores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Writing 21 (New Paper-Based—after August 2018); 550 (Institutional Testing Paper-Based—prior to August 2018), OR,
  - IELTS 6.5, with sub-scores of 6.0 for all four sub-scores, OR,
  - PTE Academic 54, with sub-scores of Reading 51, Listening 47, Speaking 53, and Writing 56.

- **Letters of Recommendation** Three letters are required.

- **Personal Statement and Resume/CV** A personal statement and a Resume/CV are required.

- **Writing Sample** A writing sample is required.

- **Deadlines** Application deadlines (http://grad.uic.edu/deadlines) for this program are listed on the Graduate College website, and on the Department of Economics website. (http://econ.uic.edu/economics/graduate-students)

Degree Requirements

- **Minimum Semester Hours Required** 104 from the baccalaureate, 72 from the master’s.

- **Course Work**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECON 509</td>
<td>Microeconomic Theory I</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON 510</td>
<td>Microeconomic Theory II</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON 511</td>
<td>Macroeconomic Theory I</td>
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<td>ECON 512</td>
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<td>ECON 534</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON 539</td>
<td>Microeconometrics</td>
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Select one of the following two areas of study:

**Applied Microeconomics Area**

- ECON 531 Labor Economics I
- ECON 575 Public Economics I

Two topics courses selected from the following:

- ECON 516 Development Economics
- ECON 532 Labor Economics II

**International Macroeconomics Area**

- ECON 515 International Monetary Policy
- ECON 537 Time Series Econometrics

Two topics courses selected from the following:

- ECON 516 Development Economics
- ECON 531 Labor Economics I
- ECON 532 Labor Economics II
- ECON 551 Economics of Education
- ECON 555 Health Economics I
- ECON 575 Public Economics I

Alternative topics courses may be selected in consultation with the department.

**Elettes**

One additional graduate-level course in economics

Two other graduate-level courses related to the student's area of study in either economics or another discipline

- **Examinations**
  - *Departmental Qualifying Examinations*: Students must take written qualifying examinations in microeconomics, macroeconomics, and econometrics within two years after entering the program. Students who receive a failing grade on any qualifying exam on three occasions or who have not passed the microeconomics and macroeconomics examinations by the end of their second year of study and the econometrics examination by the end of their third year of study will not be allowed to continue in the PhD program.
  - *Preliminary Examinations*: Students must also take written a preliminary exam based on one of the two areas of study (Applied Microeconomics, International Macroeconomics) and two topics courses of the student's choice. All students will take one preliminary examination, containing a variety of questions covering all offered area and topics courses. Students who receive a failing grade on the preliminary exam on two occasions will not be allowed to continue in the program.

- **Third-Year Paper** The Third Year Paper is an original piece of research that conforms to the style and length of articles published in professional journals. The Third Year Paper will be supervised and graded by two faculty members, one of whom will serve as the principal advisor and be a member of the Department of Economics. The Third Year Paper should be completed by end of the third year (August).

- **Dissertation** Required.

Interdepartmental Concentrations

Students earning a graduate degree in this department may complement their courses by enrolling in select concentrations after consulting with their graduate advisor. Interdepartmental concentrations available for this degree include:

- Gender and Women’s Studies (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/liberal-arts-sciences/gws-conc)
PhD in Economics

- Latin American and Latino Studies (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/liberal-arts-sciences/lais-conc)