

# Graduate Study Guide

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## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ECONOMICS

The purpose of this guide is to describe the requirements and procedures established by the University Graduate School and the Department of Economics governing a student's progress toward the Master of Science degree in Economics. Many of the detailed requirements of the University Graduate School are not reproduced here. For those, the student should consult the [University Graduate School Bulletin](#).

Department of Economics  
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## I. GENERAL INFORMATION

### A. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The following submissions are required to be considered for the M.S. program: (1) electronic application; (2) acceptable scores on the Graduate Record Examination (verbal, quantitative, and analytical sections); (3) three letters of recommendation, transcripts of course work, and other materials as required by the University Graduate School and the Office of International Services; (4) acceptable scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) exam if your native language is not English.

### B. TRANSFER OF CREDIT

After completing one semester in residence at Indiana University with the approval of the Director of M.S. program, candidates for the M.S. degree may transfer up to 8 hours of graduate credit from other institutions. The student must obtain the written consent from the Director of M.S. Program of the Department of Economics and the University Graduate School Dean before credit earned at other institutions will be added to his or her record. Courses offered for transfer of credit must (1) be completed within 5 years of the degree date; and (2) have a grade of B or better.

### C. REGISTRATION AND COUNSELING

Counseling is available through the Director of the M.S. Program who will review the work of each graduate student every semester until the student applies for graduation. The student will be notified if there are any problems with respect to his/her/their status as a graduate student in good standing.

*New Students:* New students will confer with the Director of the M.S. Program in the Department of Economics regarding their course selections. At the request of the Director of the M.S. Program, non-native speakers of English may be required to take the Indiana Academic English Test (IAET) before beginning studies at IU. If a student is not found exempt from English proficiency courses based on their results of the test, they must finish the courses before they will be allowed to graduate. Credit hours for these courses, though counting toward full-time student status, do not accrue toward the total number required for a degree.

*Continuing Students:* M.S. students should consult with the Director of the M.S. Program about their course selection for the following semester and their standing in the Program. The graduate coordinator can schedule the meetings. Students may not register for coursework outside of the Program without the explicit permission from the Director of the M.S. Program. In order to facilitate course scheduling, the continuing students are required to pre-register for the following semester at the Department's graduate office. Pre-registration will take place in October and March.

*Course Loads:* The normal course load for an M.S. student is 10 credit hours per semester. Full time status requires enrollment in a minimum of 8 credits. Permission of the M.S. Program Director is required for any student who wishes to take more than 10 credits.

### D. GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT GOVERNMENT (GPSG)

The Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG) serves over 10,000 graduate and professional students at IU-Bloomington by providing academic support, community, advocacy, and graduate resources. Their website is <https://gpso.sitehost.iu.edu/> The Department of Economics normally has a Ph.D. student representing our Department in this organization.

E. ACADEMIC PROBATION

When the grade point average of a student falls below 3.0, or the student is not making satisfactory progress toward the degree, the Director of the M.S. Program will recommend to the College of Arts and Sciences that the student be placed on academic probation. Unless the student brings his/her/their record up to a 3.0 grade point average, or meets the satisfactory progress requirements within the next semester of enrollment, the Director of the M.S. Program will undertake a review and will recommend to the College further actions including probation for an additional semester and possible dismissal from the program.

F. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Academic integrity is fundamental to any graduate program. The Department Chair and the Director of the M.S. Program will determine specific penalties for any acts of academic dishonesty. The Graduate Studies Committee has established the following rules for disciplinary action in cases of flagrant cheating or plagiarism.

Cheating or Plagiarism in Course Work and Exams: A failing grade is recommended (instructor's discretion). In addition, the student may be expelled from the program.

The Graduate Program in Economics follows Indiana University policies and procedures concerning the cases of academic dishonesty such as plagiarism, cheating, and fraud. Information on Indiana University policies and procedures on these matters can be found in the [University Policies](#) and the [Indiana University Code of Students Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct](#).

## II. REQUIREMENTS FOR THE M.S. DEGREE

### A. GENERAL

A total of 30 credit hours is required for this degree. All of our M.S. students typically take the same set of three classes in each of the first two semesters. In the third semester, students choose one of two tracks: *Game Theory* or *Financial Markets*.

The coursework in this program can be finished in three semesters. Students must maintain a minimum average GPA of B (3.0) in order to remain in good standing in the Graduate School. Courses to be counted toward the degree must be passed with a grade of B- (2.7) or better.

## III. COURSES

### A. SEMESTER 1

**ECON-M 500** Mathematics for Economists (3 credit hours)

**ECON-M 501** Microeconomic Theory I (3 credit hours)

**ECON-M 504** Econometrics I (4 credit hours)

### B. SEMESTER 2

**ECON-M 511** Microeconomic Theory II (3 credit hours)

**ECON-M 502** Macroeconomics (3 credit hours)

**ECON-M 514** Econometrics II (4 credit hours)

### C. SEMESTER 3

**ECON-M 517** Computational Economics (4 credit hours)

Track 1: Game Theory

**ECON-M 516** Game Theory (3 credit hours)

**ECON-M 518** Econometrics: Big Data (3 credit hours)

Track 2: Financial Markets

**ECON-M 513** Financial Economics (3 credit hours)

**ECON-M 524** Financial Econometrics (3 credit hours)