Graduate Handbook

Department of Economics

Master of Arts

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“Your Stepping Stone to Become a Professional Economist”

QED offers one of the most prestigious MA degrees in Canada. Our department has a distinguished history, ranks among the top research departments in Canada, and is highly regarded internationally. Most of our MA graduates embark on successful careers in business and government or continue their education in a top quality PhD program.

This handbook provides information about the Department of Economics at Queen’s University and its MA program in Economics. It is also a reference for prospective students, current students and faculty members outlining the rules and procedures of the program. These rules are to implement the general rules and regulations of the School of Graduate Studies at Queen’s University.

Students are encouraged to consult both, this handbook and the general regulations of the School of Graduate Studies.

For any questions pertaining this handbook, please contact the Graduate Office in the Department of Economics.

Contact the Graduate Office:

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A Brief History of QED

QED has a distinguished history and ranks among the top research departments in Canada. It is highly regarded internationally and many alumni have successful careers in the academic, public and private sectors in Canada and world-wide.

The first courses in Economics were taught at Queen's as early as 1877, but it wasn't until 1889 that a separate Department of Political and Economic Science was founded. In 1964, the modern Department of Economics was established as a separate unit.

There has always been a strong interest in Canadian public policy in the Department and members of the Department have played a major role in the formation of the professional Public Service in Ottawa. Three of Queen's Principals – W.A. Mackintosh, John Deutsch, and David Smith – have been drawn from the Economics department, as has the former Chancellor (and former Governor of the Bank of Canada) David A. Dodge.

QED currently has about 25 – 30 faculty members spanning a wide range of economic topics and fields. Life in the Department is enriched by several adjunct faculty members who draw on a rich experience from their professional careers. The Department graduates more than 150 undergraduate students and about 30 MA students each year. Also, more than 300 students have been awarded their doctorate degree since the 1970s.

Definitions

The following terms are commonly used in connection with the Economics graduate programs.

Graduate Coordinator	The Coordinator of Graduate Studies oversees the day- to-day operation of the Departmental graduate program.
Graduate Admissions Committee	A committee that evaluates applications for admission to graduate programs. It consists of the Graduate Coordinator (Chair), two or more additional faculty members, and two or more student representatives.
Graduate Program Assistant	Under the direction of the Graduate Coordinator, the Graduate Program Assistant administers the daily operation of the QED graduate programs and acts as the departmental resource person for the graduate program.
Graduate Studies Executive Council (GSEC)	A governance body for graduate studies at Queen's which has representation from all Faculties/Schools.
School of Graduate Studies	The School of Graduate Studies, Gordon Hall, 4th Floor, Rm. 425
Graduate School Calendar	The Calendar of the School of Graduate Studies is a publication that contains detailed information about regulations and graduate programs at Queen's University.
Graduate Student	A student enrolled in a program governed by the School of Graduate Studies. (See *General Regulations* in the Graduate School Calendar.)
Economics Main Office	DUN 209, Dunning Hall
Essay Supervisor	A faculty member responsible for the supervision of a student's essay, ECON-898 (M.A.).
Term	There are three terms during the academic year – Fall (September to December), Winter (January to April), and Summer (May to August).

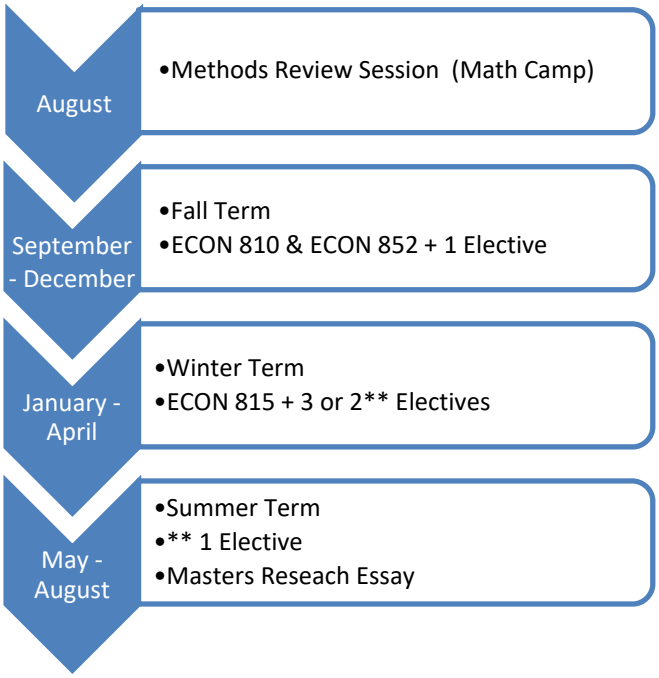
The MA Program

Overview

The MA program requires at least three terms of full-time study to complete, and must be completed satisfactorily within two years of initial registration in the program. All students enter the MA program with full-time status in the Fall Term and must take at least three half-courses in each of the Fall and Winter Terms. The degree may be pursued according to one of three program patterns described below. All three patterns lead to the same MA degree and are designed to prepare students both for a professional degree and for subsequent graduate studies at the PhD level. The vast majority of students opt for what is described below as the ***Standard Program***. The student's program of study and choice of courses are subject to the review and approval by the Graduate Coordinator.

Prior to the Fall term, usually in the last two weeks of August, the Department offers a Methods Review Camp that covers mathematical, statistical and computational tools that are prerequisites for the MA program. While students are not required to attend the Camp, all students must pass a test to demonstrate sufficient knowledge of these tools to enroll in the MA program.

Typical Timeline



STANDARD PROGRAM [1]

Students must pass seven half-courses and submit a Master's Essay (ECON 898), which is equivalent to one full-course. The courses selected must include the following core courses

ECON 810 Microeconomic Theory (or ECON 811 Advanced Microeconomic Theory I)

ECON 815 Macroeconomic Theory (or ECON 816 Advanced Macroeconomic Theory I)

ECON 852 Quantitative Methods (or ECON 850 Econometrics I).

Students must also pass four additional graduate courses in Economics. Subject to approval by the Coordinator of Graduate Studies, these courses can be first year courses in the PhD program or graduate courses in related fields. To be in good standing in the program, students must maintain an overall GPA of 2.8 in their course work.

The Master's Essay is written under the direction of a supervisor and is usually 7,500 – 12,500 words long. The essay is examined and assigned a percentage grade by a committee composed of the supervisor and one other member of the department. The average grade of the two committee members will be assigned unless the individual grades differ by more than 10 percentage points. In such a case, the Coordinator of Graduate Studies or his/her delegate will examine the essay and assign a final grade based in part on consultation with the committee members.

PROGRAM OPTION "MA THESIS" [2]

Students must pass only six half-courses subject to the same requirements as in the Standard Program. Students, however, write a Master's Thesis (ECON 899), which is equivalent to one full-course.

The Master's Thesis should involve the student in approximately four months' work on a well-chosen topic and is written under the direction of a supervisor. The choice of a manageable topic is critical to the successful completion of the thesis. Guidelines for judging the quality of the Master's Thesis are described under General Regulations of SGS, Section 8.6 of the graduate calendar. The thesis will be examined orally by a committee consisting of the Chairperson, the Supervisor, two other members of the Department, and a member of another department.

[1] In the course calendar, this pattern is referred to as PROGRAM II.

[2] In the course calendar, this pattern is referred to as PROGRAM I.

PROGRAM OPTION "ENHANCED COURSE WORK"[3]

Students must pass eight half-courses. The courses must include one of the following two sequences:

(i) ECON 811 Advanced Microeconomic Theory I, ECON 813 Advanced Microeconomic Theory II and ECON 815 Macroeconomic Theory

or

(ii) ECON 816 Advanced Macroeconomic Theory I, ECON 817 Advanced Macroeconomic Theory II and ECON 810 Microeconomic Theory

Furthermore, students must either take ECON 850 Econometrics I or ECON 852 Quantitative Methods, plus four additional graduate half courses in Economics or in relative fields. All course work is subject to the same requirements as in the Standard Program.

[3] In the course calendar, this pattern is referred to as PROGRAM III.

MA/JD Program

The Department of Economics has joined with Queen's Law to offer a combined program that allows students to obtain both an MA and JD degree in three years. The program provides highly focused interdisciplinary training for students interested in the many areas where law and economic analysis intersect, for example, international trade law and policy, corporate law and policy, competition law and policy, environmental and resource management and tax law and policy. Combined MA/JD students will receive excellent training and gain a strong comparative advantage to pursue careers in specialized legal work that requires knowledge of economic theory and social science methods, high-level policy work and academia.

For more information on the joint program, please contact the Graduate Office or Queen's Law directly at https://law.queensu.ca/programs/combined-degrees/econ

MA Essay Guidelines

General Information

The MA Essay forms a major part of the degree and is written under the direction of a supervisor. The essay should involve original research and is usually between 7,500 and 12,500 words long. Its topic can take several forms. For example, an application of existing empirical methods to new or different data sets, an extension (normally small) of existing theory, or a critical analysis of a theoretical or economic policy problem are all suitable topics for an MA essay.

Students need to contact potential supervisors to discuss the choice of their topic for the essay. Once a supervisor has agreed to supervise a topic, students need to submit a working title for the essay together with the name of their supervisor to the Graduate Assistant.

After the essay has been completed, the supervisor needs to approve the essay for submission. Students must submit two hard copies and a PDF of the essay by electronic mail to the Graduate Assistant. The essay must be in proper form (see below), and free of typographical errors. If initial perusal of the essay by the Graduate Assistant and/or the Graduate Coordinator indicate that the essay is not properly formatted, it will be returned to the student for corrections prior to being graded.

The Department examines essays as quickly as possible, but it may take several weeks for the essay to be marked, especially if it is handed in during the peak period of August. Students are advised to submit by August 1st to be eligible for Fall convocation and to avoid paying additional fees.

The essay will be examined and assigned a percentage grade by a committee composed of the supervisor and one other member of the Department. The average grade of the two committee members will be assigned unless the individual grades differ by more than 10 percentage points. In such a case, the Coordinator of Graduate Studies will examine the essay and assign a final grade based in part on consultation with the committee members.

In the event of a failing grade, the student can resubmit the essay once, implementing any changes required by the Graduate Coordinator in consultation with the supervisor of the essay. The student must remain enrolled in the course and in the program until the revised version of the essay is graded. If the resubmitted essay receives a failing grade, the student will normally be required to withdraw from the program.

Once the essay has been approved and any required revisions have been made, the PDF version of the Essay will be posted on the QED website protected by a password so that future students and the Department members have access to it.

General Format

- Title page (include international copyright symbol, sample attached)
- Acknowledgments
- Table of Contents
- The main body of the essay
- Footnotes (these may also appear at the foot of each page or at the end of each chapter)
- Bibliography
- Figures (unless inserted in body of the essay)
- Tables (unless inserted in body of the essay)

Production

The hardcopies of the essay must be printed on white, cream or ivory paper of size 21.5 cm X 28 cm (8 ½ x 11). These hardcopies will be given to the supervisor and the second reader.

Generally speaking, an essay should be drafted in a form acceptable to the major journals of economics. The text must be double-spaced except for footnotes, figures and quotations, of five lines or more, which should be single-space. The inside margin (left) should be 3.8 cm or 1 ½ inches; other margins 2.5 cm or 1 inch. This applies to figures and tabulations as well. Ornate type styles are not acceptable. Italics may be used only for emphasis or where otherwise appropriate (e.g. scientific, journal titles).

If footnotes are on each page, space should be left on the page for any footnotes. There should be a line separating the text from the footnotes.

There should be only two sets of page numbers - small Roman numerals for the preliminary pages, and Arabic numerals for the text, bibliography and appendices.

Tables, figures and maps must conform to the previous regulations and be incorporated in relation to the text and pagination. Figures must have scales and symbols defined on them, not in the text.

Copyright

The international copyright symbol (©) must appear at the foot of the title page of every MA essay. A sample cover page for the MA essay can be found here:

https://www.econ.queensu.ca/graduate/ma/current-students

In the event of a failing grade, the Graduate Coordinator will inform the student in writing of the reasons for failing and provide comments in consultation with the committee members for how to improve the essay to obtain a passing grade.

The student can resubmit the essay once after receiving a failing grade. If the resubmitted essay still receives a failing grade, the student will normally be required to withdraw from the program.

Application and Admissions

Academic Requirements

Applicants to the MA program usually have an honors bachelor degree with major concentration in economics with at least a B+ average in core 3rd and 4th year undergraduate courses such as Microeconomics, Macroeconomics and Econometrics along with adequate preparation in calculus, linear algebra and quantitative methods. Also, strong references letters from academic sources are required for a successful application.

The School of Graduate Studies and Research (SGS) requires at least an upper second class average. Most successful applicants, however, have a strong first class average. The percentage score for first class standing is 80% and over, or the letter grade "A" and a second class standing is 65 to 79 percent, or the letter grade "B". Admission to our programs is highly competitive with hundreds of applications each year. We are unable to comment on the likelihood of admission based on a grade average as this depends on the annual pool of applicants.

Application process

Applications need to be submitted directly to the SGS. For further information on the application process, please see

https://www.queensu.ca/sgs/prospective-students/how-apply

Applicants need to complete an official application on the SGS application portal at

https://www.queensu.ca/sgs/applications-admissions

along with submitting official transcripts from their undergraduate institution(s), at least two reference letters, and the application fee.

We encourage prospective applicants to complete their application by February 1. Completed applications will then be assessed by an Admissions Committee. We aim to make offers to prospective students by the end of February. The deadline to accept offers will be in March and is coordinated with other top programs in Canada to ensure that students can compare competing offers.

Applications can be submitted after the admission deadline, but the Department usually does not make offers after the first round in March. In case you miss the deadline of February 1 and hand in a late application, please contact the Graduate Office directly to make sure that your application will still be considered.

Requirements for International Students

Prospective foreign students that do not have either a Canadian or a US degree require a GRE test for their application. Furthermore, non-native speakers that are not residents of Canada require a proof of language proficiency. Admissible tests are TOEFL, IELTS or MELAB results. For additional details, please contact the Graduate Office.

Departmental Procedures

Attendance

We expect all MA students to be in residence during the entire program[4] and attend all classes and departmental events relevant to graduate students. If a student in the graduate program is unable to attend classes for an extended period of time, or to write an examination, or to fulfill his/her obligations as a teaching assistant, research assistant or research fellow, he/she must inform both the instructor of a course and the Graduate Coordinator immediately. The Graduate Office together with the instructor will then determine how to accommodate the situation within the framework of Academic Considerations (https://www.queensu.ca/sgs/accommodation-and-academic-consideration)

Grade Requirement for Courses

Final grades for all MA courses are decided by a committee that should comprise at a minimum the instructor of the course, the Graduate Coordinator and the Head of the Department. In all courses, the passing grade is B-.

When a student fails one core course in the program, the Department of Economics will normally recommend to the School of Graduate Studies that the student shall repeat the course.

When a student fails an elective course in the program, the Department of Economics will normally recommend to the School of Graduate Studies that the student shall take a substitute course.

When a student fails more than one course in the program, the Department of Economics will normally recommend to the School of Graduate Studies that the student shall withdraw from the program.

Furthermore, if there is evidence of grossly inadequate preparation in a course, or marginal performance overall, the Department will recommend to the School of Graduate Studies that the student shall withdraw from the program.

The grade for a failed course will be entered on the student's permanent record but will not be included in the student's average. In calculating the average of a student who has failed one course, the Department of Economics will use C+ in place of the grade for the failed course until the student has redeemed the failure as permitted by the School of Graduate Studies. Students who have failed more than one course are normally required to withdraw.

A qualifying student who receives a grade of D- or better, though less than B-, whether in a graduate or undergraduate course, is not deemed to have failed the course. However, at the end of the qualifying period, the student must satisfy normal entrance requirements if the student is to be admitted to a graduate degree program.

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[4] Due to the Covid-19 situation, this requirement does not apply in the Fall term of 2020-21.

Appealing a Grade on a Written Exam or Assignment

Students have the right to appeal the grading decision on a written exam or an assignment. It is expected that the student first approaches the course instructor to obtain an explanation for the grade or a reassessment of the grade and that this will happen within two weeks after the date the grade was made available to the student.

If the student is not satisfied with the instructor's explanation, he/she can request a formal regrade by contacting the Graduate Coordinator within two weeks after receiving the instructor's explanation. The request must be made in writing and has to specify the part of the assessment questioned by the student and the reason for requesting a regrade. Students cannot request a regrade without providing a specific reason.

The Graduate Coordinator shall assign a faculty member to regrade the exam. Any outcome of the regrade – whether it increases or lowers the initial mark – shall be deemed an academic decision issued by the Department and will represent the final grade awarded for the given exam or assignment. To carry out the regrade, the instructor shall provide guidance on how to answer the questions and – if possible – the exams or assignments of other students so that comparisons can be made.

Appealing an Academic Decision

An academic decision issued by the Department can be appealed directly to the School of Graduate Studies. Such appeals can only be made on procedural grounds and due to extenuating circumstances that have not been considered appropriately by the Department.

Before launching a formal appeal, the student should inform the Graduate Coordinator about the nature of the appeal. The Graduate Coordinator (or a delegate) will review the academic decision based on the evidence provided by the student within two weeks. For the review, the Graduate Coordinator shall consult all members of the committee that made the original academic decision.

If the student is not satisfied with the outcome of the review, he or she can appeal directly to the School of Graduate Studies. For details on the appeals process, please consult the following resources: https://www.queensu.ca/ombuds/

School of Graduate Studies, General Regulations

https://www.queensu.ca/sgs/graduate-calendar/general-regulations

Academic Accommodations

Students requiring academic accommodations need to contact Student Wellness Services. After accommodations have been granted, the student will have to inform the Graduate Office immediately. Please be aware that the Department cannot grant any accommodations that have not been requested through QSAS.

The Department does not necessarily have the resources to accommodate special requests for examinations such as single rooms, extended exam times or the availability of a computer during the exam. It is the student's responsibility to ensure with Student Wellness Services that the School of Graduate Studies or the University can provide the necessary resources to accommodate exam settings appropriately.

The Department encourages students to seek accommodations if necessary upon entering the program or as soon as the student realizes that such accommodations are necessary. In general, the Department cannot grant accommodations retroactively for completed assignments, exams or courses.

Access further information on academic accommodations here:
https://www.queensu.ca/sgs/graduate-calendar/admission-and-registration

Information on Student Wellness Services, can be found here:
https://www.queensu.ca/studentwellness/accessibility-services

Academic Considerations

If a student requires a short-term academic consideration, he/she needs to contact the Graduate Office as soon as possible. In general, such considerations are only granted for exceptional circumstances and cannot be invoked repeatedly. It is the responsibility of the student to fill out a declaration for academic considerations by using the forms provided by the Faculty of Arts and Science for undergraduate students.

If a student requires considerations over an extended period of time – usually longer than 3 months – the Graduate Coordinator will suggest a longer term solution such as an academic accommodation, a medical leave, part-time status or a withdrawal from the program. Further details regarding the Queen's policies on academic considerations and accommodations can be found here: https://www.queensu.ca/sgs/accommodation-and-academic-consideration

Academic Integrity

The Department of Economics follows and enforces the policies and procedures on Academic Integrity as outlined by the School of Graduate Studies.

Further information regarding policies and procedures related to academic integrity for instructors and graduate students at Queen's can be found at the following links:

https://www.queensu.ca/secretariat/policies/senate/academic-integrity-policy-statement

https://www.queensu.ca/sgs/graduate-calendar/academic-integrity-policy

Funding Opportunities

Financial assistance is available for all full-time graduate students in the Department of Economics. MA students, however, are usually only eligible for funding in their first year. All applicants will be considered for financial assistance if it has been requested on their application. While funding for MA students is based on merit, most successful applicants receive a generous funding offer that usually is a combination of a Teaching Assistantship and scholarships.

Fellowship Support

We strongly encourage all applicants to apply to possible external sources for fellowship support. The primary external sources of funding are:

- **Canada Scholarship Grant – Master's Program**

http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/students-etudiants/pg-cs/cgsm-bescm_eng.asp

- **Canada Graduate Scholarships-Doctoral Program**

http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PG-CS/CGSD-BESCD_eng.asp

- **Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)**

http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/apply-demande/index-eng.aspx

- **Ontario Graduate Scholarships (OGS)**

https://www.queensu.ca/sgs/prospective-students/applying-scholarships/ontario-graduate-scholarship

External funding can greatly enhance any funding package offered by the Department and also helps the Department to provide more financial support overall. For more information on funding, please refer to the Graduate School's web page located at https://www.queensu.ca/sgs/current-students/funding-awards-scholarships-and-bursaries

Departmental Awards

Through its endowment, QED has a number of awards available for graduate students. Below is a brief description of these awards. For further questions, please contact the Graduate Office.

- **The Neil Morrison Fellowship in Economics**
  Established in 2014 by Neil Morrison, BA 1986. Awarded on the basis of academic excellence to funding-eligible Masters and Ph.D. level students enrolled in the Department of Economics in the School of Graduate Studies. First preference will be given to Ph.D. level students. Selection will be made by the Departmental Graduate Studies committee/group.

- **The Martin F. J. Prachowny Award**
  Established in May 2018 by Marguerite Prachowny in memory of her husband Martin F.J. Prachowny, who taught in the Department of Economics, 1967-2000. Awarded on the basis of academic excellence to funding-eligible Masters or PhD students enrolled in the Department of Economics in the School of Graduate Studies. Preference will be given to students pursuing study and research in the field of Macroeconomics. Selection will be made by the Departmental Graduate Studies committee or similar group.

- **The E. Gay Mitchell Graduate Fellowship in Finance**
  Established by E. Gay Mitchell, B.A. '84, and awarded on the basis of academic achievement to a graduate student in either the Master's or Doctoral degree program in the Department of Economics and/or the School of Business, with a designated research specialization in Finance. The fellowship will be awarded to a graduate student from the Department of Economics in even years and to a graduate student from the Smith School of Business in odd years. Application should be made to the School of Graduate Studies by 1 March.

- **The Tripp-Smith Family Graduate Fellowship in Economics**
  Established in October 2005 by Eric C. Tripp, B.A. (Hons) 1981, and awarded on the basis of academic achievement to a graduate student in either the Master's or Doctoral degree program in the Department of Economics whose research is related to financial markets. Preference will be given to students whose research is concerned with financial derivatives. The Fellowship will normally be awarded annually to one student on the recommendation of the Coordinator of Graduate Studies of the Department of Economics, subject to the approval of the Head of the Department.

- **The Richard S. Malone Memorial Fellowship in Economics**
  Established by his wife and family in memory of Richard S. Malone, retired publisher of The Globe and Mail, to encourage the study of Economics by Canadian citizens who are pursuing or who intend to pursue a career in Journalism in Canada. Awarded annually to a full-time graduate student in the Department of Economics

- **The Scarthingmoor Prize in Economics**
  Established in April 2006 by John Weatherall and awarded annually to a student whose Master's essay received a mark of at least 85%. Preference will be given to a student whose essay contributes to our understanding of political economy, economic growth and development, macroeconomic policy, or financial markets. However, an essay on any subject in Economics could be considered eligible. Selection will be made by a committee of faculty members selected by the Head of the Department of Economics in consultation with the Graduate Coordinator of. To be eligible, the student must have submitted the final approved version of their Master's essay to the Department during the twelve-month period ending September 30 of each year.

University-level Awards

Please visit the Awards and Financial Assistance website for more information and a list of other internal and external awards you may be eligible for more information:
https://www.queensu.ca/sgs/graduate-calendar/awards-and-financial-assistance

Teaching Assistantships

General Information

The rights and responsibilities of Teaching Assistants are covered by The Collective Agreement between the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) on behalf of Graduate Teaching Assistants and Teaching Fellows and Queen's University which is in effect from February 5, 2018 to April 30, 2021. If holding a teaching assistantship, please ensure you become familiar with all aspects of the collective agreement. A copy of the agreement can be found on the Queen's Faculty Relations Office website:

https://www.queensu.ca/facultyrelations/teaching-assistants-and-fellows/collective-agreement

https://www.queensu.ca/facultyrelations/teaching-assistants-and-fellows

Mandatory Training

All teaching assistants are required to complete the following online training which is mandated by the Government of Ontario:

- Health and Safety Awareness (90 minutes long)
- Module 1: Accessible Customer Service (60 minutes)
- Module 2: Human Rights 101 (30 minutes)
- Module 3: Access Forward (30 minutes)
- Module 4: Accessible Instruction for Educators (90 minutes)

Department Resources

Computing Facilities

QED together with the Department of Information Technology Services (ITS) provide a wide variety of computing services that are accessible to graduate students in Economics. For more detailed and up-to-date information see the Department's web page (http://www.econ.queensu.ca) and the ITS web page (http://www.queensu.ca/its/). ITS has a help desk in Macintosh-Corry Hall B205, across from the cafeteria. The first person to see about most computer matters is the Department's IT representative, Mark Babcock:

Mark Babcock
Systems Specialist
Room 209 Dunning Hall
babcockm@econ.queensu.ca
(613) 533-2277

The Department offers introductory lectures on computing at the beginning of the fall term. All incoming graduate students are strongly urged to attend these lectures.

The Department has a number of Unix servers and server/workstations, including waugh, cox, frisch, lovell, durbin, tobin, hansen, johansen, arrow, gauss, granger, lovell, markov, sargan, white and wolpin. All of these machines run Linux, and most are quite modern. Accounts on these machines are available from Mark to any student who needs one. Some of the servers are suitable for numerically-intensive computing.

A number of econometric, statistical, and other packages are available. The Department maintains the programs Ox, Octave, R and Stata on one or more of its Unix machines. The Department also has a site license for PC versions of TSP. The University offers Matlab and Maple through the university's web portal. (my.queensu.ca) They are provided for free. The university also offers access to Office365 through your NetID.

Stata can also be purchased for a reasonably low price at
https://www.stata.com/order/new/edu/gradplans/student-pricing on the Stata website.

Most computing needs of Economics graduate students can be met by using personal computers or the Department's Unix machines. Please be aware if you bring a computer or laptop into your office you are responsible for the security of it. If it is stolen the Economics Department and the university are not responsible. In addition to the computing service offered by the department, there are several computer work areas on campus. Please check the ITS website for locations. If specialized software or very large amounts of CPU time are needed, students can also make use of ITS machines such as the HPCVL facility for numerically intensive computing.

Research Support and Resources

John Deutsch Institute (JDI)

The John Deutsch Institute for the Study of Economic Policy (JDI) is the premier policy-oriented research institute at Queen's University. The institute is housed in the Department of Economics at Queen's, providing resources and support for the department's faculty and graduate students conducting policy-focused research. The central purpose of the JDI is to is to enable and promote academic research that informs policy-making in Canada and abroad, and to support collaboration between academics and policy makers as they work to improve policy. Recent research support has focused on projects in education, social policy, international development, financial regulation, and macroeconomic policy. The JDI provides financial support for graduate students facing direct research expenses.

Graduate Student Council (GSC) and Graduate Student Executive Council (GSEC)

The GSC is the departmental forum for discussing issues related to the Graduate Programs. It consists of the Graduate Coordinator (Chair), the Graduate Assistant, three faculty members and a student representative. The student representative is usually the president of the GSE which is the student body representing graduate students as a group within the Department.

Any formal changes made to the Graduate Programs are to be discussed first within the GSC to receive input from faculty members and students. Once approved by the committee, the changes are to be discussed within a Departmental Meeting.

The GSC usually meets once or twice per academic year, but can be called to a meeting whenever important issues arise that concern the Department's Graduate Programs. For meetings, it is customary that the student representative gathers input from the GSEC (a governance body at the SGS level) and from other students about issues to be discussed in the meeting. More information about the GSEC can be found at the following link: https://www.queensu.ca/sgs/faculty-staff/governance/gsec

Visiting Speakers Program

The Department organizes a year-round program of research seminars, which are addressed by prominent visiting economists. A month-to-month listing is available at https://www.econ.queensu.ca/research/workshops

Conferences

Each year, the Department and the JDI run several conferences on various current topics in Economics and Economic Policy. Graduate students are welcome to register for these conferences. You can view a list of past and upcoming conferences hosted within the Department and its institutes at the following link: https://www.econ.queensu.ca/research/conferences

Placement and Alumni Services

The Department operates a very successful placement service that helps graduates obtain suitable positions as professional economists. Recruiters visit the campus and department every fall looking to attract suitable candidates for positions they are looking to fill. Juanita Dennie, Career Facilitator and Alumni Coordinator, works as a liaison between students, recruiters and alumni. Some of the recruiters coming to campus are actually QED alumni. Juanita tries to maintain good alumni relations in hopes of finding current students the help they need in making decisions regarding their own careers. Queen's University has a reputable central career services department who also organizes recruiter's information sessions and job postings. They also organize workshops to help students with writing their resumes and preparing for interviews.

Our students are successful in finding work in departments from both levels of government, provincial and federal, as well as in the private sector. An example of some of the returning recruiters are: Bank of Canada, Finance Canada, Treasury Board Secretariat, Ontario Ministry of Finance, Statistics Canada, Industry Canada-Competition Bureau, CPP Investment Board, NRCan, OSFI, Analysis Group, Grant Thornton, Deloitte, RBC, Scotiabank, TD Bank, Charles River Associates, C.D. Howe Institute, and Accenture.

For further information, please contact

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Career Resources Assistant & Alumni Coordinator
Room 201
Dunning Hall
(613) 533-3122
denniej@econ.queensu.ca

University Resources

Society of Graduate and Professional Students (SGPS)

The Society of Graduate and Professional Students (SGPS) represents graduate students on all levels of University administration and lobbies the federal, provincial and municipal governments on issues crucial to the well-being and success of graduate and professional students. The executive, elected representatives and volunteer committee members represent graduate and professional interests and participate in the governance of the University Senate, the Board of Trustees, the University Council and over 40 University Committees.

SGPS also run several services including your Health and Dental Plan, our Bursary Program, the Peer Academic Advisors,. Visit the SGPS website for more information.

Professional Development

In partnership with the School of Graduate and Service Providers at Queen's Expanding Horizons, offers a series of workshops and seminars to support the personal, academic, and professional success of graduate students. Visit the website for a list of workshops and seminars.

Career Services

Career Services provides career education and employment support services for Queen's students. Services include drop-in career advising, job search strategies, CV's and resumes.

Athletics and Recreation Centre (ARC)

The Queen's Athletics and Recreation Centre has facilities and programs available to all students. These programs are covered by student fees.

The Writing Centre (SASS)

Student Academic Success Services offers academic support to students who wish to develop their skills in critical thinking, reading, learning, studying, writing, and self-management. All Queen's students at all stages of program completion and all levels of ability are welcome. Visit the website for more information on learning and writing resources, workshops and more: http://sass.queensu.ca/

Centre for Teaching and Learning

The Centre for Teaching and Learning offers consultation services for Faculties, Departments, groups or individuals who wish to develop their teaching methods and practices. Visit their website to book a consultation: https://www.queensu.ca/ctl/

International Students

Queen's University International Centre (QUIC) is a support service for all members of the Queen's Community and through its activities promotes an internationally informed and cross-culturally sensitive learning environment. QUIC provides information and resources for Queen's International students and their families. Visit https://quic.queensu.ca/ for more information.

Housing

Queen's University Community Housing manages the student rental properties owned by Queen's University. This includes two apartment complexes located at west campus – An Clachan and John Orr Tower – as well as a variety of apartments and houses in the Student Village around campus. Community Housing also operates an Accommodations Listing Service where external landlords can post listings for student rental units, as well as a Landlord Contract Program which requires landlords who wish to participate to undergo an annual property inspection to ensure the property meets municipal property standards. Regardless of what type of housing you decide on, you are advised to begin making arrangements well in advance.

Wellness

Student Wellness Services supports the personal, academic, and social development of students at Queen's University by providing a range of programs and services. Their mission is to provide a welcoming, confidential, and integrated service that is responsive to the needs of students.