

THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

Graduate Program in Economics

2015 – 2016

For further information contact:

Department of Economics
Arts & Sciences Bldg, Room 454
The University of Akron
Akron, OH 44325-1908
Ph. (330) 972-7546

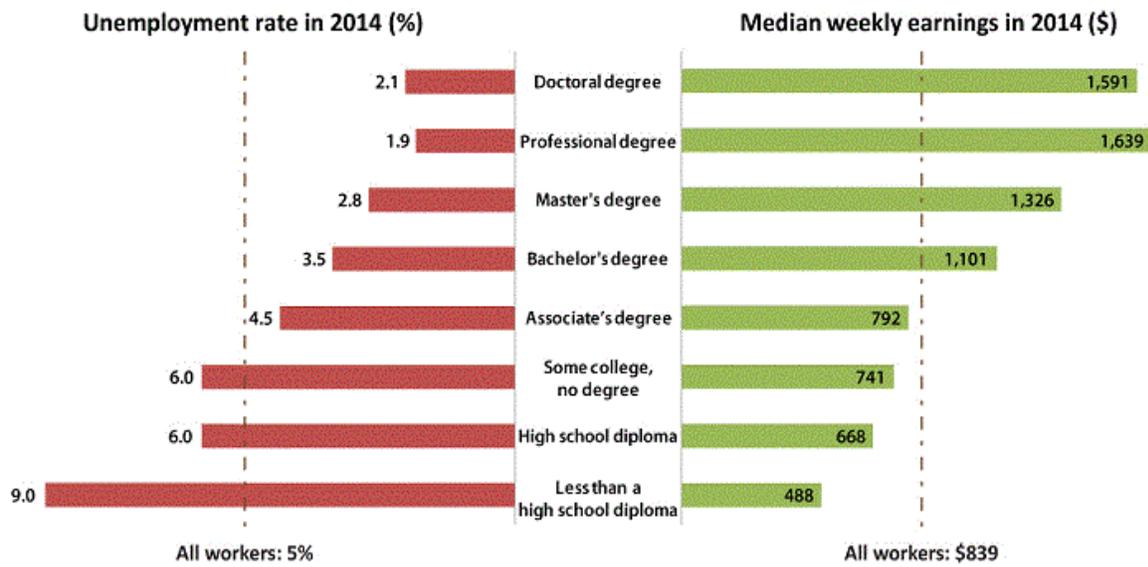
E-mail: jmcart@uakron.edu

Web site: <http://www.uakron.edu/economics>

Why should you consider a Master's Degree in Economics?

Higher education pays in higher earnings and lower unemployment rates

Earnings and unemployment rates by educational attainment



Note: Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.
Source: Current Population Survey, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.

Available at: http://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_chart_001.htm; Last modified: April 2, 2015

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I. INTRODUCTION

The Department of Economics offers a rigorous program leading to a M.A. degree. The mission of the Master's program in the Department of Economics is to provide our students rigorous training in economic theory and econometric analysis which will help develop skills required in the investigation of economic problems in a wide variety of settings, both microeconomic and macroeconomic in nature. Upon completion of the program students will be prepared for professional careers in business, banking, financial services, government, consulting, and not-for-profit organizations, as well as for further graduate studies.

What will you accomplish with an MA in Economics degree?

- The Master's program in the Department of Economics will provide you with a balance between a core of microeconomic, macroeconomic, and econometric theory and a wide variety of applied courses.
- You will get experiential learning in the form of internships and writing several research papers on current economic policy issues using empirical data.
- After completing this program your core competencies includes critical thinking skills, hypothesizing and solving problems, data acquisition skills, data analysis techniques, the application of economic theory to analyze economic data, writing and reporting skills, and competency in the use of technical computer software.
- After completing this program you have job opportunities in a wide variety of fields which include professional careers in business, banking, financial services, federal, state and local government, consulting, and not-for-profit organizations.
- The Master's program in economics also provides you with a solid foundation for pursuing a PhD degree in economics or further graduate studies in related fields such as business and law.

The purpose of this handbook is to provide detailed information on the master's program. It contains information on course requirements, departmental guidelines, the composition of the faculty, special features of the program, and other technicalities. Since it is not possible to foresee all individual needs, students are encouraged to discuss their plans and goals with the Director of Graduate Studies in Economics, Dr. Sucharita Ghosh. Please contact her at (330) 972-7549 or e-mail at sghosh@uakron.edu if you have questions or wish to set up an appointment.

II. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- For full admission you need to have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university with an overall grade-point average of 2.75 or better or 3.00 for the last two years (64 semester credits or equivalent). Full admission also require students to have taken *Intermediate Microeconomics* (3250:410) with a grade of B+ or better, *Intermediate Macroeconomics* with a grade of B+ or better (3250:400); *Analytic Geometry - Calculus I* (3450:221) and statistics equivalent to *Introductory Statistics I* and *II* (3470:261 and 262).
- The academic background of each applicant will be reviewed by the Director of Graduate Studies and Department Chair to determine whether background deficiencies exist for his/her

planned program of study. Exceptional departures from these requirements may be approved with the permission of the Director of Graduate Studies or the Department Chair.

- Financial aid in the form of a Graduate Assistantship is available on a competitive basis which is judged by:
 - Three letters of recommendation
 - Students’ undergraduate academic record
 - Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) or Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) scores which are required for all international students
 - Statement of purpose
- Applications are typically considered for the fall semester with limited applications considered for the spring semester. All information related to applications is available at: <http://www.uakron.edu/admissions/graduate/>
- Applications for admission and financial aid in the form of graduate assistantships can be made on-line through the graduate school website at: <http://www.uakron.edu/gradsch/apply-online/>

III. DEPARTMENT DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

A. Master of Arts – Economics

There are two options available for graduate students, the nonthesis option and the thesis option. Both options require a minimum of 30 credits of coursework.

Nonthesis option

A minimum of 30 credits of coursework is required. At least 21 credits must be at the 600 level in economics. Please see *Appendix A* for guidelines regarding the thesis option.

Thesis option

A minimum of 30 credits of coursework including a thesis equivalent to 6 credits is required. At least 21 credits must be at the 600 level in economics. Thesis must be written in an area of specialization in which the individual has at least two courses.

Typical Timeline for the MA in Economics Student

First Year Fall Semester	First Year Spring Semester
3250:620 Application of Math Models to Econ	3250:611 Microeconomic Theory I
3250:626 Applied Econometrics I	3250:627 Applied Econometrics II
3250:5xx or 6xx Economics Elective*	3250:5xx or 6xx Economics Elective*
Summer Semester Between First and Second Year	Second Year Fall Semester
3250:695 Graduate Internship in Economics OR 3250:5xx or 6xx Economics Elective*	3250:602 Macroeconomic Analysis I 3250:5xx or 6xx Economics Elective* 3250:5xx or 6xx Economics Elective*

* At least two economics electives must be 3250:6xx.

Required core courses for both thesis or nonthesis options

3250:602	Macroeconomic Analysis I	3 credits
3250:611	Microeconomic Theory I	3 credits
3250:620	Applications of Mathematical Models to Economics	3 credits
3250:626	Applied Econometrics I	3 credits
3250:627	Applied Econometrics II	3 credits

Electives are grouped in the following areas

1. Public Policy

3250:560	Economics of Developing Countries	3 credits
3250:606	Economics of the Public Sector	3 credits
3250:615	Industrial Organization	3 credits
3250:683	Monetary Economics	3 credits

2. Quantitative Methods

3250:523	Applied Game Theory	3 credits
3250:527	Economic Forecasting	3 credits
3250:628	Seminar in Research Methods	3 credits

3. Urban and Regional Economics

3250:587	Urban Economics	3 credits
3250:666	Seminar on Regional Economic Analysis and Development	3 credits

4. International Economics

3250:561	Principles of International Economics	3 credits
3250:670	International Monetary Economics	3 credits
3250:671	International Trade	3 credits

5. Labor Economics and Social Policy

3250:530	Labor Market and Social Policy	3 credits
3250:534	Labor Market Analysis and Evaluation	3 credits

Graduate Internship (3250:695) are recommended with any of these areas of study. An **Independent Research (Readings)** class (3250:697) in economics is available under very limited circumstances. More information on the Graduate Internship and Independent Research is available in Appendix C and Appendix D.

In rare circumstances, when there are no economics classes available for you to take in the department, you will be allowed to take classes from other departments. This can only be done if you are given approval in advance by the Director of Graduate Studies. If you have not been given permission to enroll in a class outside the department you will be dropped from that class and it will not count towards your 30-credit hour graduating requirement.

Note that students do not have to select one of the “concentrations” listed above to complete the degree nor is it likely that all of the elective classes listed above will be offered during the time frame a student is enrolled in the graduate program. Elective course offerings are typically based on staff availability.

B. Accelerated Bachelors of Arts/Master of Arts – Economics

This is an accelerated five-year BA/MA program which allows you to get a graduate degree in less time with the added advantage of a higher starting pay and more job opportunities. After successful completion of this program you will receive *both* a bachelor and Master of Arts degree in economics.

Students are expected to finish the core course requirements and most of the electives for the bachelor's degree in the first three years of the program. Students are asked to formally apply to the accelerated program through the Graduate School during the third year of study. Upon acceptance student will be expected to complete the remaining electives of the bachelor's degree and the requirements of the master's degree in the last two years of study. Students will register for at least nine graduate credits in each of the last three semesters of the program. Students will be eligible to apply for a graduate assistantship starting in the spring semester of their fourth year in the program.

The total number of credit hours for the MA is 30 of which 21 credit hours must be at the 600-level of economics courses. Six graduate credit hours will be completed in the undergraduate portion of the program.

Required core Economics courses (15 credits)

3250:602 Macroeconomic Analysis I	3 credits
3250:611 Microeconomic Theory I	3 credits
3250:620 Applications of Mathematical Models to Economics	3 credits
3250:626 Applied Econometrics I	3 credits
3250:627 Applied Econometrics II	3 credits

Economics Electives (15 credits from the following)

3250:506 State and Local Public Finance	3 credits
3250:515 Cost-Benefit Analysis	3 credits
3250:523 Applied Game Theory	3 credits
3250:527 Economic Forecasting	3 credits
3250:530 Labor Market and Social Policy	3 credits
3250:536 Health Economics	3 credits
3250:538 Economics of Sports	3 credits
3250:540 Special Topics in Economics	3 credits
3250:560 Economics of Developing Countries	3 credits
3250:561 Principles of International Economics	3 credits
3250:575 Development of Economic Thought	3 credits
3250:581 Monetary and Banking Policy	3 credits
3250:587 Urban Economics: Theory and Policy	3 credits
3250:606 Economics of the Public Sector	3 credits
3250:610 Framework of Economic Policy	3 credits
3250:615 Industrial Organization	3 credits
3250:617 Economics of Regulation	3 credits
3250:621 Application of Linear Models in Economic Analysis	3 credits
3250:628 Seminar in Research Methods	3 credits

3250:633 Theory of Wages and Employment	3 credits
3250:640 Special Topics in Economics	3 credits
3250:664 Seminar on Economic Growth and Development	3 credits
3250:666 Seminar on Regional Economic Analysis and Development	3 credits
3250:670 International Monetary Economics	3 credits
3250:671 International Trade	3 credits
3250:683 Monetary Economics	3 credits
3250:695 Graduate Internship in Economics	1-3 credits
3250:697 Reading in Advanced Economics	1-4 credits
3250:698 Reading in Advanced Economics	1-4 credits
3250:699 Master's Thesis	3 credits
3250:591 Workshop in Economics	1-3 credits

Two 3250:5xx elective courses are to be applied to the requirements of both the bachelor's and master's degrees. Six credit hours of economic electives for the master's degree need to be 3250:6xx.

C. Accelerated Bachelors of Science-Applied Mathematics/Master of Arts – Economics

This is an accelerated five-year BS/MA program. After successfully completing this program students will receive both a bachelor's degree in applied mathematics and a master's degree in economics. Students in this program will be supervised by faculty advisers in applied mathematics and economics. Students are expected to finish the core course requirements and most of the electives for the bachelor's degree in the first three years of the program. Students are asked to formally apply to the accelerated program through the Graduate School during the third year of study. Upon acceptance student will be expected to complete the remaining electives of the bachelor's degree and the requirements of the economics program in the last two years of study while registering for at least nine graduate credits in each of the last two years of the program. Students will be eligible to apply for a graduate assistantship starting in these last two years of the program.

For full admission into the master's program in economics students need to have taken Intermediate Microeconomics and Intermediate Macroeconomics with a grad of B+ or better, Calculus I (3450:221), and Applied Statistics I (3470:461). All of these classes will be completed in the undergraduate portion of the program.

The total number of credit hours for the MA is 30 or which 21 credit hours must be at the 600-level economics courses. Six graduate credit hours will be completed in the undergraduate portion of the program.

Required core Economics courses (15 credits)

3250:602 Macroeconomic Analysis I	3 credits
3250:611 Microeconomic Theory I	3 credits
3250:620 Applications of Mathematical Models to Economics	3 credits
3250:626 Applied Econometrics I	3 credits
3250:627 Applied Econometrics II	3 credits

3250:620 is to be applied to the requirements of both the bachelor's and master's degrees.

Economics Electives (15 credits from the following)

3250:506 State and Local Public Finance	3 credits
3250:515 Cost-Benefit Analysis	3 credits
3250:523 Applied Game Theory	3 credits
3250:527 Economic Forecasting	3 credits
3250:530 Labor Market and Social Policy	3 credits
3250:536 Health Economics	3 credits
3250:538 Economics of Sports	3 credits
3250:540 Special Topics in Economics	3 credits
3250:560 Economics of Developing Countries	3 credits
3250:561 Principles of International Economics	3 credits
3250:575 Development of Economic Thought	3 credits
3250:581 Monetary and Banking Policy	3 credits
3250:587 Urban Economics: Theory and Policy	3 credits
3250:606 Economics of the Public Sector	3 credits
3250:610 Framework of Economic Policy	3 credits
3250:615 Industrial Organization	3 credits
3250:617 Economics of Regulation	3 credits
3250:621 Application of Linear Models in Economic Analysis	3 credits
3250:628 Seminar in Research Methods	3 credits
3250:633 Theory of Wages and Employment	3 credits
3250:640 Special Topics in Economics	3 credits
3250:664 Seminar on Economic Growth and Development	3 credits
3250:666 Seminar on Regional Economic Analysis and Development	3 credits
3250:670 International Monetary Economics	3 credits
3250:671 International Trade	3 credits
3250:683 Monetary Economics	3 credits
3250:695 Graduate Internship in Economics	1-3 credits
3250:697 Reading in Advanced Economics	1-4 credits
3250:698 Reading in Advanced Economics	1-4 credits
3250:699 Master's Thesis	3 credits

Two 3250:5xx elective courses are to be applied to the requirements of both the bachelor's and master's degrees. Six credit hours need to be 3250:6xx.

IV. WHERE UA GRADUATES IN ECONOMICS ARE EMPLOYED

We have two placement objectives:

- For students that consider the Masters degree as their terminal degree, we place students in various branches of the government, local economic development agencies, local banks and insurance companies. Specifically, our recent graduates have been placed in the private sector in businesses like KeyBank, JP Morgan Chase, Deloitte and Touche, First Energy, Progressive Insurance, Fifth Third Bank, Goodyear, Sterling Inc., American Express and Diebold and in the public sector in agencies such as the Ohio Department of Taxation, Census Bureau, and the City of Akron's Office of Economic Development.

- For students that are interested in continuing their studies in doctoral programs in economics and related fields, and in law, we help to place them in highly competitive schools. Our recent graduates have continued their studies in Ph. D. programs in economics in Ohio State, Michigan State, Texas, and Emory among others.

Our Alumni

Alumni of the department have amassed considerable achievements after leaving the University. This includes individuals who currently hold (or previously held) the following positions:

- President, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland
- Vice Chairman, Board of Directors and President, Johnson & Johnson Company
- Chief Economist, AG Edwards
- Vice President, Resources for the Future

Below is a broader list of areas where our graduates have been employed:

Business and the Private Sector

- financial analysts
- management trainees
- marketing research analysts
- human resource management officers
- insurance claims adjusters and examiners
- stockbrokers
- economic and business writers
- data process specialists
- lawyers and tax lawyers
- risk analyst

Government and the Public Sector

- U.S. Census Bureau
- City of Akron economists
- Summit County budget planners
- research assistants for the Fed.
- bank examiners for the Fed.
- field managers for Social Security
- health care administrators
- research analysts for the Ohio Department of Taxation
- high school economics teachers
- Summit County prosecuting attorneys

In addition, the department has been very successful in assisting its students in entering Ph.D. programs. Upon completion of the program, our students are well-grounded in economic theory and the quantitative tools of analysis. They have proved competitive and successful in various Ph.D. programs including those at Case Western Reserve University, University of Michigan, Michigan State University, State University of New York, Ohio State University, University of Pittsburgh, Rutgers University, Washington State University, and University of Wisconsin.

V. CAREER OUTLOOK WITH A MA IN ECONOMICS DEGREE

- The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) in its job outlook concludes that employment of economists will increase by 14 percent between 2012 and 2022. The BLS states that “[j]ob prospects should be best for those with a master’s degree or Ph.D., strong analytical skills, and related work experience.” (<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/life-physical-and-social-science/economists.htm>)
- A recent Wall Street Journal article (March 17, 2014) observes a surge in demand for corporate economists as firms cope with “more data available than ever before and markets increasingly unpredictable”.
<http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424052702303636404579393133588921584>

- The National Association of Business Economists (NABE) conducts a biennial survey of its members about their base salary and their level of educational attainment. The results from their 2014 survey are summarized in the table below.

Degree	Median Starting Salary For Economists
Bachelor's	\$71,400
Master's	\$111,000
Ph.D.	\$160,000

Source: National Association for Business Economics, Salary Characteristics, 2014, <http://www.nabe.com/Careers/index>

In addition, the following links describe in more detail what people with degrees in economics do, future employment prospects, and additional salary information.

- *Business Economic Career Center*. Website of the National Association of Business Economists, 2015, at <http://www.nabe.com/Careers/index>
- *Occupational Outlook Handbook*. U.S. Department of Labor, available at the following website: <http://www.bls.gov/oco/>

VI. GRADUATE INTERNSHIP

The Department of Economics encourages graduate students who have completed at least 18 credit hours to consider internships as a way to complement their coursework at UA. Internships offer students a bridge to professional employment upon graduation and provide the Department with feedback on the relevancy of the curriculum in the workplace.

Students can receive one to three academic credits (3250: 695 – Graduate Internship in Economics) for the semester. Normally, a minimum of 100 hours of relevant internship work is expected for each academic credit. Total internship credit over all semesters may not exceed 3 credits and can count towards the economics course requirement for the MA in Economics. Grades for this class are based on the quality of the students' final report describing the internship experience and evaluation of the student's internship work by the internship supervisor as provided in the supervisor evaluation form.

The internship will be coordinated through the Department of Economics and must be approved by the Department of Economics Graduate Program Director *prior* to registering for the course. The internship must involve career applications of the student's graduate coursework in economics. Information on internship opportunities are available at our department website at <http://www.uakron.edu/economics/academics/graduate/current-graduate-student-information.dot>.

Further information on internship opportunities can also be found at:

- **The Career Center:** This office will assist you whether you are seeking a co-op/internship, full-time permanent employment, or researching career paths.

Contact Information:

Location: Student Union, Room 211
Akron, OH 44325-4306

Phone: (330) 972-7747

E-mail: career@uakron.edu

Office Hours: Monday, Thursday & Friday: 8 am -5 pm
Tuesday & Wednesday evening: 8 pm - 6pm

Walk-in Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday: 11am-4pm

Website: <http://uakron.edu/career/>

VII. DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

A. Economics Club

It has been our experience that both students and faculty benefit when there is an opportunity to get to know one another outside the classroom. Fortunately, the department has organized a campus club known formally as the Economics Club that is open to anyone interested in economics. Our goals include providing various social and academic activities as well as providing information on employment opportunities. On-campus activities include guest speakers in such areas as economic forecasting, city planning, banking, public utilities regulation, labor problems, and health economics. Off-campus activities include occasional parties and field trips. All students will receive notice of upcoming activities and everyone is encouraged to attend. Don't make the mistake of going through graduate school without becoming involved!

B. Seminar Series

The department offers seminars involving department faculty, faculty from other universities, graduate students, and visitors. In these workshops, ongoing research by the faculty is presented. *All students on financial support are required by the contract they sign to attend all seminars.* Students who elect the thesis option or writing a master's paper are particularly encouraged to present their research in these workshops, thereby receiving frequent evaluation and avoiding precipitous changes in the direction of their research.

C. Emile Grunberg Lecture Series

The Department of Economics and Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences inaugurated the Emile Grunberg Lecture Series in the Spring of 1988. The series honors the late Emile Grunberg, professor emeritus and eminent scholar in the fields of economic methodology and the philosophy of science. Professor Grunberg had a long and distinguished career with a publication record spanning over 50 years--from 1932 to 1986. He was on our faculty for approximately 20 years and served as department chair for 13 of those years.

To date, we have been privileged to have had fifteen distinguished economists participate in the series: Nobel Laureates Herbert A. Simon (Carnegie-Mellon) (1st & 13th lectures); Franco Modigliani (MIT); James Tobin (Yale); Robert Solow (MIT); Kenneth Arrow (Stanford); Lawrence Klein (University of Pennsylvania); Harry Markowitz (Baruch College); Douglass North (Washington University); James Mirrlees (University of Cambridge, England), Robert Fogel (University of Chicago), Joseph Stiglitz (Columbia University), James Heckman

(University of Chicago), Vernon Smith (George Mason University), Finn E Kydland (University of California, Santa Barbara) and George Ackelof University of California , Berkeley). Also participating have been Richard Cyert, President Emeritus of Carnegie-Mellon University, and William W. Cooper (University of Texas at Austin).

D. Economics Honor Society - Omicron Delta Epsilon (ODE)

The Economics Department at The University of Akron received a charter in 1966 as the IOTA Chapter of Omicron Delta Epsilon (ODE). The objectives of this international organization are to recognize scholastic achievement and to promote closer ties between students and faculty in the same school and with economists at other schools. Currently, ODE has over 120 chapters with more than 28,000 members. Graduate students will be judged solely on their graduate work and will be considered for admission after completing one semester of full time course work with a grade point average of 3.0 or better.

VIII. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A. Graduation

Students can now access a graduation checklist on the Graduate School webpage which will provide detailed information to assure that all final steps to ensure a smooth graduation are completed. This checklist can be found at <http://www.uakron.edu/gradsch/current-students/GraduationInfo.dot>

Graduate students can access their course completion and degree requirements online in the DARS system via ZipLine. Graduate students will now apply for graduation online via My Akron and must do so by the posted deadline for the given term. Any student who fails to apply for graduation by the deadline will be required to complete a late graduation application and submit it to the Graduate School.

B. Advising

All students entering the graduate program are assigned an advisor. Currently the graduate advisor is Dr. Sucharita Ghosh, phone (330) 972-7548 or e-mail sghosh@uakron.edu Students must consult the advisor regarding class sequencing, requirements, electives, permission to take a course outside the department, and proper University procedures. Students should meet with the graduate advisor at least once each semester.

C. Financial Aid

Department Assistance

The department awards approximately 10 graduate assistantships to qualified students. Assistantships can be awarded for up to two years of master's study. A full-time assistantship can potentially provide a nine-month annual stipend of about \$8,240 plus remission of graduate level tuition (administrative and technology fees are the responsibility of the student) and a reduced-fee parking permit. A graduate assistant works under the direction of the department chair on duties associated with fulfilling the teaching and research missions of the department. A graduate assistant must maintain good academic standing and make satisfactory progress towards his/her graduate degree. In addition, international graduate assistants must successfully pass the Test for Spoken English (TSE) or the UADEPT by the end of their first semester at the

university or successfully complete a full course of study in the Advanced Level of the English Language Institute (ELI) at The University of Akron. Graduate assistantship contracts for students who fail to pass the TSE by that date will not be renewed.

The department also awards a limited number of tuition waiver scholarships. This award carries no stipend, but does provide remission of some graduate level tuition (administrative and technology fees are the responsibility of the student). These waivers are awarded through the graduate school. Only new students are eligible and the maximum amount of the waiver is currently set at \$1,000 for each of the fall and spring semesters and \$500 for the summer. Both assistantships and tuition waiver scholarships will not cover undergraduate course work or any courses you may wish to audit and students must be enrolled full time (nine semester hours) to qualify.

Occasionally, graduate students have received financial support as a result of faculty members' involvement in various federally funded research projects from entities such as the National Science Foundation, Department of Agriculture, Agency for International Development, and Department of Labor.

University Assistance

Graduate students at The University of Akron who need financial aid may be eligible for federal loan assistance or University programs such as scholarships and the installment payment plan. Students need to complete the following steps to be considered for financial aid:

1. Apply for graduate admission to The University of Akron.
2. Apply for financial aid at the University by completing a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Applications are available in January for the following school year and may be obtained from the Office of Student Financial Aid.

For more specific information and application forms, please contact the Office of Student Financial Aid in the Student Services Building at: **Phone:** (330) 972-7032 or Toll Free: 1-800-621-3847; **Fax:** (330) 972-7139; **Email:** finaid@uakron.edu. You can also visit their website at: <http://www.uakron.edu/administration/StudentAffairs/financialAid/>

D. Transfer Students

Students who desire to transfer credits from other institutions must make a formal application to the graduate committee. A maximum of one third of the total graduate credits required may be transferred from another accredited college or university. All transfer credit must be at the *A* or *B* level in graduate courses. The credits must be relevant to the student's program and fall within the six-year limit. The graduate committee will allow the transfer only if it is established that courses under consideration are effective alternatives for the courses offered by the Department of Economics. Under normal circumstances the graduate committee will not approve transfer credits in lieu of the core courses. Transfer credit shall not be recorded until a student has completed 12 semester credits at The University of Akron with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

E. University Rules and Regulations

Every member of the University community has an obligation to become familiar with the rules and regulations that govern our behavior at the University. Two important sources of this information are: *The University of Akron Graduate Bulletin* available on-line at <http://www.uakron.edu/gradsch/docs/Gradbulletin.pdf> and the *Student Code of Conduct*, available on-line at <http://www.uakron.edu/sja/code-of-conduct.dot>

F. Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious violation of university rules and can result in failing a course, loss of graduate assistantship, and termination from the graduate program. Under University Rule [3359-41-01](#), plagiarism constitutes a type of student misconduct that is punishable by formal disciplinary probation, suspension, or dismissal from the University. It is the responsibility of all University of Akron students to know what plagiarism is and how to avoid it. Examples are available at: <http://www.uakron.edu/libraries/help/tutorial-detail.dot?inode=654079>

IX. DEPARTMENT FACULTY AND STAFF

Chair and Advisors

Michael Nelson	Associate Chair and Professor. Ph.D., Purdue University, 1980 Specialties: Public finance and taxation.
Elizabeth Erickson	Undergraduate Advisor and Associate Professor. Ph.D., Univ. of Illinois, 1972 Specialties: Agricultural economics, environmental economics, development.
Sucharita Ghosh	Director of Graduate Studies and Associate Professor. Ph.D., University of Kansas, 1993 Specialties: International trade and finance, development, applied econometrics.

Faculty

Haimanti Banerjee	College Lecturer. Ph.D., University of Iowa, 2011 Specialties: Macroeconomics, housing markets.
Agim Kukeli	Visiting Assistant Professor. Ph.D., Colorado State University, 2004 Specialties: International economics, monetary economics.
Steven Myers	Associate Professor. Ph.D., Ohio State University, 1980 Specialties: Econometrics, labor economics, economic education.
Francesco Renna	Associate Professor. Ph.D., University of Arizona, 2002 Specialties: Labor economics, environmental economics, applied econometrics.

Amanda Weinstein Assistant Professor. Ph.D., Ohio State University, 2013
Specialties: Urban and regional, environmental and energy, applied
econometrics.

Adjunct Faculty

David Blank M.A., Cleveland State University, 1973;
J.D., Cleveland State University, 1997
Specialty: Regulatory Economics

Peter Blazunas M.A., The University of Akron, 2011
Specialty: Principles of Economics

Todd Bragg M.A., The University of Akron, 2002
Specialty: Principles of Economics

Fadwa Nawari M.A., The University of Akron, 1994
Specialty: Principles of Economics

Dr. Sheppard Ph.D., University of Maryland, 1984
Specialty: Macroeconomic Theory

John Szilagyi M.A., University of Akron, 2010
Specialty: Principles of Economics

Michael Tarr M.A., New York University, 1964
Specialty: Principles of Economics

Staff

Jeanette Quinn Administrative Assistant

APPENDIX A

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS WHO TAKE THE THESIS OPTION

1. If a student selects the thesis option, a thesis must be written in an area of specialization in which the individual has taken at least two courses.
2. Thesis Advisor
A member of the graduate faculty selected by the student will direct the thesis. The student must contact the faculty member and request he/she serve as the advisor. If the faculty member accepts, it is the student's responsibility to notify the chairperson of the graduate committee.
3. Thesis Committee
The thesis committee member is selected jointly by the student and thesis advisor. This committee functions to approve the thesis proposal, work closely with the student as the thesis progresses, and serve on the final oral defense examining committee. The committee should include at least two graduate faculty members. This committee must be formed as soon as possible after the thesis advisor is selected. Once the committee is formed, the student must notify the chairperson of the graduate committee in writing of the member composition.
4. Thesis Proposal
A proposal of approximately 10 to 20 double-space typewritten pages is to be prepared by the student. The thesis committee shall approve or disapprove the proposal. The proposal should follow as closely as possible the following outline:
 - a. Introduction: Statement of the problem, research questions, and importance of topic should be presented in this section.
 - b. Theory and hypothesis: A sufficient level of theory and literature review should be presented in this section. The student should also present the plan for direction of research, including tentative hypothesis in this section.
 - c. Method of analysis: The student should present the data requirements, data availability, and/or analytic techniques in this section.
 - d. Contribution of thesis: In this section, the student should discuss the merits of his/her thesis.
 - e. Time frame for completion: An estimated timetable for completion of the thesis should be tentatively set up and presented in this section.
 - f. Once the committee accepts the proposal, the department's acceptance form is signed, attached to a copy of the proposal, and placed in the student's file.
5. Oral Defense of the Thesis
When the thesis is completed, a final draft must be submitted to each committee member for evaluation at least eight weeks prior to graduation. If the committee judges that the thesis is ready to be defended, then the advisor will set the date and time for the defense no later than two weeks prior to the end of

classes. Faculty may attend the defense with the consent of the thesis advisor. The committee will examine the student on all relevant and pertinent aspects of the thesis.

- The committee can pass the student on the defense and accept the thesis. The student then needs only to conform to the University's requirements to graduate.
 - The committee can pass the student and accept the thesis conditional upon the student making certain specific modifications in his/her thesis. In this case, the student must make the changes specified and have those changes accepted by the thesis advisor, but no new defense is required.
 - The committee can also fail the student on the defense and/or reject the thesis. In this case, the student must be re-examined (new defense) and may need to modify or rewrite the thesis.
6. University of Akron's Graduate School requires that all theses be submitted electronically. Procedures to do this are spelt out online at <http://www.uakron.edu/gradsch/docs/ElecSubProc.pdf>
 7. Thesis style and format should follow the latest guidelines from the University's document, *Guidelines for Preparing a Thesis and Dissertation*, which is available online at <http://www.uakron.edu/gradsch/docs/gdln.pdf>
 8. All other information related to writing and submitting a thesis is available at the Graduate School's website at <http://www.uakron.edu/gradsch/current-students/gdlnthesdiss.dot>

APPENDIX B

REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

A student admitted to graduate study under any status at The University of Akron is expected to maintain a minimum of a 3.0 grade-point average (4.0=A) at all times. A GPA of 3.0 or better is required for graduation. Any student whose average falls below 3.0 is no longer in good standing in the Graduate School and will be placed on probation. A full-time student who does not return to good standing within two semesters (excluding summer) will be dismissed. Part-time students who do not return to good standing after attempting 15 additional credits will be dismissed. The Dean of the Graduate School, with the approval of the Department Chair, may also dismiss any student who fails to make satisfactory progress toward his/her declared goals or who accumulates six (6) semester hours of *C+* or below. The accumulation of six (6) semester hours of *F* will result in mandatory dismissal. Any student dismissed from Graduate School for academic reasons may not be readmitted for one calendar year and then only if evidence for expecting satisfactory performance is submitted and found acceptable. Please refer to *The University of Akron Graduate Bulletin* for additional information.

APPENDIX C

ECONOMICS 3250:695 GRADUATE INTERNSHIP IN ECONOMICS

Syllabus

PREREQUISITES: At least 18 graduate credit hours in economics and permission of graduate advisor.

The internship that you have signed up for carries with it from one to three academic credits for the semester. Normally, a minimum of 100 hours of relevant internship work is required for each academic credit. Total internship credit over all semesters may not exceed 3 credits.

The internship will be coordinated through the Department of Economics. It must be approved by the Department of Economics Graduate Program Director prior to registering for the course. The internship must involve career applications of the student's graduate coursework in economics.

You will receive a letter grade for Econ 3250: 695 at the completion of your internship. The grade will be assigned by the Graduate Program Director in consultation with relevant faculty members knowledgeable about your internship experiences. Your grade will be based on the quality of the final report describing your internship experience and the evaluation of your work by your internship supervisor as provided in the supervisor evaluation form.

At the completion of your internship, you will be expected to provide Department faculty a written document describing your internship experience. The write-up of your internship experience will be an important consideration in assigning your grade for Economics 3250: 695. It should be grammatically correct and professional in tone. While no specific page length is required, it is not likely that you can thoughtfully respond to the above issues in less than five pages, single-spaced. This document that you write should cover, but is not limited to, the following points:

- **Location and Duration of Internship.** Include the name of company or organization, division/section where you worked and the major responsibilities of that division/section.
- **Description of your Internship.** Describe the tasks or assignments performed during your internship. Discuss the major activities you engaged in during your internship. Was your work part of a team or did you do most of the work on your own?
- **The Internship Experience and your Graduate Coursework.** What aspects of your graduate coursework were especially useful in carrying out your duties? Did you apply macroeconomic/microeconomic theory to analyze an economic issue? Did you apply appropriate econometric techniques and/or other analytical tools to investigate new questions or hypotheses? Did you have to communicate your work results orally and/or in writing and did your graduate coursework help you in this regard?
- **The Internship Experience and Deficiencies in your Graduate Coursework.** What did you *not* learn in your University of Akron courses that would have been helpful in the internship? What would you have liked to have more training in before you started the internship? Were your communication skills, written and oral, adequate for your task?

- **What You Have Learned during your Internship Experience.** You need to reflect on your internship experience. What did you learn in the internship that specifically broadened or deepened your understanding of economics? What did the internship teach you about your interpersonal, communication, writing, and teamwork and time management skills? What did you learn about this company and industry from your internship experience? Did the experience make you more likely or less likely to seek full time employment in this industry? Do you think it helped you start to build a network of professional contacts?

When writing your report and answering the above questions, be as specific as possible and avoid vague generalities. Include with this write-up any reports or other significant written work that you completed while on your internship that your employer does not consider proprietary information. It is your responsibility to get the permission of your supervisor for any proprietary information.

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Farr, J. Michael. *America's Top Jobs for College Graduates*, 4th Edition, Indianapolis: JIST, 2000.

Farr, J. Michael. and LaVerne L. Ludden, *Best Job's for the 21st Century for College Graduates*, Indianapolis: JIST, 2000.

Figler, Howard. *Liberal Education and Careers Today*, Garrett Park: Garrett Park Press, 1989.

Jandt, Fred E. and Mary B. Nemnich. *Using the Internet and the World Wide Web in Your Job Search: The Complete Guide to Online Job Seeking and Career Information*. Indianapolis: JIST, 1997.

Roberts, Elizabeth. *Directory of Jobs and Careers Abroad*, Oxford: Vacation Work, 2000.

Ohio Bureau of Employment Services, Labor Market Division. *Ohio Job Outlook*.

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APPENDIX D

ECONOMICS 3250:697 INDEPENDENT RESEARCH IN ECONOMICS

An independent research (readings) class (3250:697) in economics is available under very limited circumstances. If approved by the Graduate Advisor, 3250:697 will count as one of your 6xx-level elective classes in the department.

Independent studies will not be approved during the regular academic year if suitable coursework within the department is available for a graduate student to take. Further, members of the faculty are under no obligation to agree to oversee independent studies of graduate students.

By University policy no independent study can be taken during a summer session unless it can be demonstrated that you need the course to graduate in the summer and that there are no suitable alternatives. The paperwork required to secure approval for a summer independent study must be processed well in advance of the time you plan to start your project.

In order to do an independent study a graduate student will need to:

- (i) Write a research proposal on the proposed topic for the independent research class
- (ii) Approach a faculty member with the research proposal. The graduate student should try and choose someone that would be compatible with his/her research interest and see if the faculty member is willing to advise you on your independent research
- (iii) Submit the research proposal to the Department Graduate Committee
- (iv) If the research proposal is approved by the Department Graduate Committee the student will be enrolled in the independent research class by the Administrative Assistant
- (v) Before the graduate student receives his/her final grade, he/she is expected to present to the department the main findings of the research conducted.