Welcome

The Central Michigan University Department of Economics offers a Master of Arts degree program in economics that prepares students to be professional economists for employment in commerce, industry, and government. It also prepares students to teach at a community college or to begin doctoral programs in economics or advanced studies in related fields.

The quality and quantity of student-faculty interaction is a distinct comparative advantage of the program. The program’s low student-faculty ratio allows students to work closely with professors on research projects. The department views a research experience as a crucial element to intellectual growth and requires all students to complete a thesis or a substantive research paper.

Academic Program

Program quality can be measured by students’ placements into doctoral programs at well-known institutions. Recent graduates have gone onto top Ph.D. programs such as the University of Illinois, University of North Carolina, Texas A&M University, Princeton University, Yale University, University of Michigan, Purdue University, Michigan State University, University of Wisconsin, University of Virginia, Vanderbilt University, University of Southern California, University of Toronto, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology. These programs have typically provided our students generous financial support to continue their doctoral studies.

Required Core Courses

The master’s degree program in economics at CMU is designed to be completed in three semesters. Required core courses in the economics graduate program are:

- Microeconomic Theory
- Macroeconomic Theory
- Econometrics
- Fundamentals of Mathematical Economics

Research Requirements

The program offers students thesis and non-thesis options. The thesis option requires the establishment of a faculty review committee and a lengthy research agenda. The non-thesis option requires the completion of a Plan B paper, which is a 20-30 page paper written under the direction of a faculty member.

Cognate Courses

Students are allowed to take 6 hours of cognate courses in business, mathematics, history, or any other area complementary to their respective program. The remaining course work consists of elective courses in economics.

Applied Courses

In addition to the required core courses, the department offers applied courses in various fields of economic analysis, including international economics, industrial organization, economic development, labor economics, monetary economics, public finance, economic history, and the history of economic thought.
Admission

To be admitted into the Master of Arts program in economics, students must meet the minimum criteria established by the College of Graduate Studies. For application materials, contact the College of Graduate Studies at (989) 774-4723 or visit the Web site www.grad.cmich.edu.

Students whose undergraduate majors are not in the economics are encouraged to apply to the program, but they may be asked to complete additional undergraduate course work before being fully admitted into the graduate program.

The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is not required for admission, but it can be very important in determining which students receive financial aid offers.

Economics Faculty

Vikesh, Amin, Ph.D., Royal Holloway University of London; Labor, Education Economics

Bharati Basu, Ph. D., University of Rochester; International Trade, Economic Development

Lawrence Brunner, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University; Public Finance, Urban Economics

A. Aydin Cecen, Ph. D., Indiana University; International Trade, Mathematical Economics

Debasish Chakraborty, Ph. D., University of Pittsburgh; International Trade, Monetary Theory, Economic Development

Gregory A. Falls, Ph. D., Purdue University; Econometrics, Macroeconomics

James Richard Hill, Ph. D., University of Kentucky; Labor, Sports Economics

James R. Irwin, Ph. D., University of Rochester; Economic History, International Trade, Monetary Theory, Econometrics

Aparna Lhila, Ph. D., Cornell University; Health Economics, Household Economics

Catherine L. McDevitt, Ph. D., University of Rochester; Macroeconomics, Monetary Theory, Public Finance

Paul Natke, Ph. D., University of Notre Dame; Monetary Theory, Managerial Economics

Samuel Raisanen, Ph. D., University of Colorado; Industrial Organization, Applied Game Theory

Jason E. Taylor, Ph. D., University of Georgia; Economic History, Industrial Organization

Linlan Xiao, Ph. D., University of Western Ontario; Econometrics, Mathematical Models

Financial Assistance

Graduate assistantships, which include a stipend and a tuition waiver, are available on a competitive basis. Department faculty typically review assistantship applications in March and offer assistantships to qualified students for the following academic year.

Information regarding graduate fellowships is available through the College of Graduate Studies (grad.cmich.edu). Information about other financial assistance is available through the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid (financialaid.cmich.edu).

Apply Online

http://apply.cmich.edu

For More Information

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Central Michigan University
Mount Pleasant, MI 48859

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CMU is an AA/EO institution, providing equal opportunity to all persons, including minorities, females, veterans and individuals with disabilities. See www.cmich.edu/aeo.

Founded in 1892, CMU has since become a multifaceted and highly respected Doctoral Research University with over 28,000 students, including more than 2,000 graduate students on campus in Mount Pleasant, Michigan.