Terry College of Business
Department of Economics
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

ECONOMICS GRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK

AY21

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1. Program Overview

The PhD program in Economics provides in-depth, rigorous training in the theory and application of Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, and Econometrics. Entering students aim for research and teaching careers in academia or research-oriented positions in government, consulting, or private industry. Faculty members work closely with PhD students, generating a collaborative, stimulating intellectual environment.

Students generally complete basic coursework during the first two years. In the first year, students take core courses in Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, and Econometrics. The second year is devoted to field courses, and students begin to develop their own research ideas through this coursework. Students' independent research begins by the summer after the second year when they work on their "second-year" paper, which is typically the first step in building a dissertation. After the second year, students have the opportunity to teach their own class, building additional core knowledge and developing important teaching and pedagogical skills.

After the first year, students participate in our weekly departmental and student seminar series. Many students also choose to participate in brown bag workshops and reading groups. There is ample opportunity to present on-going research both to obtain critical feedback and develop important presentation skills. Students are expected to be proactive and take advantage of these opportunities.

Students are required to complete three fields of specialization, one of which must be econometrics. The department offers elective fields in advanced macroeconomics, health economics, industrial organization, and labor economics.

2. Plan of Study

To earn a PhD a student must:

- Complete a minimum of 54 semester hours of coursework, including required courses in microeconomic and macroeconomic theory, econometrics, and research skills.
- Pass written comprehensive (core) exams in microeconomic and macroeconomic theory in their first summer (at the end of their first year).
- Complete three fields of specialization, one of which must be econometrics.
- Complete a second-year paper assignment.
- Form an advisory committee and complete an Advisory Committee Form, which is typically done by the fall of the third year and must be done before the oral examination.
- Complete a Final Program of Study Form, which is typically done by the fall of the third year and must be done before the oral examination.
- Pass the oral examination by the end of the third year. Once a student passes the oral examination and completes the Admission to Candidacy Form, they will be formally admitted into candidacy.
- Present their research in the department's seminar series.
- Write and defend an acceptable dissertation.

Coursework

Students enrolled in the PhD program in Economics are required to complete a set of core and selected field courses of specialization. The core curriculum consists of the following courses: Mathematical Analysis for Economists (ECON 8000), Microeconomic Theory (ECON 8010 and 8020), Macroeconomic Theory (ECON 8040 and 8050), Statistics for Econometrics (ECON 8070), and Introduction to Econometrics (ECON 8080).

In addition, to satisfy the university's research skills requirement, students must attend the workshops and seminars sponsored by the department (ECON 8980), and successfully complete Research Methods in Economics (ECON 8090).

Students are required to complete three fields of specialization, one of which must be econometrics. To earn credit for the econometrics sequence, a student must take at least two of three advanced econometrics courses (ECON 8110, 8120, and 8130). At least one of the two elective fields must be from courses offered by the Economics Department. Besides econometrics, the department offers fields in advanced macroeconomics, health economics, industrial organization, and labor economics. Field course offerings vary from year to year. The department is generally only able to offer four semester-long elective field courses in any academic year. The Department Head chooses the field course offerings based on the recommendation of the graduate coordinator. There may be opportunities for independent readings courses with individual faculty in cases where courses in the student's field of interest are not offered. With permission of the department's graduate coordinator, students can satisfy one of the elective fields through coursework in a related department, such as finance or risk management and insurance. A field is completed after passing two courses in an area of specialization with a minimum average grade of 3.0.

Written Comprehensive Examinations

At the end of the first year, students are expected to have completed the Microeconomic Theory (ECON 8010 and ECON 8020) and Macroeconomic Theory (ECON 8040 and ECON 8050) sequences and to take the Microeconomic Theory and Macroeconomic Theory core exams. These theory core exams are given in June after the first year. There is usually a week between the two exams, and the exams are assessed on a pass/fail basis. Students who do not pass may retake the exam(s) later in late July. Students must pass both exams during the summer after their first year in the program to maintain satisfactory academic progress towards their degrees.

Research Focus

Students' development towards becoming independent researchers continues with the second-year paper. By the summer after their second year of coursework, students form a second-year paper committee of three faculty members and propose a topic for their second-year paper. Over the next six months, students work under the supervision of this committee to craft a completed economic research paper. By January of their third year, successful students will have completed a paper having the potential for publication in a scholarly journal.

Progress towards becoming an independent researcher culminates in a student's dissertation. Students should establish a thesis committee of at least three graduate faculty members by the spring of their third year. The completed dissertation must demonstrate original research, independent thinking, scholarly ability, and technical mastery. Its conclusions must be logical, its literary form acceptable, and its contribution to knowledge should merit publication.

Other Duties

By the start of each semester, the graduate coordinator assigns each student who receives departmental funding to one or more faculty members to serve as a graduate assistant. The graduate coordinator solicits preferences from students and faculty and uses those preferences as an input when making graduate assistantship assignments. Graduate assistants serve in teaching and research assistant roles and are expected to devote 16 hours per week toward their assistantship duties. After the second year, students have the opportunity to teach their own class. It is generally expected that students acquire teaching experience and students usually teach twice as an Instructor of Record during their time in the program. In semesters where students teach their own class, they do not serve as graduate assistants.

3. First Year

Timeline

Before Fall Semester Starts

- Complete TA Orientation
- ECON 8000 Mathematics for Economists

Fall Semester Coursework

- ECON 8010 Microeconomic Theory I
- ECON 8040 Macroeconomic Theory I
- ECON 8070 Statistics for Econometrics

Spring Semester Coursework

- ECON 8020 Microeconomic Theory II
- ECON 8050 Macroeconomic Theory II
- ECON 8080 Introduction to Econometrics
- ECON 8980 Department Seminars

June

- Microeconomics Theory Comprehensive Exam
- Macroeconomic Theory Comprehensive Exam

Late July

- Microeconomics Theory Comprehensive Exam Retake
- Macroeconomic Theory Comprehensive Exam Retake

Overview

Before the fall semester of the first year, the graduate coordinator assigns each student to one or more faculty members to serve as a graduate assistant. The graduate coordinator solicits preferences from students and faculty and uses those preferences as an input when making graduate assistantship assignments. Graduate assistants serve in teaching and research assistant roles and are expected to devote 16 hours per week toward their assistantship duties. By the start of the fall semester, each student must complete a TA orientation. Completion of the TA orientation is required before a student may perform any teaching assistant duties. Details on the TA orientation can be found here.

Students take the coursework outlined above in their first year. In June after the first year, students take written core exams in Microeconomic and Macroeconomic Theory. There is usually a week between the two exams, and the exams are assessed on a pass/fail basis. Students who do not pass in June may retake the exam(s) later in the summer, usually in late July. Students must pass both exams during the summer after their first year in the program to maintain satisfactory academic progress towards their degrees.

4. Second Year

Timeline

Fall Coursework

- ECON 8090 Research Methods
- One course from among:
  - ECON 8110 Econometrics I
  - ECON 8120 Econometrics II
  - ECON 8130 Econometrics III
- Part one of two field sequences (two courses each) from among the following areas:
  - Advanced Macroeconomics
  - Health Economics
  - Industrial Organization
  - Labor Economics

Spring Coursework

- GRSC 7770 Graduate Teaching Seminar
- One course from among:
  - ECON 8110 Econometrics I
  - ECON 8120 Econometrics II
  - ECON 8130 Econometrics III
- Part two of two field sequences (two courses each) from among the following areas:
  - Advanced Macroeconomics
  - Health Economics
  - Industrial Organization
  - Labor Economics
- ECON 8980 Department Seminars (*optional but strongly encouraged*)

June

- Form a second-year paper committee
- Submit a 5-page proposal for the second-year paper to the graduate coordinator, signed by three faculty members who agree to serve on the student's committee and approve the proposal

Overview

Students are required to complete three fields of specialization during their second year, one of which must be econometrics. To earn credit for the econometrics sequence, a student must take at least two of three advanced econometrics courses (ECON 8110, 8120, and 8130). At least one of the two elective fields must be from courses offered by the Economics Department. Besides econometrics, the department offers fields in advanced macroeconomics, health economics, industrial organization, and labor economics. Field course offerings vary from year to year, but there may be opportunities for independent readings courses with individual faculty if students have interests that do not align with the field courses offered during their second year. With permission of the department's graduate coordinator, students can satisfy one of the elective fields through coursework in a related department, such as finance or risk management and insurance. A field is completed after passing two courses in an area of specialization with a minimum average grade of 3.0.

Students enroll in ECON 8090 during the fall semester of their second year. As part of ECON 8090, students are required to regularly attend the weekly departmental seminars as well as the weekly graduate student seminars.

In the spring semester of the second year, students take GRSC 7770 Graduate Teaching Seminar. The course provides knowledge of pedagogical approaches, relevant UGA policies, and available support systems for teaching at UGA. Students must successfully complete the course prior to teaching as an Instructor of Record, which typically occurs in the third and/or fourth years. During this semester, students are strongly encouraged to enroll in ECON 8980, but are not required to do so. As part of ECON 8980, students are required to regularly attend the weekly departmental seminars as well as the weekly graduate student seminars. Students are also encouraged to present in the graduate student seminar in the spring of their second year.

During the second year, students are again assigned by the graduate coordinator to one or more faculty members to serve as a graduate assistant. The graduate coordinator solicits preferences from students and faculty and uses those preferences as an input when making graduate assistantship assignments. Graduate assistants serve in teaching and research assistant roles and are expected to devote 16 hours total per week toward their assistantship duties.

Students' independent research begins by the summer after the second year when they work on their "second-year" paper, which is typically the first step in building a dissertation. More details on the second-year paper are provided below.

Second-Year Paper Information

Each Economics PhD student must form an advisory committee of three faculty members to supervise the completion of a second-year paper. It is the student's responsibility to approach faculty members and ask if they are willing to serve on the committee.

The standard for satisfactory completion is that the second-year paper must have potential for publication in a scholarly journal. To show potential for publication, the paper must contain sufficient content presented in a sufficiently complete form to assure that, with at most one semester's further work, the paper could be published in a scholarly journal. It is acceptable for this paper to be co-authored with faculty.

Each student must submit a research paper to their committee on the timeline described below and receive a satisfactory grade:

> <u>By June 1 (of a student's second year):</u>
> PhD students must form a second-year paper committee and submit, to the graduate coordinator, a five-page proposal for the paper topic. The title page of the proposal must include the names and signatures of three faculty members who agree to serve on the committee and who judge the proposal to be feasible for completion in the time allotted. The student, in consultation with the committee, will designate a committee chair. The makeup of the second-year paper committee is subject to the graduate coordinator's approval.
>
> <u>By September 1 (of a student's third year):</u>
> Students must submit a completed paper to their second-year paper committee and to the graduate coordinator. The second-year paper committee will provide prompt feedback so the student can prepare a revised draft if necessary.
>
> <u>By December 31 (of a student's third year):</u>
> Students must submit the final draft of their second-year paper to their committee and to the graduate coordinator.
>
> <u>By January 15 (of a student's third year):</u>
> The second-year paper committee will determine whether the student's paper passes the paper requirement. The chair of the committee will inform the graduate coordinator as to whether the second-year paper has passed. The graduate coordinator will inform students, in writing, of the decision and will provide a copy of this letter to the committee chair.

Failure to meet any of these deadlines constitute reason for dismissal from the program.

If a student believes there are extenuating circumstances which warrant an extension to any deadline on the above timetable, he or she must submit a written request to the graduate coordinator at least two weeks before the deadline.

5. Third Year

Timeline

Fall Coursework

- ECON 8980 Department Seminars
- ECON 9000 Research Hours
- One course from among ECON 8110, 8120, 8130 (*optional*)

Spring Coursework

- ECON 8980 Department Seminars
- ECON 9000 Research Hours

September

- Submit a completed paper to the second-year paper committee and to the graduate coordinator

December

- Submit the final draft of the second-year paper to the second-year paper committee and to the graduate coordinator

January

- Form an advisory committee for the oral exam and submit the Advisory Committee Form as well as the Final Program of Study Form to the Graduate School
- Schedule the oral exam, allowing for the graduate coordinator to announce the exam at least 2 weeks in advance

Summer

- Pass the oral exam and submit the Report of the Written and Oral Comprehensive Examination Form as well as the Admission to Candidacy Form to the Graduate School

Overview

In the third year, students are expected to successfully complete their second-year paper and fully transition into research. More details on the completion of the second-year paper are provided in Section 4. Students also form an advisory committee (or dissertation committee), including the student's major professor, who serves as the chair of the committee. Typically, the chair of the advisory committee is a faculty member from the student's field of specialization. It is the student's responsibility to approach faculty members and ask if they are willing to serve on the advisory committee. The members of the advisory committee may differ from those of the second-year paper committee. Students prepare for their oral exam throughout the third year, and the oral exam must be completed successfully by the summer after the third year. Students should pay careful attention to the Graduate School deadlines and required forms associated with the oral exam. Details on forms can be found here and Graduate School dates and deadlines here. More details on the oral exam are provided below.

During the third year, students may take other courses in Economics, such as a field course that was not offered during their second year, as well as courses in other departments that may be useful to their research. Students must enroll in ECON 8980 in both the fall and spring semesters of their third year. As part of ECON 8980, students are required to regularly attend the weekly departmental seminars as well as the weekly graduate student seminars. Students are also required to present at least once per semester in the graduate student seminar.

Students are again assigned by the graduate coordinator to one or more faculty members to serve as a graduate assistant. The graduate coordinator solicits preferences from students and faculty and uses those preferences as an input when making graduate assistantship assignments. Graduate assistants serve in teaching and research assistant roles and are expected to devote 16 hours total per week toward their assistantship duties. Students may also teach their own class as an Instructor of Record, typically ECON 2105 Principles of Macroeconomics or ECON 2106 Principles of Microeconomics, in their third year. Students are not assigned to a faculty member as a graduate assistant during semesters when they teach as an Instructor of Record.

Completion of Second-Year Paper

If a student has not received a passing grade on the second-year paper by the beginning of the third year, the student will adhere to the timetable referenced in the prior section on the second-year paper. Importantly, failure to receive a passing grade by January 15 of the third year will result in dismissal from the program.

Oral Comprehensive Exam Information

The Graduate School requires all PhD students to pass an oral comprehensive examination after selecting an advisory committee and determining the final program of study but before being admitted to PhD candidacy. The purpose of the exam is to probe whether the student has sufficient command of the field to complete the dissertation and doctoral degree. The precise format and content of the exam and criteria for passing are entirely up to the advisory committee. In practice, the oral exam is generally a presentation by the student of their original research and an interrogation by the assembled committee and other participants of the concepts, methods, literature, and issues raised therein. Satisfactory completion of the oral exam is judged by the student's advisory committee and reported to the graduate coordinator. For an oral examination to be deemed successful, the student's advisory committee must judge the student as having mastered his/her field of research and as being ready to undertake a dissertation in that field.

It is anticipated that students will generally present research arising out of their second-year paper and that their advisory committee will be the same as their second-year paper committee. However, neither of these is required. Furthermore, faculty serving on a student's second-year paper committee are not obliged to serve on the advisory committee. Per the Graduate School, the advisory committee must consist of a minimum of three graduate faculty members. Provisional graduate faculty may serve in the same capacity as regular graduate faculty but cannot serve as chair or co-chair of the committee. Additional voting members may be on the committee, including no more than one non-UGA faculty, who must hold the terminal degree in their field of study. If there are more than three members, there must be greater than 50% graduate faculty representation. More details on advisory committee requirements can be found here.

Timeline for satisfactory completion of the oral exam:

> By January 31 (of a student's third year):
> The oral exam must be scheduled. Since success of the oral exam is to be judged by the student's advisory committee, this advisory committee must also have been formed by this time and its membership communicated to the graduate coordinator.
>
> By the day before the first day of classes in the fall of a student's fourth year:
> Students must pass the oral exam (two attempts permitted in total).

Failure to meet these deadlines constitute reason for termination of funding or dismissal from the program.

6. Fourth Year and Beyond

Timeline

Fall Coursework

- ECON 8980 Department Seminars
- ECON 9000 Research Hours

Spring Coursework

- ECON 8980 Department Seminars
- ECON 9000 (or ECON 9300 Research Hours in terminal semester)

Spring or Summer of Terminal Year

- Schedule dissertation defense, allowing for the graduate coordinator to announce the defense at least 2 weeks in advance
- Submit the Approval Form for Doctoral Dissertation and Final Oral Examination
- Submit dissertation to the Graduate School for final approval no later than 2 weeks prior to graduation of the following semester
- Pay attention to deadlines established by the Graduate School to graduate during a given semester

Overview

Research continues in years four and beyond.

Students enroll in ECON 8980 in both the fall and spring semesters of the fourth and fifth years of the program. As part of ECON 8980, students are required to regularly attend the weekly departmental seminars as well as the weekly graduate student seminars. Students are also required to present at least once per semester in the graduate student seminar.

In years four and five, students are again assigned to one or more faculty members to serve as a graduate assistant. The graduate coordinator solicits preferences from students and faculty and uses those preferences as an input when making graduate assistantship assignments. Graduate assistants serve in teaching and research assistant roles and are expected to devote 16 hours total per week toward their assistantship duties. Students may also teach their own class as an Instructor of Record, typically ECON 2105 Principles of Macroeconomics or ECON 2106 Principles of Microeconomics. Students are not assigned to a faculty member as a graduate assistant during semesters when they teach as an Instructor of Record.

To finish the program, students must defend a dissertation, which typically consists of three completed research papers. It is the responsibility of the student to set up the time and date of the defense so that every advisory committee member can participate.

Students should pay careful attention to the Graduate School deadlines and required forms associated with the dissertation submission and the dissertation defense. More details on forms can be found here and dates and deadlines here.

7. Job Market Year

Students are expected to go on the job market in their final year of the program, which is typically the fifth year. Here is a brief overview of how events unfold during the job market year.

Summer before the Job Market

To go on the job market, students need to have at least one strong completed paper (the "job market paper"). By the summer before the job market (typically between May and July), students need to consult with their advisor(s) and obtain their agreement to go on the market. The most important factor in the decision to go on the market is the strength and potential of the job market paper (as well as ongoing projects/papers).

As students approach the end of the summer, they need to determine (in consultation with their advisor(s) and committee members) what types of positions and institutions are a good fit for them. This is also a good time to create a webpage that can host the student's CV, research, and information about teaching experience. It is very important that students secure a set of 3 or 4 letter writers at this time. These are ideally members of the student's dissertation committee or other individuals who can provide detailed and critical comments on the student's potential and achievements in research, teaching, and service and communicate that to potential employers.

Another related activity in this time frame (late August to early September) is to make arrangements for attending the Annual Meetings of the Allied Social Science Associations (ASSA), particularly registration and hotel accommodations. This meeting usually takes place during the first week of January and it is the event where most job interviews take place.

Fall before the Job Market

By this time, ideally, the job market paper is in the final stages of preparation and polishing and is ready to distribute (e.g., by posting on the student's website, etc.). Aside from putting the final touches on the job market paper, at this time, students practice presenting their research either internally (e.g., in the graduate student workshop) and/or at conferences. Also, this is the time when students (by now "job market candidates") search and apply for jobs listed on the Job Openings for Economists (JOE) listings and various other job listing sites (e.g., HigherEdJobs, USAJOBS). It is important that students clearly and transparently communicate their potential list of positions with their advisor(s) and letter writers at this stage and incorporate their feedback in their job application process.

December

Most job applications are submitted by this point. December of the job market is the time to prepare a short (5 to 10 minutes) verbal summary of research and prepare for the job interviews. Students should participate in several mock interviews with faculty members to prepare for the actual interviews. Most employers contact their prospective candidates during the month of December to schedule in person (most common) or virtual/phone (less common) interviews. In-person interviews are conducted during the Annual Meetings of the Allied Social Science Associations (ASSA) in early January.

ASSA Meetings

Every year the Allied Social Science Associations (ASSA) holds a three-day meeting in January to present papers on general economics topics. This is also the event in which employers in economics (and related fields) meet their prospective candidates in person and conduct interviews. Each interview usually lasts 20 to 30 minutes and covers the candidate's current and ongoing research and future plans. Topics discussed in the interview include but are not limited to the candidate's research and teaching interests and experience. The interview is also an opportunity for employers to communicate information about their institution and their position with the prospective candidates.

After the Meetings

Shortly after the meetings, employers compose a shortlist of their candidates. During the months of January and February (and sometimes March), the shortlisted candidates are invited for a day visit to give a "job market seminar." This is an opportunity for candidates to visit the institution, meet with a large number of faculty, researchers, and students, and discuss their research and teaching ideas. Successful candidates receive their job offers during this period (after their campus visit) and have the opportunity to discuss terms before they accept an offer.

More Information

A Guide and Advice for Economists on the U.S. Junior Academic Job Market

8. Obtaining the Master's Degree

Students may choose to terminate their study in the PhD program and apply for an MA degree in Economics. There are two MA options—a thesis option and a non-thesis option. The table below outlines the requirements for the two options.

MA with Thesis	**MA without Thesis**
All courses are 3 credits unless otherwise specified.	
Core (15 credits) ECON 8010: Microeconomic Theory I ECON 8020: Microeconomic Theory II ECON 8040: Macroeconomic Theory I ECON 8050: Macroeconomic Theory II ECON 8080: Introduction to Econometrics Thesis (9 credits) ECON 7000 (6 credits) ECON 7300 Electives (6 credits) Any 2 other 8000-level courses	Core (15 credits) ECON 8010: Microeconomic Theory I ECON 8020: Microeconomic Theory II ECON 8040: Macroeconomic Theory I ECON 8050: Macroeconomic Theory II ECON 8080: Introduction to Econometrics Thesis (0 credits) Electives (15 credits) Any 5 other 8000-level courses (excluding ECON 8090)
Minimum Total Credit Hours = 30	Minimum Total Credit Hours = 30

Furthermore, to obtain the MA degree, students must meet the minimum grade averages specified by the Graduate School. More details can be found here.

Students who intend to get the MA degree while pursuing the PhD degree should discuss this with the graduate coordinator *immediately* upon beginning the PhD program. All forms for the MA degree must be submitted by published deadlines for approval by the dean of the Graduate School prior to the conferral of the MA degree.

9. Financial Support

All applicants to the PhD program are automatically considered for financial assistance. The Terry College of Business offers a variety of teaching and research assistantships, scholarships, and fellowships. Qualified incoming graduate students typically receive 9-month (academic-year) teaching or research assistantships from the college, as recommended by the department. The department provides these assistantships to continuing PhD students for five years of study. All assistantships carry a tuition waiver. Teaching and research assistants are expected to devote 16 hours per week toward their assistantship duties, which are determined by the faculty member or members to whom the student is assigned. Renewal of funding is contingent on making satisfactory progress through the PhD program. There is no guarantee of funding beyond the fifth year of study.

The department has funds available to support student research and conference travel. Students interested in these funding opportunities should contact the graduate coordinator for more information. There are also funds available to support conference travel through the Graduate School. More details are available here.

10. Dismissal Policy

PhD students may be dismissed from the PhD program in the Department of Economics when any of the following have occurred:

1. The student's cumulative graduate course average falls below 3.0 for three consecutive terms. As outlined in the Graduate Coordinator's Handbook, "Students with a cumulative graduate course average below 3.0 will receive a warning letter from the Graduate School explaining the probation procedure. If a student's graduate course average is below 3.0 for two consecutive terms, the student will be placed on academic probation by the Graduate School. The student must maintain a 3.0 graduate course average each semester while on probation. Probation status ends when the student's cumulative graduate course average reaches at least 3.0. If the semester graduate course average drops below 3.0 while on probation, the student will be dismissed from the Graduate School."

2. The student is found guilty of academic dishonesty or other misconduct by the Office of Judicial Programs. As outlined in the Graduate Coordinator's Handbook, "Hearings on alleged violations of university conduct regulations fall within the jurisdiction of the Office of Judicial Programs (http://www.uga.edu/judicialprograms/). Violations of conduct regulations include, but are not limited to, academic dishonesty, falsification of university records, unauthorized entry into or use of university facilities, and theft. When instances of alleged misconduct arise, the faculty or staff member involved should report the incident to his/her department head. The head of the department and the faculty or staff member should write to the Office of Judicial Programs of the alleged misconduct. The Office of Judicial Programs, following its own procedures, will hold hearings to determine guilt or innocence and will send written notification to the department, the faculty member, and the Graduate School of the decision in the case."

3. At the end of the first year, students are expected to have completed the Microeconomic Theory (ECON 8010 and ECON 8020) and Macroeconomic Theory (ECON 8040 and ECON 8050) sequences and to take the Microeconomic Theory and Macroeconomic Theory core exams. These theory core exams will typically be given in June after the first year. Students who do not pass may retake the exam(s) later in the summer. Students who do not pass both exams during the summer after their first year will be dismissed.

4. Each Economics PhD student must form an advisory committee of three faculty members to supervise the completion of a second-year paper. Each student must submit a research paper to this committee on the timeline described in Sections 4 and 5 of this handbook. Failure to achieve any of these deadlines is cause for dismissal.

5. The Graduate School requires all PhD students to pass an oral comprehensive exam to be admitted to PhD candidacy. The comprehensive oral exam must be scheduled by January 31 of a student's third year in the program. In addition, students must pass the oral exam (two attempts permitted in total) prior to the first day of the fall semester of the student's fourth year. Failure to meet either of these deadlines is cause for dismissal.

11. Other Resources and Useful Information

Students should familiarize themselves with the Graduate School website, the Graduate School Policies and Procedures, as well as Terry College of Business Policies and Procedures.

The Graduate School website and Bulletin contain information on a range of important topics, such as:

- Dates and Deadlines
- Enrollment Policy (including information on minimum enrollment and leave of absence)
- Financial Information
- Forms
- Student Conduct
- Student Organizations
- Student Services

The Graduate School also has a useful FAQ and list of resources for graduate students, including mental health resources.

International students can find helpful information at the International Student Life website, the Office of Global Engagement's International Students website as well as their Immigration Services website.

Our PhD and MA programs are designated under code 45.0603 Econometrics and Quantitative Economics in the National Center for Educational Statistics Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP). This classification is included in the Department of Homeland Security's STEM Designated Degree Program List, which means graduates can qualify for the STEM OPT extension of an F-1 visa.