ANALYTICAL ECONOMICS (M.A.)

https://paulcollege.unh.edu/economics/program/ma/analytical-economics

Description

Paul College’s STEM designated Master of Arts in Analytical Economics is a breed apart. The program offers students a choice between an academic track or an industry track. The academic track provides a full year of doctoral-level economic theory, econometric analysis, and research seminar. It is designed for for students whose ultimate goal is to become a Ph.D. economist. Students also have the flexibility of pursuing a mixed track.

The industry track’s curriculum is unlike any other Master’s program in the country. It is interdisciplinary, weaving together economic theory, data analytics, statistical methods, and data modeling. The program’s mix of doctoral-level and applied classes is also distinctive. Students learn economic theory and statistical methods at the doctoral level. They also use economic theory and data to understand a range of business decision problems. Innovative applied classes include Macroeconomic Consulting and Strategy Analysis: Games and Auctions.

Few other Master’s programs in the country provide a toolkit with comparable interdisciplinary range or rigor. Students learn economic theory and econometrics, code in R and STATA, and learn SQL, PowerBI, and Tableau all in one year. Graduates are uniquely trained to help business managers and project leaders not only formulate decision problems, but communicate with IT people on what data and analysis may be needed. People with this training are increasingly in high demand.

Students in both tracks enroll in an intensive Math Economics course during the month of August. The program culminates in a capstone experience, which depends on a student’s chosen track.

The program requires a minimum of 32 credit hours of coursework and a capstone experience. All students must complete four core classes. The program can be completed in 12 months. It begins with an August term in which Mathematical Economics is taught in a concentrated manner over two or three weeks. The August term is followed by two semesters of coursework. Some of the industry-track courses are scheduled on the 8-week MSBA and MBA term calendar. These term classes entail 3-credit hours and meet 3.5 hours a week. A capstone experience in the late spring and early summer completes the degree requirements. The capstone for industry track students is an industry internship or project, whereas academic track students take a doctoral-level comprehensive exam in microeconomic or macroeconomic theory.

Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECON 825</td>
<td>Mathematical Economics ¹</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 926</td>
<td>Econometrics I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 927</td>
<td>Econometrics II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 976</td>
<td>Microeconomics I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DS 801</td>
<td>Business Intelligence ²</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Academic Track

- ECON 972: Macroeconomics I
- ECON 973: Macroeconomics II
- ECON 977: Microeconomics II
- ECON 988: Graduate Economics Seminar (Fall and Spring)

Industry Track

- ECON 871: Macroeconomic Consulting ²
- ECON 972: Macroeconomics I

Electives include ECON 871, ECON 972, and other approved classes. The number of credit hours will vary depending on the choice of the elective.

Student Learning Outcomes

Core Competencies

- Utilize economic theory to formulate and solve optimization problems for consumer and firm decision making (e.g., marginal analysis).
- Apply classical statistical and econometric methods and use programming languages to analyze and draw valid conclusions from data.
- Demonstrate an ability to formulate well-designed research projects.

Industry Track

- Apply principles of data analytics to store, manage, and visualize large datasets.
- Identify and demonstrate how economic theory, econometrics, and data analytics can be applied to decision making at the enterprise level.

Academic Track

- Apply advanced graduate-level microeconomic and macroeconomic theory to understand markets and the economy.
- Demonstrate an ability to comprehend and critique current scholarly research in macroeconomics and microeconomics.