

Department of Economics
BCom(Hons) Economics

Introduction: During 2012, the Department of Economics received approval to adjust their BCom(Hons) programmes. Most importantly, the BCom(Hons) in Economics and the BCom(Hons) in Econometrics currently include a research component making up 25% of the degree.

Admissions requirements BCom (Hons) Economics:

- An appropriate bachelor's degree.
- A minimum 65% average be obtained over Intermediate Microeconomics (EKN 224), Intermediate Macroeconomics (EKN 214), Public Economics (EKN 310), Economics of Policy Analysis (EKN 320), and Statistics (STK 210, 220, 310 and 320).
- The average does not apply individually to each course, but, rather, over all of the courses taken together.
- In the event that a student applies from outside the University of Pretoria, the equivalent courses will be considered. Importantly, a full-year of Econometrics can be used to substitute for the requisite statistics courses.
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- Note that the aforementioned 65% is essentially a guarantee, unless capacity limitations are binding.
 - Averages below 65% will be considered; rarely, however, are students with an average below 60% accepted onto the programme.
 - The department will rank students according to their averages, and the top students will be admitted to the programme, up to the limit of department teaching and supervision capacity.
 - Similarly, a waitlist will be created based on this ranking, and if accepted students do not register, students on the waitlist may receive the opportunity to register.
- Capacity limitations
 - The supervision of postgraduate students is a time-intensive process, and, therefore, the department reserves the right to limit entry.
 - All reasonable measures will be undertaken to accept students that meet the minimum requirements.
- Additional issues
 - The Department of Economics takes seriously the need to develop students from previously disadvantaged backgrounds, and therefore, the department will allocate additional marks, allowing for an increase in the average up to two percentage points, to South African students from previously disadvantaged backgrounds.
 - The Department of Economics also accepts that it has a responsibility to provide its own students with a seamless educational experience, and, therefore, the department will allocate additional marks, allowing for an increase in the average up to one percentage point, to previous University of Pretoria students.

The programme: Students will complete a year of microeconomics, a year of macroeconomics and a year of econometrics, along with their research essay. The essay supervisor will be appointed by the Department, and, although every attempt will be made to match supervisors and students in a mutually agreeable fashion, it is highly unlikely that everyone will receive their first choice. Currently, the Department wants to limit the Honours supervision load to either two or three students, although exceptions will be considered.

A minimum of 120 credits are required, 90 from the Compulsory modules, and 30 from the research Component.

<u>Compulsory Modules</u>	<u>Credits</u>
EKT 713 Econometrics 713	(15)
EKT 723 Econometrics 723	(15)
MEK 780 Macroeconomics 780	(15)
MEK 781 Macroeconomics 781	(15)
MIE 780 Microeconomics 780	(15)
MIE 781 Microeconomics 781	(15)
EKN 795 Research Essay 795	(30)

For further information: The administrator for postgraduate inquiries is Ms Sindi Magwaza. She can be reached either by phone on +27-(0)12-420-2423 or via email sindi.magwaza@up.ac.za. The Honours programme coordinator is Dr Reyno Seymore, reyno.seymore@up.ac.za.