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# MPhil *Economics* (Coursework)

- [University of Pretoria](#)
- [Study at UP](#)
- MPhil Economics (Coursework)

Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences  
Department: Economics

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Programme Code: 07255171

SAQA ID: 12157

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## Faculty Notes

The Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences aspires to be at the cutting edge of economic, financial and management education, as well as research and community engagement within the national, African and global context. Our mission is to advance relevant knowledge and develop employable, innovative and diverse graduates to co-create value for society.

- [Programme information](#)
- [Curriculum](#)
- [Tuition Fees](#)

## Programme Information

The MPhil in Economics programme is designed to prepare students to enter into a research-based PhD degree programme in Economics. The programme focuses primarily on the core microeconomic and macroeconomic theory principles, as well as the theoretical econometric fundamentals necessary for the student to understand the extant economic literature and to contribute to the international economic debate.

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## Minimum duration of study

1 years, full-time

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## Total credits

210

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## Admission Requirements

1. Relevant honours degree  
or  
relevant postgraduate diploma (PGDip)
2. A cumulative weighted average of at least 65% for the honours degree or postgraduate diploma

## Additional Requirements

- A candidate may be refused admission to a master's degree by the postgraduate committee of the department if he/she does not comply with the standard of competence in the subject as determined by the department - with the proviso that a candidate who does not comply with the required level of competence, may be admitted, provided that he/she completes additional study assignments and/or examinations.
- The postgraduate committee of department concerned may set additional admission requirements.
- Specific departments have specific requirements for admission.
- The number of students will be determined in line with the growth strategy of the University of Pretoria as approved by the Executive. However, a candidate may also be refused admission by the postgraduate committee of the department if the department does not have adequate capacity to instruct and supervise the student. Students are encouraged to check the department's website for the most up-to-date information or to inquire with the department.
- Allowance will be made for the diversity profile of students.

## Capacity limitations

- The supervision of postgraduate students is a time-consuming process, and, therefore, the Department reserves the right to limit entry into programmes.
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- Please consult the Department for the most recent information on enrolment expectations.
- All reasonable measures will be taken to ensure that those students who meet the minimum requirements, are enrolled.
- In the event that departmental capacity cannot accommodate the number of students who meet the minimum requirements, the students will be ranked according to the above averages, and only the top performing students will be admitted to the programme, in accordance with the number of students that the departmental teaching capacity and supervision can accommodate.

### **Minimum credits: 210**

A minimum of 210 credits are required, 190 core modules and 20 electives.

#### **Core modules**

[EKN 812 Microeconomics 812 Credits: 10.00](#) Module content:

The module will first expose students to knowledge related to how individual consumers and firms behave under a very strict set of circumstances. Toward the end of the semester, the module will then begin to examine behaviour under less strict assumptions. The module covers in detail, firm behaviour, consumer behaviour, general equilibrium, behaviour under uncertainty and risk, strategic behaviour, information, game theory and to a lesser extent, the interaction between the government and the individual.

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**Prerequisites** Only for students in relevant programme

**Period of presentation** Semester 1

[EKN 813 Macroeconomics 813 Credits: 10.00](#) Module content:

The basic framework for this module will be infinitely-lived dynamic stochastic and non-stochastic macro models in both discrete and continuous time frames. Overlapping generation models will also be used to deal with certain topics. Topics include:

- The Lucas Critique
- Growth models
- Expectations
- Business cycles
- Basics of a new Keynesian business cycle model
- Overlapping generations models

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**Prerequisites** Only for students in relevant programme

**Period of presentation** Semester 1 or Semester 2

[EKN 822 Applied microeconomics 822 Credits: 10.00](#) Module content:

The module is devoted to microeconomic theory, and the relevant econometric theory needed to apply



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that theory to data that is readily available. Students will be expected to read a broad selection of published papers, learn about recent advances in both theory and econometrics, and start writing their own microeconomic research. Students will be graded through coursework and tests, as well as on their research.

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**Prerequisites** Only for students in relevant programme

**Period of presentation** Semester 1

[EKN 823 Applied macroeconomics 823 Credits: 10.00](#) Module content:

The module is devoted to macroeconomic theory, and the relevant econometric theory needed to apply that theory to data that is readily available. Students will be expected to read a broad selection of published papers, learn about recent advances in both theory and econometrics, and start writing their own macroeconomic research. Students will be graded through coursework and tests, as well as on their research.

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**Prerequisites** Only for students in relevant programme

**Period of presentation** Semester 1

[EKN 895 Mini-dissertation: Economics 895 Credits: 120.00](#)

**Prerequisites** Only for students in relevant programme

**Period of presentation** Year

[EKT 813 Econometrics 813 Credits: 10.00](#) Module content:

EKT 813 is an econometrics module focused on the background statistics (including distribution theory), matrix algebra, calculus and related information that underscores econometrics.

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**Prerequisites** Only for students registered for the following programmes: MCom (Economics), MCom (Econometrics), MPhil (Economics) or PhD Economics

**Period of presentation** Semester 1 or Semester 2

[EKT 814 Econometrics 814 Credits: 10.00](#) Module content:

In this module, “panel data” refers to the pooling of observations on a cross-section of countries, households, firms, etc. over a number of time periods. We use panel data techniques for example to control for individual heterogeneity or to study the dynamics of adjustment. Panel data allows for more informative results, more variability, more degrees of freedom and more efficiency. This module focuses on statistical theory and empirical estimation, interpretation and evaluation of economic relationships, within a panel data context. The module covers both techniques applicable to stationary and non-stationary panel data sets, and begins with an introduction to one-way error component models (either including individual-specific or period-specific (time) effects), followed by two-way error component models (including individual-specific and time effects simultaneously). Estimation techniques include fixed effects (LSDV or “Within” estimation) and random effects estimation. Hypothesis testing includes tests for poolability (pooled vs. individual regressions), tests for fixed effects, random effects, and specification (exogeneity of the X-regressors). It also includes various tests

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for serial correlation and heteroscedasticity and the correction thereof. The section on stationary panel data techniques concludes with a discussion of seemingly unrelated regression (SUR) models. In the non-stationary panel data section we discuss unit root testing in the panel context, estimation of non-stationary panels and tests for co integration.

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**Prerequisites** Only for students in relevant programme

**Period of presentation** Semester 1 or Semester 2

[EKT 816](#)[Econometrics 816](#)[Credits: 10.00](#) Module content:

EKT 816 is an econometrics module focused on cross-section econometrics, and, therefore, includes topics such as linear and nonlinear models, randomized controlled trials, instrumentation, matching, regression discontinuity and other topics according to the choice of the lecturer.

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**Prerequisites** EKT 813 and only for students registered for the following programmes: MCom (Economics), MCom (Econometrics), MPhil (Economics) or PhD Economics.

**Period of presentation** Semester 1 or Semester 2

#### Elective modules

[EKN 882](#)[Economics 882](#)[Credits: 10.00](#) Module content:

EKN 882 is a research topics module focusing on microeconomic issues. The content will change from year to year, as the research frontier in microeconomics is extended.

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**Prerequisites** Registered for MPhil Economics or PhD Economics

**Period of presentation** Semester 1

[EKN 883](#)[Economics 883](#)[Credits: 10.00](#) Module content:

EKN 883 is a research topics module focusing on macroeconomic issues. The content will change from year to year as the research frontier in macroeconomics is extended.

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**Prerequisites** Registered for MPhil Economics or PhD Economics

**Period of presentation** Semester 1

[EKN 884](#)[Economics 884](#)[Credits: 10.00](#) Module content:

EKN 884 is a capita selecta research topics module. The content will change from year to year, depending upon staff capacity and the research frontier.

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**Prerequisites** Registered for MPhil Economics or PhD Economics

**Period of presentation** Semester 2

[EKT 885](#)[Econometrics 885](#)[Credits: 10.00](#) Module content:

EKT 885 is a research topics module focusing on econometric issues. The content will change from year

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to year as the research frontier in econometrics is extended.

**Prerequisites** Registered for MPhil Economics or PhD Economics

**Period of presentation** Semester 2

**Annual increase information:**

- Module pricing is subject to change at the beginning of every year without prior notice.
- UPOne tuition fees will increase annually by approximately 5%.
- The annual increase will apply from the March intake, which is the second intake of the year.
- If the programme fee is paid in full upfront the student is still liable for the difference between the upfront payment and increased amount until the completion of the programme.
- If you have any historic debt owed to the University of Pretoria, any payment you make will go towards settling that debt first.
- All-inclusive total programme cost.

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Code	Module	Duration	Credits	Cost
<b>Core modules</b>				
EKN 812	Microeconomics 812	10.00	TBA	
EKN 813	Macroeconomics 813	10.00	TBA	
EKN 822	Applied microeconomics 822	10.00	TBA	
EKN 823	Applied macroeconomics 823	10.00	TBA	
EKN 895	Mini-dissertation: Economics 895	120.00	TBA	
EKT 813	Econometrics 813	10.00	TBA	
EKT 814	Econometrics 814	10.00	TBA	
EKT 816	Econometrics 816	10.00	TBA	
<b>Elective modules</b>				
EKN 882	Economics 882	10.00	TBA	
EKN 883	Economics 883	10.00	TBA	
EKN 884	Economics 884	10.00	TBA	
EKT 885	Econometrics 885	10.00	TBA	
<b>Totals</b>		<b>230.00</b>	<b>TBA</b>	

**Enquiries about the programme**

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**How to apply**



# Online Application





Note: Also consult General Rules and Information on the Yearbook website for additional information.

Disclaimer: Due to the continuous restructuring of the Faculty and this website, some of the information displayed here may not fully reflect the most recent developments in the Faculty. Any discrepancies that are experienced may be taken up with Student Administration of the Faculty.