

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2019

MCom Economics (Coursework) (07250055)

Minimum duration of study 1 year

Total credits 180

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Admission requirements

- Relevant BCom Honours degree with an average of at least 65%.
- 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 head 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.
- Allowance will be made for the diversity profile of students.
- All MCom candidates need to have adequate knowledge of Management, Financial and Economic Sciences as well as Statistics, as determined by the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences, as well as the head of department concerned, in consultation with the Dean.

Additional requirements

A pass mark in the following modules is considered to be adequate knowledge. Anyone not meeting this expectation will only be considered for admission in exceptional circumstances.

- Financial accounting 1 (FRK 111 and FRK 121/122);
- Economics 1 (EKN 110 and EKN 120);
- Statistics 1 (STK 110 and STK 120) and one of the following:
- Business management 1 (OBS 114 and OBS 124); or
- Marketing management 1 (BEM 110 and BEM 122); or
- Public administration 1 (PAD 112 and PAD 122); or
- Industrial and organisational psychology (BDO 110 and BDO 120) or equivalent modules passed at another institution as approved by the relevant head of department in consultation with the Dean.

Capacity limitations

- The supervision of postgraduate students is a time-consuming process, and, therefore, the Department reserves the right to limit entry into programmes.
- 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.

Other programme-specific information

- Research methodology 801 (EBW 801) is a prerequisite for the mini-dissertation. Although the module does not carry any credits, the module mark makes up 20% of the mini-dissertation mark.
- Any other module on master's level approved by the relevant head of department can constitute an elective.
- Candidates who consider pursuing a doctoral degree are required to complete the MPhil (Economics).
- A minimum number of at least five candidates are required to register before a module is presented.
- The department furthermore reserves the right not to present a module if the particular expertise in that module is not available in the department for that year.
- Each candidate is only allowed to register twice for a particular module. Exam entry in all subjects requires a minimum 40%. In order to continue on the programme, all students must receive exam entry in every module. Students cannot be registered on the programme more than two years.

Examinations and pass requirements

The pass mark for both a dissertation and a mini-dissertation is 50%. The provisions regarding pass requirements for dissertations, contained in General Regulation G.12.2, apply mutatis mutandis to mini-dissertations. A pass mark of at least 50% is required in the examination of each module.

Research information

The research component comprises the writing of a mini-dissertation. The postgraduate programme manager will appoint a supervisor, based on the mutual interests of the candidate and the supervisor. Once a supervisor agrees to work with a candidate, the candidate will continue to work under the guidance of his/her supervisor to complete the research and to develop and finalise a mini-dissertation according to departmental guidelines and regulations.

The mini-dissertation contributes 67% towards the total requirements for the degree.

Dissertations/mini-dissertations/research reports, curricula and modules

1. The degree programme requires that a dissertation/mini-dissertation/research article must be submitted in a field of study chosen from the fields covered for the honours degree, provided that the Dean may, on the recommendation of the relevant head of department, approve the replacement of the required dissertation by the successful completion of a prescribed number of module credits and a mini-dissertation/research article.
2. Information on modules, credits and syllabi is available, on request, from the relevant head of department and the postgraduate committee.
3. A module in Research Methodology is compulsory in the programme, although it is incorporated into the mini-dissertation mark. The Dean may, on the recommendation of the relevant head of department, waive the prerequisites.
4. Sufficient number of bound copies of the thesis/dissertation must be submitted to the Head: Student Administration for examination, after permission is granted by the supervisor. The mini-dissertation should be written in consultation with the supervisor, and is to be submitted either by December 15 to graduate in April



or May 31 to graduate in September. The mini-dissertation should be submitted to the postgraduate administrator in the department, and should be submitted with the approval of the supervisor. If the supervisor does not approve, the student should approach the postgraduate committee of the department. That committee will make a final recommendation on submission.

Article for publication

There is no expectation that an article be published from the research conducted in the mini-dissertation. Students interested in pursuing a PhD, however, should work with their supervisor to submit an article.

Curriculum: Final year

A minimum of 180 credits are required, 140 from the core modules and 40 from the elective modules.

The MCom (Economics) is designed to prepare students to work as professional economists in, for example, consulting, banking, or the public sector. The program provides rigorous training in economic theory and economic modelling that is required of economists. The program also serves to develop both the technical and research-related skills needed for an economist interested in a PhD, although a student who wants to proceed to a PhD programme, should consider, instead, the MPhil (Economics) first.

Core modules

[Microeconomics 812](#) (EKN 812) - Credits: 10.00

[Macroeconomics 813](#) (EKN 813) - Credits: 10.00

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

Elective modules

[International trade 804](#) (EKN 804) - Credits: 10.00

[International finance 805](#) (EKN 805) - Credits: 10.00

[Monetary economics and banking 816](#) (EKN 816) - Credits: 10.00

[Computable general equilibrium modelling 819](#) (EKN 819) - Credits: 10.00

[Capita selecta economics 821](#) (EKN 821) - Credits: 10.00

[Environmental economics 825](#) (EKN 825) - Credits: 10.00

[Health economics 864](#) (EKN 864) - Credits: 10.00

[Financial economics 865](#) (EKN 865) - Credits: 10.00

[Econometrics 813](#) (EKT 813) - Credits: 10.00

[Econometrics 814](#) (EKT 814) - Credits: 10.00

[Econometrics 815](#) (EKT 815) - Credits: 10.00

[Econometrics 816](#) (EKT 816) - Credits: 10.00

[Economic development 880](#) (EOG 880) - Credits: 10.00

[Public economics 880](#) (OWE 880) - Credits: 10.00

The information published here is subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information. The [General Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) apply to all faculties of the University of Pretoria. It is expected of students to familiarise themselves well with these regulations as well as with the information contained in the [General Rules](#) section. Ignorance concerning these regulations and rules will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression.