University of Birmingham

Economics MSc

This programme provides an advanced training in economic theory and econometrics, and application of these to achieve a sophisticated understanding of policy issues. It constitutes the taught part of an ESRC-recognised '1+3' programme leading to a PhD degree, reflecting the strength of our diverse research interests.

Study here and find out why the University of Birmingham was awarded The Times and The Sunday Times University of the Year 2013-14 (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2013/09/20-sep-Birmingham-announced-as-University-of-the-Year.aspx)

Course fact file

Type of Course: Taught

Study Options: Full time

Duration: 1 year full-time

Start date: September

Contact

For programme information please contact the Business School:

Tel:+44 (0)121 415 8273
Email: **mscadmissions@lists.bham.ac.uk (mailto:mscadmissions@lists.bham.ac.uk)**

For admissions enquiries please contact the Admissions Office:

Tel:+44(0)121 414 5488
Email: **postgraduate@contacts.bham.ac.uk (mailto:postgraduate@contacts.bham.ac.uk)**

Birmingham Business School (/schools/business/index.aspx)

Details

This programme provides an advanced training in economic theory and econometrics, and application of these to achieve a sophisticated understanding of policy issues. It constitutes the taught part of an ESRC-recognised '1+3' programme leading to a PhD degree, reflecting the strength of our diverse research interests.

Programme content

The programme comprises 180 credits in total (credits are given in brackets).

Compulsory courses:

- **Microeconomics (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/microeconomics.aspx)** (20)
- **Macroeconomics (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/macroeconomics.aspx)** (30)
- **Econometrics (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/econometrics.aspx)** (30)
- **Risk, Uncertainty and Information (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/risk-uncertainty-information.aspx)** (10)
- **Research Methods in Economics (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/research-methods-economics.aspx)** (10)
- Option (20)
- Dissertation (60)

The option is selected from:

- **Development Economics Policy (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/development-economics-policy.aspx)**
- **International Trade Policy (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/international-trade-policy.aspx)**
- **Economics of Financial Markets (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/economics-financial-markets.aspx)**
- **International Banking: Regulation and Supervision (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/international-banking-regulation-supervision.aspx)**
- **Political Economy and Economic Policy (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/political-economy-economic-policy.aspx)**
- **Natural resource Economics (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/natural-resource-economics.aspx)**
- **Game Theory (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/game-theory.aspx)**
- **Economics of Financial Markets (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/economics-financial-markets.aspx)**
- A graduate course offered elsewhere in the Schools of Business, Public Policy or Social Sciences (subject to approval)

Why study this course

Studying on one of the Department's MSc programmes will provide you with an excellent set of specialist and transferable skills. You will be given an advanced training in core areas of economics that are widely used in economics-based professions and, depending on which degree programme you are studying on, you will also receive specialist training in areas relevant to your programme and take options in other areas that interest you.

Another aim within the Department of Economics is to provide students with the necessary skills to succeed when they leave Birmingham. To this end, we believe that students and staff work together to ensure students receive the best intellectual training possible and that they develop personal skills which are transferable to the job market. This means that you, as a postgraduate student, have to take responsibility for your education and degree, just as we, as staff, have an obligation to do our best to provide you with the best education we can. It is this teamwork which guarantees that you will enjoy your time here and gain the most from it. Reading and using this handbook is the first step towards ensuring a successful partnership between you and the staff of the Department.

At the end of your year studying with us, you will be equipped with the skills you will need to embark on a career in economics or finance, or to enter another profession, requiring the valuable transferable skills and insights obtained from an economics-related Masters degree. We also hope that some of you will want to stay in the department to study for a research degree.

Modules

The programme comprises 180 credits in total (credits are given in brackets). You will also submit a research dissertation.

Compulsory courses:

- **Microeconomics (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/microeconomics.aspx)** (20)
- **Macroeconomics (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/macroeconomics.aspx)** (20)
- **Econometrics (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/econometrics.aspx)** (30)
- **Research Methods in Economics (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/research-methods-economics.aspx)** (10)
- Option (40)
- Dissertation (60)

The select four options from:

- **Development Economics Policy (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/development-economics-policy.aspx)** (10)
- **International Trade Policy (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/international-trade-policy.aspx)** (10)
- **Economics of Financial Markets (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/economics-financial-markets.aspx)** (10)
- **International Banking: Regulation and Supervision (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/international-banking-regulation-supervision.aspx)** (10)
- **Political Economy and Economic Policy (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/political-economy-economic-policy.aspx)** (10)
- **Natural Resource Economics (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/natural-resource-economics.aspx)** (10)
- **Game Theory (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/game-theory.aspx)** (10)
- Monetary Policy (10)
- Experimental and Behaviour Economics (10)
- **Risk, Uncertainty and Information (/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/risk-uncertainty-information.aspx)** (10)
- Corporate Finance (10)
- A graduate course offered elsewhere in the Schools of Business, Public Policy or Social Sciences (subject to approval)

Please note all modules are subject to change.

Fees and funding

Standard fees (/postgraduate/pgt-fees/fees.aspx) apply
Learn more about **fees and funding (/postgraduate/pgt-fees/fees.aspx)**

Scholarships and studentships
Scholarships may be available. International students can often gain funding through overseas research scholarships, Commonwealth scholarships or their home government.

For further information contact the Department directly or email **sfo@contacts.bham.ac.uk (mailto:sfo@contacts.bham.ac.uk)**

Entry requirements

A good Honours first degree (or overseas equivalent) in Economics or a related discipline. You are expected to have received a good training in economics, to at least intermediate level, and to have a basic knowledge of calculus and statistics.

Learn more about **entry requirements (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/pg/requirements)**

International students
We accept a range of qualifications from different countries – learn more about **international entry requirements (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/pg/requirements/international)**

Standard English language requirements (/postgraduate/requirements-pgt/international/index.aspx) apply

International students:

Academic requirements

We accept a range of qualifications, our **country pages (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/international/students/country/index.aspx)** show you what qualifications we accept from your country.

English language requirements

You can satisfy our English language requirements in two ways:

- by holding an **English language qualification (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/requirements/requirements-pg/international/index.aspx)** to the right level
- by taking and successfully completing one of our **English courses for international students (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/requirements/requirements-pg/international/english-courses.aspx)**

How to apply

When clicking on the Apply Now button you will be directed to an application specifically designed for the programme you wish to apply for where you will create an account with the University application system and submit your application and supporting documents online. Further information regarding how to apply online can be found on the **How to apply pages (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/apply-pg/index.aspx)**

Apply now (https://pga.bham.ac.uk/lpages/COS023.htm)

Learning and teaching

The MSc programmes provide students with an advanced training in core areas of economics, while also enabling them to specialise according to their interests. They reflect the rapid expansion of the subject in recent years, and deal with topical issues. The aim is to train students for careers as economists or managers in commerce, industry, banking, financial services or the public sector. Module assignments, and in particular the dissertation, provide an initial training in the kind of skills needed for the independent investigations which are likely to be important in professional careers. For students proceeding to research training, the MSc programmes provide much of the basic methodology and techniques required.

Assessment methods

A number of methods of assessment are used in the Business School, including assignments, group work, presentation, and examinations. The method(s) of assessment for each module will be detailed in the Module Description.

The most common forms of assessment used are written assignments and exams, and information on these is given below. Help and guidance on other forms of assessment will be given in the module in which they are used.

Employability

Careers in Business is a dedicated service for postgraduate Business School students. We support you in planning your career, deciding upon your job seeking strategies, making applications, preparing for interviews and assessment centres and developing your skills.

At the start of your programme you will receive an email from the Careers in Business team giving details of how you can access Careers in Business Online. If you require any further information or support with accessing Careers in Business Online, please contact us.

Career Development Advice

Consultants provide an individual advice service to help you realise your career objectives. These appointments commonly focus on:

Career Review and Objective-setting

- Job seeking strategies
- CV Review or Application Advice
- Interview and Selection Advice
- Working in the UK
- International Work Enquiries

Skills Coaching

A Skills Development Consultant is available to support you in developing personal skills such as team working, leadership, presentations and interpersonal skills. Individual 45 minuteappointments can be made through Careers in Business Online

Liaison with employers

The Employer Liaison Team undertakes initiatives to attract employment/project opportunities into the Business School. Information about vacancies and other openings will be made available on Careers in Business Online and on Business School noticeboards as well as through the Careers and Employability Centre vacancy database at **www.as.bham.ac.uk/careers (http://www.as.bham.ac.uk/careers)** .

There is also an opportunity to meet with the members of the Employer Liaison team, via referral from one of the Careers Consultants. Upon referral, the team will be happy to discuss and explore careers openings with you and summer project opportunities if your course allows for this.

Students keen to meet with a member from the Employer Liaison Team should first book an appointment with a Careers Consultant through Careers in Business Online

Careers Events and Workshops

A range of career management, personal development and employer events are run each year to help students make the most of the opportunities open to them after graduation. They are advertised via Careers in Business Online, leaflets, noticeboards, email and on WebCT. Sign up to events to find out about employment opportunities, develop your skills and network with professionals in various fields.

Using the Careers and Employability Centre

Postgraduate students in the Business School are very welcome to use the services provided by the Careers and Employability Centre such as online vacancy listings, employer presentations and fairs and accessing online careers information. You should use the Careers in Business team for individual appointments, CV checking, mock interviews and other job search related activities. Full details of the services available through the Careers and Employability Centre can be obtained from **www.as.bham.ac.uk/careers (http://www.as.bham.ac.uk/careers)** .

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