The Master of Arts with a major in Economics requires 32 semester hours of graduate work.

**What You Can Do with this Degree**

Students from the University of Oklahoma who possess a Master of Arts in Economics degree are competitive in today’s interdependent global economy because of their background in both business and economics. This 32-hour graduate course of study focuses on managerial and applied economics relevant to both the private and public sectors.

**Program Objectives**

The MA in Economics is an intensive professional program designed to develop management skills and to deal with economic issues related to production and allocation of scarce resources on the micro and macro levels.

The Master of Arts in Economics degree is designed for students who expect to pursue a career in business, the military or government and prefer a course of study that emphasizes the applications of economics to the problems of these areas.

**Examples of Opportunities with a Master’s Degree**

- Executive Director
- Business Analyst
- Military Officer
- Financial Specialist
- Bank Credit Analyst
- Stock Broker
- Securities Analyst
- Market Researcher
- Statistician
- Business Publication Writer
- Systems Analyst
- FDIC Examiner
- Cost Analyst
- Account Executive
- Economic Analyst
- Client Team Manager
- Inventory Management Specialist
- Director, Financial Reporting and Analysis
• Compensation and Benefits Manager
• Product Manager
• Regional Planning
• Human Resources
• Education
• Real Estate and Hedge Funds

Degree Requirements

A total of 32 hours of graduate credit is required for the degree.

Core Course Requirements

• ECON 5023 Statistics for Decision Making
• ECON 5033 Managerial Economics I
• ECON 5043 Managerial Economics II*
• ECON 5073 Contemporary Economic Methods and Analysis
• ECON 5940 Research in Economic Problems (2-3 credit hours)

Total Required Core Courses 14 hours

* Can be substituted with ECON 5853 (World Economic Development).

Non-Economic Elective Courses

A minimum of six hours should be chosen from courses including the following:

• P SC 5103 Organizations: Design, Structure and Process
• P SC 5243 Managing Public Programs
• P SC 5313 Urban Management
• MGT 5113 Organizational Behavior and Administration
• MGT 6973 Human Resource Management
• MGT 6973 Strategic Management
• LS 5323 Legal and Regulatory Environment of Business
• FIN 5103 Investments and Portfolio Management
• B AD 5283 Financial Management
• RCPL 5173 Urban & Regional Analysis

Economic Elective Courses

A minimum of six credit hours and a maximum of 12 credit hours of economics electives chosen from:

• ECON 4353 Public Finance
• ECON 4753 Analysis of Contemporary Issues
• ECON 5453 Advanced Urban Economics
Elective Courses

Please check with the department of Economics for other options.

Option I: Core, Economics and Non-Economics Electives

- Core Courses 14 hours
- Economics Electives 12 hours
- Management Electives 6 hours
- Total 32 hours

Option II: Core, Economics and Non-Economic Electives

- Core Courses 14 hours
- Economics Electives 6 hours
- Management Electives 12 hours
- Total 32 hours

Independent Directed Readings

With permission of the program advisor in Economics, students may take up to eight hours of independent directed readings.

Research in Economic Problems

Two credit hours in Research in Economic Problems, Economics 5940, is required for degree completion. Outlines of proposed research should be sent to the academic director of the program. Appropriate faculty will be assigned to supervise the research project.

Comprehensive Examination

The Comprehensive Examination is a written test covering the core and Economics elective areas. It must be taken no later than the first semester after all coursework (except ECON 5940, Research Problems) is complete. Effective Summer 1985, a student must be enrolled in one course for a minimum of two graduate credit hours during the semester in which the general comprehensive examination is held.
Course Descriptions – Required Courses

ECON 5023 - Statistics for Decision Making

covers basic probability density functions, the parametric estimating techniques of linear multivariate regression analysis and the elements of statistical decision making under uncertainty.

ECON 5033 - Managerial Economics I

Practical applications of economic theory and techniques to business problems. Topics include: demand theory and estimation, production and cost theory, empirical cost analysis, pricing practices, market structure, antitrust policy, corporate strategies for dealing with risk, long-term investment decisions with emphasis on plant size, technological change and investment requirements.

ECON 5043 - Managerial Economics II*

Prerequisites: 5032/5031 and 5072/5071. Economic concepts are applied to business decision making. Forecasting and modeling skills applicable to production, cost and pricing problems will be developed. *ECON 5853 (World Economic Development).

ECON 5073 - Contemporary Economic Methods and Analysis

A review of contemporary economic methodology and theory and their application to the analysis of macroeconomic questions and problems in the American economy. Techniques of economic forecasting are also covered.

ECON 5940 - Research in Economic Problems

Students must contact the program director of Economics about a research topic. Payment of fees must accompany enrollment. (2-3 semester hours)

Course Descriptions – Business and Management Electives

Students must take a minimum of six hours or a maximum of 12 hours of management electives. Business and Management Electives may be selected from the following:

B AD 5283 - Financial Management

This course is designed to give the student the basics of corporate finance. It will introduce standard techniques and recent advances in an intuitive fashion. A basic background in mathematics and a facility with calculators are necessary.

FIN 5103 - Investments and Portfolio Management

The investment characteristics of individual stocks, bonds and other financial assets; strategies and techniques of portfolio management are covered.
LS 5323 - Legal and Regulatory Environment of Business

Survey of the basic framework of the American and international legal systems with emphasis on the common law, courts, civil procedure, constitutional law, administrative regulation, topics in business and the regulatory environment. This course also examines the ethical issues confronting business managers and provides a systematic method for recognizing and resolving these issues.

MGT 5113 - Organizational Behavior and Administration

Covers the structure of organizations and the dynamics of behavior within organizations.

MGT 6973 - Human Resource Management

Familiarizes managers with HRM concepts and discusses germane topics with an application focus.

MGT 6973 - Strategic Management

Techniques of external and internal scanning establish reference points for mission development. Learn to build a planning framework that can adapt to change, to conduct simultaneous planning for crisis situations and to create goals for every staff member.

P SC 5103 - Organizations: Design, Structure and Process

Analyzes large, complex organizations, particularly governmental units and other public sector agencies. Attention will be given to the principal theoretical models for their design and structure. Also seeks to understand system-subsystem relationships in the processes of decision making, communication, influence, leadership and technology.

P SC 5243 - Managing Public Programs

Introduces students to the general principles of management as they are applied to the public sector. Course topics include: systems theory, systems design (PERT), organization design, techniques of supervision, public sector labor relations, public sector personnel practices, agency interface with political factors in the environment.

P SC 5313 - Urban Management

Concepts, processes and techniques of managing urban political systems are included and so are problems of leadership, decision making, conflict resolution, group behavior, developmental methods and strategies.

Economics Electives

A minimum of six hours or a maximum of 12 hours of economics electives to be chosen preferably from:
ECON 4353 - Public Finance

Advanced principles of public finance. The chief topics are market failure and public goods, public choice and principles of expenditure analysis.

ECON 4753 - Analysis of Contemporary Issues

An application of economic and contemporary problems.

ECON 5453 - Advanced Urban Economics

Study of economic models of urban location, including firm location and residential location models.

ECON 5613 - International Economics–Trade

Causes and effects of international trade, gain from trade, theory of tariff and effective protection, economic growth and trade, intermediate products, optimal trade policies, factor market imperfections and theory of integration are topics of the course.

ECON 5633 - International Economics–Finance

Foreign exchange rates, balance of payments, alternative international monetary systems and international reserves are included.

ECON 5853 - World Economic Development

The economics of the developing nations; a review and analysis of common problems and issues.

ECON 5990 - Government Relations to Business

Examinations of government policies that directly affect many of the operational decisions of business, especially regarding pricing and output and antitrust policies as they influence mergers, pricing and market decisions are considered. Special emphasis is placed on the regulation of monopolies and specific business practices.

ECON 5990* - Major Issues in American Economic Development

Major economic themes in the United States during the last 200 years. Topics include: the European and colonial background of the U.S. economy, the early stages of the U.S. economy, 1789-1865, agricultural and industrial development, money and banking, the role of labor, causes and consequences of the Civil War, the industrialization of America, growth of large scale industries, railroad transportation, labor unions, the modern era — a booming economy, the Great Depression, W.W.II, future trends, issues and challenges, labor economics, poverty, income inequality, and public policy.
*ECON 5990 is a course, which may be repeated with a change of topic (see above) and has variable credit. Students should check with their advisor before enrolling in this course. There are specific limits on the number of hours of credit allowed.

For additional course descriptions please see the University of Oklahoma General Catalog. Please note that degree program requirements are subject to change.