

Master of Arts in Economics

**ACCELERATE YOUR CAREER IN ECONOMICS
OR FINANCE IN AS LITTLE AS ONE YEAR.**



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#MooreSchool



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
Darla Moore School of Business

Invest one year to build a stronger foundation for your career in economics or finance.

The Master of Arts in Economics at the Darla Moore School of Business combines a solid foundation in economics with an emphasis on applying that knowledge to real-world situations.

Choose the track that best suits your needs:

- ▶ Economics Track
- ▶ Financial Economics Track
- ▶ Thesis Track

One-year. Significant benefits. Substantial results.

The program is compact — three semesters in length for most students — but powerful, with course offerings in such areas as business economics, quantitative economics, money and banking, economic theory, investment management, risk management, securities, growth and development, and international economics.

The program allows you to:

- Prepare for a career as a professional economist or financial analyst in government or business.
- Work with thought leaders with expertise in banking and finance, as well as state, national and international economics.
- Develop real-world economic and finance experience, covering a vast array of industry-related topics such as sales and revenue forecasting, marketplace trend analysis, econometric modeling and more — all of which are grounded in applied economics and are among the most sought-after skills in business and government.

Vastly increase your skillset and see a significant salary increase — all a result of investing one additional year beyond your bachelor's degree.

Prerequisites

Principles of Macroeconomics
Principles of Microeconomics
Calculus

Economics Core Courses

ECON 712 (3)
Applied Macroeconomics

ECON 711 (3)
Applied Microeconomics

ECON 736 (3)
Introduction to Econometrics

STAT 700 (3)
Applied Statistics I



Study Abroad

Students in the Master of Arts in Economics program may take advantage of various study-abroad options during their time at the Moore School.

“The Moore School’s Master of Arts in Economics program prepares students for a rapidly changing world. Its focus on economic fundamentals, combined with real-world applications, has given me the skills to speak confidently in any setting – from over morning coffee to the pages of the *Wall Street Journal*.”

— Matt Moore, Chairman
South Carolina Republican Party
Master of Arts in Economics, 2014

Outstanding career services

In their search for jobs, Moore School students can take advantage of robust, interactive support from our Office of Career Management. The OCM team maintains strong relationships with companies that view the Moore School's masters programs as a talent pipeline.

All masters students have the opportunity to work closely with dedicated members of the OCM team to develop and execute customized career plans. OCM's commitment to this personalized approach is only one reason Moore School students consistently receive strong offers from top companies and organizations.

Companies that have recently hired Moore School Master of Arts in Economics graduates include:

U.S. Census Bureau
Ernst & Young
AXA Equitable
First Citizens Bank
Wells Fargo
Pure, INC
South Carolina State Budget and Control Board
Deloitte & Touche LLP
Colliers International
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Blue Cross/Blue Shield

Admissions

The Moore School seeks to enroll diverse and qualified students. Admission to the program is done on a rolling admission basis. The Master of Arts in Economics program enrolls students in the fall session.

Criteria for admission:

- Completed online application
- Earned undergraduate degree from an accredited institution
- Official transcripts of prior college coursework
- Valid GMAT or GRE (five years old or less)
- Two letters of recommendation
- Essay/statement of purpose
- TOEFL/IELTS (non-U.S. candidates)

Funding your degree

The Master of Arts in Economics program offers merit based financial awards to well qualified applicants.

These include:

- **Individual fellowship awards** – amounts vary
- **In-state tuition scholarships** – qualified out-of-state candidates may receive in-state tuition
- **Graduate assistantships** – students receive a stipend and work 10 hours per week for the department

“The Master of Arts in Economics program at the Darla Moore School of Business changed my view of the world. Each day, the opportunity to interact with world-class faculty in world-class facilities helped me develop a cleaner approach to solving problems and a sharpened appreciation of the effect uncertainty has on decision-making. The staff is fantastic and responsive, the professors caring and sharp and the visiting academics and insightful and current. The flexibility to merge academic pursuits, through options such as the Certificate in Applied Statistics, made the program tailor fit my academic desires. Be creative, work hard and this will be the best investment you will ever make.”

— Justin Peterson
Master of Arts in Economic Program, 2015

“The Master of Arts in Economics program gave me the skills I need in class work to do the job I have now in state government. Working on my thesis gave me the experience to handle large data sets that directly translate into projects I work on now. The instructors and advisers gave the guidance I needed to finish the program and get into the workforce.”

— Veronica Watson
Master of Arts in Economics Graduate, 2011

► Economics Track

Areas of expertise:

- Economic growth
- Environmental economics
- Health economics
- International economics
- Labor economics

The structure of the economics track allows for flexibility to match the particular interests and needs of the individual student. All students will acquire a strong background in economics, but those seeking an applied emphasis

are provided opportunities for courses and research experiences with direct relevance to contemporary business and social problems.

Students in this area will take six electives beyond the core courses. Three electives (nine hours) may be taken outside of economics.

Economics electives commonly offered include:

- ECON 503** International Trade Economics
- ECON 504** International Monetary Economics
- ECON 506** Labor Economics and Labor Markets
- ECON 508** Law and Economics
- ECON 510** Experimental Economics
- ECON 531** Health Economics
- ECON 548** Environmental Economics
- ECON 705** Economic Development
- ECON 740** Applied Economic Forecasting

While this track typically prepares students for careers as professional economists in government and business, some graduates use the degree as a springboard toward further education in law or a doctoral degree in economics or finance.

*An Economist has a median annual salary of \$102,490, and the number of jobs is expected to grow by six percent between 2016 and 2026. Financial analysts have a median annual salary of \$84,300, and the ten-year growth is projected to be 11 percent. A financial consultant's median annual salary is \$90,640, and the expected growth is 15 percent.

*Bureau of Labor Statistics



“The overall experience was one I will never forget. The workload was challenging, yet manageable, the professors were knowledgeable and personable, and my fellow classmates were both friendly and helpful. The research tools provided during the program were a huge part of my success post-graduation. I went on to work with the South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office before entering into the doctoral economics program in the fall of 2014.”

— Breyon J Williams
Master of Arts in Economics, 2013

► Financial Economics Track

Areas of expertise:

- Financial institutions
- Fixed income securities
- Corporate finance
- Asset pricing

the role of financial institutions in the economic system, and the application of financial valuation models, financial risk management tools and portfolio analysis in the finance industry.

Students may specialize in areas such as corporate finance, investments or risk management.

Graduates will be better prepared for jobs in the financial industry, government or go on to a Ph.D. program in finance or economics.

Curriculum

In addition to the economics core courses, the following courses are required for the concentration in financial economics:

FINA 760

Financial Policies

FINA 761

Advanced Financial Management

FINA 762

Investment Management

Three courses can be selected (subject to advisor approval) from the following courses:

FINA 737

Derivative Securities

FINA 746

Risk Management

FINA 756

Financial Statement

FINA 761

Advanced Financial

Management

FINA 765

Management of Financial Institutions

FINA 767

Real Estate Finance

FINA 770

Fixed Income

Securities

FINA 773

Project Finance

FINA 867

Ph.D. Course

in Banking

Financial institutions (banks, investment banks, investment companies, insurance companies) are constantly in the market for graduates with expertise in financial economics. Currently, all of the major banks in Charlotte (Bank of America, BB&T, Wells Fargo, Fifth Third, SunTrust) recruit at the Moore School.

► Thesis Track

Typically, students selecting the thesis track intend to pursue a Ph.D. in economics or finance. Students who chose the thesis option will work with a faculty member and will be required to write a thesis in an area of research of their choosing.

Students will take four electives (12 hours) in their area of concentration and enroll in **Econ 799** Thesis Preparation (six hours). At least half of all course work will be at the 700-800 level (excluding thesis preparation).



Comprehensive Exam

Students are required to pass a comprehensive exam which covers the three core economics courses.

“A Ph.D. in economics requires advanced quantitative and reasoning skills. My masters from the University of South Carolina helped to prepare me for the challenges I would face in graduate school and as a professor of economics. Without the classes and research, I would not have been ready for the rigors of the higher levels of academia.”

—Scott Hiller
Master of Arts in Economics, 2008

Life in Columbia

The Master of Arts in Economics program at the Darla Moore School of Business offers students the opportunity to pursue graduate studies in an attractive location with great weather and many nearby amenities. USC is in the heart of Columbia, a city with a metro-area population of nearly 750,000 that combines urban

amenities with Southern hospitality and charm. Columbia is a short distance from major cities Atlanta, Charlotte and Charleston.

Columbia's climate is mild — with an average high temperature in January of 57 degrees — and its location in central South Carolina means students are just two hours from beautiful beaches and mountains.

While its cosmopolitan downtown offers the kind of dining and cultural options found in larger cities, Columbia is known for its livability. Traffic is light, housing is affordable and people are friendly.



The Moore School by the Numbers

Academic Leadership in Business Education

#1 MBA program for international business – *U.S. News & World Report*

#16 Professional MBA – *U.S. News & World Report*

#11 Risk and Uncertainty Management program – *U.S. News & World Report*

#1 in the United States, #2 worldwide in international business faculty research productivity – *Journal of International Business Studies*

#2 worldwide in international business faculty research productivity – *Management International Review*

#12 Graduate Supply Chain Program in North America – Gartner



The University of South Carolina does not discriminate in educational or employment opportunities or decisions for qualified persons on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetics, sexual orientation or veteran status.

Learn more

The recruiting team for the Graduate Division is available to address any questions you have about the different programs offered, the admissions process, student life and any other specific or general questions.

Please contact: Cynthia Stanley, Director
(803) 777-7084, Cynthia.Stanley@moore.sc.edu

Apply now or learn more at
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