

# Economics Ph.D.

The objective of the Ph.D. program in Economics at the Darla Moore School of Business is to prepare our students for careers as research economists in academic, government and private settings. Our graduate program offerings are keyed to our highly ranked specialties, and offer a very attractive opportunity for high-quality students who seek to make noteworthy contributions to these fields of study.

## Our Program

In "A Guide to Graduate Study in Economics: Ranking Economics Departments by Fields of Expertise," the Economics Department in the Moore School is ranked 16th in labor economics among all economics departments with graduate programs (Grijalva and Nowell, 2008). Our next highest rankings were 48th in health, education and welfare, and 58th in international economics (Grijalva and Nowell, 2008).

Ph.D. students take two full years of coursework. These include 18 hours of core coursework in microeconomic theory, macroeconomic theory and econometrics.

In addition, students complete a total of six field courses, tailored to their interests and faculty expertise. Students recently have taken field courses in applied microeconomics (industrial organization, human capital and labor, and experimental) and field courses in international economics and development. With approval, up to two field courses may be taken outside the department.

Teaching is an important component of an economics education, and our students are given the opportunity to teach one or two courses per academic year after the first year of study.

## Recent Awards and Placement Of Graduates

Our students have recently received a Dissertation Enhancement Grant from the National Science Foundation, Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession Fellowship and Internship at the Boston Federal Reserve, Dera D. Parkinson Graduate Fellowship, and a Darla Moore Research Grant.

Our most recent student placements include the University of Georgia, Francis Marion University, Hunan University (China), Whitman College, Washington and Jefferson College, Universidad de Guanajuato (Mexico), PricewaterhouseCoopers and the World Bank.

## Admission

All application materials must be received by **December 15**. Students interested in receiving funding are encouraged to submit their application materials earlier. To qualify for additional university merit-based funding, early application is encouraged. The Economics Ph.D. program admits an average of four students on a biannual (every other year) basis.

Potential students are assessed based on a combination of GRE test scores, grade point averages obtained during undergraduate and other graduate study, recommendation letters, work experience and TOEFL scores (in the case of non-native speakers of English).

Because strength in one area can compensate for weakness in another, no minimum scores are established for any of the admissions criteria. However, competitive applicants typically have GRE scores in the 70th percentile or higher, grade point averages of at least 3.0 from undergraduate and other graduate study, and TOEFL scores of 100 or above (Internet based test).



**Doctoral Degree Programs** Darla Moore School of Business  
University of South Carolina

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## Our Faculty

The Economics Department currently has 16 tenure track faculty. In general, we are an active research group with a continuing stream of publications in high quality economics journals.

**McKinley Blackburn**, Professor: Labor economics, applied econometrics, economic demography

**Janice Boucher Breuer**, Professor: International economics, econometrics, price and wage determination

**Jason M. DeBacker**, Assistant Professor: Public finance and macroeconomics

**Robert Gonzalez**, Assistant Professor: Development economics, public economics, and economic demography

**William R. Hauk, Jr.**, Associate Professor: International trade, political economics, economic growth, applied econometrics

**Christian Jensen**, Associate Professor: Macro and monetary economics, dynamic policy issues

**Daniel Jones**, Assistant Professor: Public economics, labor economics, experimental economics

**Alexander Matros**, Professor: Evolutionary economics, experimental economics, game theory, contests, industrial organization

**John McDermott**, Professor: International economics, growth theory

**Chun-Hui Miao**, Associate Professor: Industrial organization, corporate finance, behavior economics

**Orgul Demet Ozturk**, Associate Professor: Labor economics, public economics, applied microeconomics

**Tamara Lynn Sheldon**, Assistant Professor: Environmental economics, resource economics

**Doug Woodward**, Professor: Regional economics, international economics

**Lindsey Woodworth**, Assistant Professor: Health Economics

**Crystal Zhan**, Assistant Professor: Labor economics, public economics, applied economics

## Costs And Stipends

Ph.D. Students receive a competitive stipend, and a 100 percent tuition and insurance subsidy. They are also offered additional support for conference travel, as well as data and software purchases.

## Contact Information

Students make a large commitment when they enter a doctoral program. It is important that you make a fully informed decision. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

**Dr. Orgul Ozturk**

Ph.D. Coordinator in Economics  
odozturk@moore.sc.edu

## Columbia, S.C.

Columbia offers a desirable quality of life, with diverse cultural and recreational opportunities and a low cost of living. The state capital, Columbia is two hours from some of the U.S.'s best beaches and two hours from the mountains. The Columbia area has ample affordable housing near campus and in nearby communities. The climate is warm in the summer and mild in the winter, with distinct seasonal changes. Most outdoor activities can be pursued year-round. Students who have children have found Columbia to be a very welcoming and nurturing location.

[www.moore.sc.edu/phd.economics](http://www.moore.sc.edu/phd.economics)



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