Graduate Coordinator’s Web Page

The primary gateway to the information and resources you will need as an Economics graduate student is the Graduate Coordinator’s web page:

http://www.terry.uga.edu/people/cornwl/gc/

Registration

Incoming graduate students can register for classes during Phases IB or II of the registration process. The schedule for these phases of registration is provided here:

http://www.reg.uga.edu/or.nsf/html/kdfall

Registration is carried out online; here is a good place to begin:

http://www.reg.uga.edu/or.nsf/html/registration

In your first year, you must register for the following classes:

Fall semester
ECON 8000 – Mathematical Analysis for Economists (3 hours)
ECON 8010 – Microeconomic Theory I (3 hours)
ECON 8070 – Statistics for Econometrics (3 hours)
ECON 8980 – Economics Seminar (3 hours)

Spring semester
ECON 8020 – Microeconomic Theory II (3 hours)
ECON 8040 – Macroeconomic Theory I (3 hours)
ECON 8080 – Introduction to Econometrics (3 hours)
ECON 8980 – Economics Seminar (3 hours)

ECON 8980 requires first-year students to attend the department’s faculty-student workshop, which consists of “brown-bag” seminars with members of the Economics Department faculty. These lunchtime meetings are intended to introduce you to the faculty (particularly, those who do not teach in the first-year curriculum) and their research in an open, informal and non-technical way. The schedule for these workshops will be posted on the Graduate Coordinator’s web page.
Structure of the graduate program

You will find the details of the program structure here:

http://www.terry.uga.edu/economics/graduate/information/phd.php

Bear in mind that the first year is a probationary period for potential doctoral students. At the end of the first year, you will be formally admitted to the PhD program if you have maintained a 3.0 GPA in the required first-year courses and passed the Micro Theory preliminary exam. Students who are unable to meet these requirements will be given the opportunity to earn an MA degree.

Assistantships

Students receiving assistantships will be assigned to one or more faculty members for a total of 16 hours per week. The faculty member(s) will determine the nature of your duties and monitor your performance. At the end of the semester, the faculty to whom you are assigned will evaluate your performance.

Subject to budgetary restrictions, graduate assistantships held by first-year students will be renewed if the following two criteria are met:

- GPA above 3.30 in the required first-year courses.
- Passage of the Micro Theory preliminary exam.

If your GPA does not exceed 3.30, second-year funding will be determined competitively, based on your academic performance during your first year. The pool of competitors will include those first-year students who matriculated without an assistantship.

Subject to budgetary restrictions, graduate assistantships will be renewed annually for up to two more years (i.e., through a student’s fourth year in the program) if the following three criteria are met:

- GPA above 3.00 in PhD Economics courses.
- Passage of the Macro Theory and field preliminary exams.
- Satisfactory performance as a graduate assistant.

Most PhD students are also expected to teach classes as a teaching assistant at some point during their studies. Typically, students will teach a total of 4 to 6 courses before completing their degree. Students whose native language is not English may be required to take preparatory course work in English before being given classroom responsibilities.
**Offices and Mailboxes**

Unfortunately, the department is currently squeezed for space. All incoming graduate students will have access to office space in room 604 of the Bank of America building downtown, located on the corner of Lumpkin St and Clayton St. This space is equipped with desks and computers that are connected to the internet. See Cindy Owensby, the department’s senior administrative secretary, for information and access. All economics faculty offices are located on the 5th floor of Brooks Hall.

Student mailboxes are located in the south reception area on the 5th floor of Brooks Hall; faculty mailboxes are in a room off the north reception area.

**Computers and Email**

The Terry College supports a common computing resource in the form of a 4-processor SUN E420. Loaded onto the server are the most of the popular econometrics applications: Gauss, LIMDEP, RATS, SAS, Stata and TSP. As graduate students, you have access to this machine for computing related to class assignments and research. More information about the server, including instructions on obtaining an account, can be found here:

http://www.terry.uga.edu/oit/research/

If you own a laptop and would like to have it configured to operate on the Terry College’s network, contact help@terry.uga.edu.

Virtually all of our intra-departmental communication is by email, so it is essential that you have access to a reliable email service and you check your account often. We strongly recommend UGAMail for that purpose. Information about the service and obtaining your account is provided here:

http://www.ugamail.uga.edu/

As soon as possible, confirm your email address (and other local contact information) with Cindy Owensby.

**Photocopies**

To make photocopies related to your assistantship duties use the copiers in the Terry College’s Logistics Department (252 Brooks Hall). Access codes to these copiers can be obtained from the Economics Department secretaries. If you are making copies of library material that cannot easily be checked out, make one copy in the library and make the rest in Brooks 252. Contact Cindy Owensby about how to access the library’s photocopying facilities.
You are not allowed to make personal copies on the department’s Terry College or library accounts. Graduate students are also not permitted to use the photocopy machine in the Economics Department office.

**Other Help and Information**

One of the roles of the graduate coordinator is to serve as liaison between you and the departmental faculty, and to help you through the graduate program. Please feel free to contact me whenever you have questions, problems or comments.

Melody Herrington (econgcasst@terry.uga.edu) serves as the department’s administrative secretary and the Graduate Coordinator’s assistant. She is able to handle most of your routine questions about the program and department.

Cindy Owensby (cowensby@terry.uga.edu), the department’s senior administrative secretary, is the person to talk to about the financial aspects of your assistantship. Her office is located in the north reception area on the 5th floor.

Joanna Warren (joannaw@terry.uga.edu) is our undergraduate advisor, but handles questions about course schedules for graduate students. Her office is also located in the north reception area.

Welcome to Athens and good luck in the program.

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