

## **Master of Science (MSc) Program in Economics**

### **Academic Director:**

Tao ZHU, Associate Professor of Economics

The Master of Science (MSc) program in Economics has two objectives. First, it provides solid economics and analytical training to prepare students for further pursuit of the highest academic degree (i.e. PhD) in subjects like economics, accounting, finance, marketing or management. Second, the variety of applied courses offered in the program equips students with sufficient knowledge to enter the job market. In addition, students can benefit from the good employment opportunities in Hong Kong, Mainland China and elsewhere.

This MSc program emphasizes coursework to strengthen students' general background in economics and their ability to apply such knowledge to analyze real world problems. To fulfill the degree requirements, students are expected to undertake coursework, and, as an option, complete a research project.

### ***Admission Requirements***

Applicants must possess a bachelor's degree from a university or a recognized institution. Prior background in economics is not essential.

### ***Program Duration***

The normative duration of this full-time program is one year.

### ***Program Fee***

The program fee for the 2013-14 intake is HK\$147,000.

### ***Curriculum***

The minimum number of credits needed to fulfill the program requirements is 30. The total credit load should not exceed 34. There are two ways to earn the MSc degree:

a) The Coursework-Only Option

Students are required to complete at least 30 credits of coursework, including 15 credits of core courses and minimum 15 credits of elective courses.

b) The Coursework-plus-Project Option

Students are required to complete at least 26 credits of coursework, including 15 credits of core courses and minimum 11 credits of elective courses; plus a 4-credit MSc project (ECON 6950).

Core courses (15 credits)

- ECON 5100 Mathematics for Business and Economics  
ECON 5130\* Microeconomic Analysis  
ECON 5140\* Macroeconomic Analysis  
ECON 5280\* Applied Econometrics I

Elective courses (at least 11 credits)

Students are free to register in any postgraduate courses offered by the Department of Economics, except ECON 5030, ECON 5110 and ECON 5200.

Subject to the approval of the Academic Director, students can choose to take up to two postgraduate courses (of no more than 6 credits taken together) related to economics offered by other departments in the School of Business and Management, School of Science, or Division of Social Science. Students may take up to two 4000-level undergraduate economics elective courses (of a maximum of 8 credits).

Optional MSc Project (4 credits)

- ECON 6950 MSc Project

This is an independent project carried out under the supervision of a faculty member in the Department of Economics. The final project report will be read by two faculty members, one of whom is the supervisor.

Research Preparation Concentration

Students who want to better prepare themselves for pursuing further studies are given an option to extend one more term to complete a Research Preparation concentration. To opt for this concentration, students are required to complete at least 36 credits, including 15 credits of elective courses, of which 6 elective credits must be at PhD level; plus a 6-credit Independent Project (ECON 6980)

**Graduation Requirements**

Students must complete the program with a graduation grade average (GGA) of 2.850 or above as required of all postgraduate students at the University. Courses will need to be repeated or replaced if students fail to obtain a passing grade.

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\* The course may be substituted by an equivalent course subject to prior approval of the Academic Director and the course instructor.