

# Northwestern

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Department of **Economics**

Ad-hoc Combined  
Master's Degree  
Graduate Student  
Handbook

September 2019

## **Changes since Last Edition**

- This is the first edition.

This handbook is reissued as needed and represents the policies and degree requirements of the Department of Economics as of the date on the cover.

The requirements in this document are in addition to, or further elaborate upon, the general degree requirements and the policies on satisfactory progress, probation and exclusion adopted by The Graduate School of Northwestern University.

# The Graduate School Combined Degree Requirements

Students in The Graduate School (TGS) are admitted to approved PhD programs and must follow a plan of study related to that academic program. Doctoral students may propose to pursue a TGS master's degree outside of their approved academic program. This allows doctoral students to pursue a secondary (supplemental) master's program administered by The Graduate School that is not a part of their existing program of study.

## Eligibility

- Doctoral students in The Graduate School may petition to pursue a master's degree outside of their approved academic program when:
  - the secondary master's degree relates to the student's area of specialization and can enhance the student's scholarship, and
  - it would be impossible for a student to fulfill academic/intellectual goals solely through the program into which they were initially admitted, or through an existing cluster or certificate.
- Students proposing to pursue a master's degree outside of their approved PhD program must be in good academic standing.
- The petition requires permission from the student's Director of Graduate Studies, the student's faculty adviser, the Director of Graduate Studies for the master's degree, and The Graduate School, per the procedure outlined below.
- In order to receive a master's degree outside of the approved academic program, students must satisfy The Graduate School's minimum requirements for each of the degrees without double-counting courses or other requirements.
- The master's degree outside of the approved PhD program may not be conferred before the PhD is conferred. A student who departs (withdraws, is dismissed, or otherwise discontinued from) the PhD program to which the student was originally admitted becomes ineligible for the secondary master's degree.

## Procedure for Requesting Permission to Pursue an Ad Hoc Combined Degree

To request permission to pursue concurrent degrees outside of an existing combined degree program, students must submit the Permission to Pursue an Ad Hoc Combined Degree form to TGS Student Services that provides:

- An explanation of the academic/intellectual rationale for the plan of study
- A written description of the student's plan to fulfill all published requirements for each degree without double counting The Graduate School's minimum requirements for courses and other work
- A statement from the student's faculty adviser(s) supporting the rationale for pursuing a master's degree outside of the approved PhD program and confirming that the student is making acceptable progress in the approved PhD program
- Statements from the Directors of Graduate Studies in both the student's PhD program and the master's degree program confirming that the outlined plan of study is acceptable and that the student has permission to pursue the degrees concurrently.

## Ad-Hoc Combined M.A. in Economics Degree Requirements

### Coursework Requirements

*Total Units Required: 9*

Course	Title
<b>Core Courses</b>	
ECON 410-1	Microeconomics
ECON 411-1	Macroeconomics
ECON 480-1	Econometrics
<b>Economic History or Development</b>	
<i>One of those listed below</i>	
ECON 315-0	Topics in Economic History
ECON 323-1	Economic History of the United States Before 1865
ECON 323-2	Economic History of the United States 1865 to Present
ECON 324-0	Western Economic History
ECON 325-0	Economic Growth and Development
ECON 326-0	The Economics of Developing Countries
ECON 327-0	Economic Development in Africa
ECON 420-1	American Economic History
ECON 420-2	European Economic History
<b>Electives</b>	
Economics (300 or 400 level) or approved related courses	

### Other MA Degree Requirements

*Examinations:* final oral examination

*Research/Projects:* none specified

*Master's Thesis:* none specified

*Other:* paper in one course carrying graduate credit