

Graduate Connection

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September 2023

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Graduate Student Handbook

The Department's *Graduate Student Handbook* containing the Department's policies and degree requirements is reissued each summer. Find it under [Graduate > Current Student Resources](#) on our website.

Welcome to our First-Year Students!

Welcome. We hope that your years with us are productive and fulfilling. Please take the opportunity to meet other graduate students and the faculty. A good way of doing this is at the TGIF event held most Fridays at 5:00PM in the light court (room 3322).

This newsletter is published three times a year about September 1, December 1, and March 1. It contains department news, descriptions of field courses available in the following quarter, listings of special events, and reminders of various administrative deadlines.

News

Faculty Changes

We welcome one new faculty this Fall. **Jonas Jin** who completed his PhD at Princeton University joins us as an Assistant Professor of Instruction. He works in development and labor economics. He is in room 3389.

Garima Sharma has accepted as position as Assistant Professor effective July 2024. She recently completed her PhD at MIT. In the interim she is taking a post-doc year at Princeton University. Her work focuses on development and labor economics.

Congratulations to **Vivek Bhattacharya** and **Yingni Guo** on their promotion to Associate Professor with tenure. **Walker Hanlon** has been promoted from Associate Professor without tenure to Associate Professor with tenure.

During the summer two faculty members moved offices:

- Ronald Braeutigam to 3487 (sharing with Robert Coen)
- George-Marios Angeletos to 3365.

We have a several faculty away on leave for the entire year. **Matthias Doepke** remains on leave at the London School of Economics . **Ben Golub** and **Annie Liang** are on leave at Stanford University. Both **Kiminori Matsuyama** and **Molly Schnell** are on leave closer to home at the University of Chicago. **Harry Pei** is at Yale University. **Giorgio Primiceri** is at Amazon.

Congratulations to **Kirabo Jackson** on his appointment to the Council of Economic Advisors. He is taking leave from NU during the duration of this appointment.

Martin Eichenbaum is on leave at Harvard University for Fall Quarter. **Mar Reguant** is in Barcelona for the Fall and Winter Quarters, **Bruno Strulovici** is on leave at the University of Chicago in the Fall Quarter.

Courtesy faculty member **Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach** is taking

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leave to serve as Senior Advisor to the President for Academic Excellence and Associate Provost at the University of Florida.

Staff Changes

Samantha Westlake-Hart is our new Assistant Director of Administration and Undergraduate Student Services. She joins us with extensive experience from the Department of Physics and Astronomy. She succeeds James Harrington, who is continuing his career at Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin.

Nemmers Prize

The winner of the 2022 Erwin Plein Nemmers Prize in Economics, **Ariel Pakes** of Harvard University is giving his Nemmers lecture on Friday October 13 at 4:00PM. This is part of a conference on Friday and Saturday October 13/14. See the events section for more information.

Start of Year Reception

Our start-of-year reception for faculty, staff and graduate students is on Thursday afternoon October 12 from 5PM to 6:30PM in White Auditorium on the second floor of our building. Our traditional awards will be handed out. See details in the "Events" section.

Visitors and Postdocs

Faculty visitors this year include full year visits from theorist **Philip Reny** from the University of Chicago, and **Lian Chen** a macroeconomist from the University of California, Berkeley, **Kilian Rieder**, an economist with the Austrian National Bank, is visiting for the Fall Quarter and is teaching an undergraduate course in economic history. Also visiting for the Fall Quarter is labor economist **Edoardo**

Maria Acabbi from Universidad Carlos III de Madrid.

We have two postdocs in economic history who are here for the entire academic year: **Davide Coluccia**, who got his PhD from Bocconi University, and **Katherine Hauck** who obtained hers from the University of Arizona. She will teach an undergraduate course in economic history in the Spring Quarter.

Look for updates on visitors in the Winter and Spring Quarters in the December and March editions of the *Graduate Connection*.

Graduate Studies Committee

The Graduate Studies Committee is a forum for feedback from graduate students to the faculty on the graduate curriculum, programming, and administrative processes. It meets each quarter.

There are three student representatives:

- A 2nd year
- A 4th or 5th year
- A 3rd or 6th year

Nominations for the coming year, including self-nominations are due at [this link](#) by September 10. If necessary, online elections are on September 12-16.

The other members of the committee are DGS **Marciano Siniscalchi** as chair, **Igal Hendel** and **Yingni Guo** (Co-Directors of Graduate Admissions), **Alessandro Pavan** (Director of Graduate Placement), **Ian Savage** (Associate Chair), **Christy Bullion** (Business Administrator), and **Lola Ittner** (Graduate Program Manager).

Students are encouraged to share concerns and suggestions with their representatives.

Faculty Leadership

Igal Hendel and Yingni Guo have taken over the graduate student admission portfolio. The remainder of the leadership team is unchanged:

Robert Porter: Department Chair
Ian Savage: Associate Chair
Marciano Siniscalchi: Director of Graduate Studies
Igal Hendel and **Yingni Guo:** Co-Directors of Graduate Admissions
Alessandro Pavan: Director of Graduate Placement
Robert Gordon: Chair of the Undergraduate Studies Committee
Mark Witte: Director of Undergraduate Studies
Ivan Canay: Chair of the Junior Recruiting Committee

For Your Information

Department Staff

Christy Bullion - Director of Finance and Administration
Samantha Westlake-Hart - Assistant Director of Administration and Undergraduate Student Services
Lola Ittner - Graduate Program Manager
Rita Savakis - assists Graduate Program Manager
Kayla Johnson - Events Coordinator / Faculty Administrator
Mariya Acherkan – Main office
John Affrunti – Accounts
Arun Machanickal or Max Malony - IT Specialists

Help and Support

A listing of help and support resources, both within the department and within the university, is in the [Graduate > Current Student Resources](#) part of our website. If you have any suggestions for additional topics, please tell **Lola Ittner**.

Graduate Student Opportunities Website

The Department has a web page for graduate students with information on:

- Conferences
 - Resources at NU
-

- Fellowships
- Programming at NU
- Events outside NU
- Counseling Services (CAPS)
- Job Opportunities

See the weekly update e-mail or visit:
<https://sites.google.com/view/nuecon-grad-opportunities/home>

For Our First-year Students

Information on goals for first-year students, with answers to many frequently asked questions, is posted on our web site in the [Graduate > Degree Requirements and Goals](#) section.

The Graduate School has a language testing regime for Teaching Assistantship (TA) eligibility. TAships are the primary form of financial support in years two through four. Please place a high priority on making sure that you meet the language requirement. In the past, otherwise qualified students have run into funding difficulties because they did not meet the language requirement.

For Those on the Job Market

The department's program to assist students on the job market has already started. Make sure you have a copy of our *Job Market Handbook* that contains a timeline of events and deadlines. If you are planning to go on the market and you have not been in contact with Director of Graduate Placement **Alessandro Pavan**, please contact him and **Lola Ittner** immediately.

Events

Teaching Assistant Training

The training of new Teaching Assistants will be held on Thursday, September 14. This is organized by the Searle Center for Advancing Learning & Teaching. All TAs who are

teaching for the first time this year, or missed last year's program, are required to attend. The training lasts from 9:00AM to 4:00PM (general sessions) and 4:30PM to 6:00PM (Economics-specific sessions) at Norris University Center. The Economics-specific sessions are led by **Tomer Yehoshua-Sandak**, an accomplished TA in the Department.

Click [here](#) for information and registration.

Political Economy of Development Conference

Kellogg is hosting a conference exploring topics at the intersection of Political Economy, Development Economics and Economics History on Saturday and Sunday September 16/17. [Click here](#) for more information and registration information.

Econometrics / Applied Micro Interactions Workshop

This joint NU / Chicago / Wisconsin workshop is intended to encouraging more interaction between econometricians and economists engaged in applied research, especially those towards the beginning of their careers.

It is on Friday and Saturday September 22/23 in KGH 1410. More information on the [Center for Econometrics website](#). To get an accurate headcount for food, [please register using this link](#).

Workshop on Health and Income Inequality around the World

The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago is hosting *Explorations in Economic History: Workshop on Health and Income Inequality around the World* in downtown Chicago on Friday and Saturday October 6/7. More information and a link to required registration [at this link](#).

CSIO – Toulouse Industrial Organization Workshop

The next NU-Toulouse School of Economics IO Workshop is in Evanston on Friday and Saturday, October 6/7. See the [CSIO website](#) for more information.

Start-of-Year Get Together

Faculty, staff, and graduate students, are invited to a welcome back reception on Thursday, October 12 from 5:00PM to 6:30PM in White Auditorium on the second floor of our building. Heavy appetizers and drinks will be served.

We will award the Department's Distinguished Teaching Assistant awards, the Bies Essay awards, and the Eisner Fellowship.

Look for E-mail invitations and an RSVP form in the coming weeks.

Nemmers Lecture

The Nemmers lecture by **Ariel Pakes** is at 4:00PM on Friday, October 13. The lecture is titled "Pharmaceutical Advertising in Dynamic Equilibrium." The lecture is in White Auditorium on the second floor. All faculty, staff and graduate students are invited. No reservations required.

Nemmers Conference

The conference associated with the awarding of the Nemmers Prize to Ariel Pakes is in White Auditorium on Friday and Saturday October 13/14.

The conference is on various research areas of interest to Professor Pakes. There are papers by **Richard Blundell** (UCL), **Rebecca Diamond** (Stanford), **Liran Einav** (Stanford), **Matthew Gentzkow** (Stanford), **Rachel Griffith** (Institute for Fiscal Studies), **Kate Ho** (Princeton), **Myrto Kalouptsi** (Harvard), **Costas Meghir** (Yale), **Parag Pathak** (MIT) and **Elie Tamer** (Harvard).

The detailed program is posted in the [Events > Nemmers](#) section of our web site. Free on-line registration for the conference (but not needed for Prof. Pakes' lecture) can be made from the conference web site.

Save the Date

The Center for Economic History hosts a two-day conference on "Historical Lessons for Monetary and Financial Policy" on March 29-30, 2024.

Teaching

This Years' Course Offerings

The schedule for graduate courses for the coming year is shown on the [Graduate > Class Schedules](#) page of our web site, along with the timings for each quarter.

Maintaining Full-time Status

You must be registered for at least three course credits each quarter to be considered a full-time student.

First year students are automatically full time in Fall, Winter, and Spring as they are registered for 410, 411 and 480.

For students in years 2 and 3 in Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarters, if you are registered for two courses add 1 unit of Economics 590. If you are registered for one or zero courses add TGS 500. TGS 500 is listed for zero credits but assures fulltime status (and allows registration in up to one course).

Students in years 4 and above should register for TGS 500 (or TGS 512 in certain circumstances) which is considered a full-time registration.

Students in all years should register for TGS 500 in summer quarter.

Registering for Research Workshops

While it is not part of the formal degree requirements, attending research seminars is probably one of the most valuable aspects of your graduate education. You get to meet leaders in each field and observe the cutting edge of new research. We suggest that starting in your second year, students should regularly attend one or more of our workshop series. As a signaling and commitment device you can formally register for one or more of these series. These registrations are offered in Fall and Spring Quarters. Look for course numbers between Econ 515 and 580.

Incomplete Grades

Excessive incomplete grades result in you being placed on probation by TGS. We have a policy to avoid the problem of excessive awarding of incomplete grades. Please see our [web site](#) for a complete statement. Report any problems to the Director of Graduate Studies.

This Quarter's Course Descriptions

Advice on Field Sequences

The Department has guidance on [acceptable field course sequences](#). These are posted in the [Graduate > Degree Requirements and Goals > Second and Third Year Goals](#) section of our website.

Department of Economics Classes

Economics 412-1

Economic Theory and Methods
Professor Siniscalchi

TTh 3:30-5:20

KGH 3301

This course primarily focuses on game theory, with a bit of decision theory thrown in. Game-theory topics include refinements of equilibrium, non-equilibrium solution concepts for games, epistemic game theory, and learning theory. Decision-theoretic topics include a selection from the following: ambiguity, temptation, costly contemplation, preferences for flexibility, and general time preferences. Topics are presented using both classic papers and more recent contributions. Evaluation is based on a presentation.

Economics 414-1

Economics of Information
Professor Wolinsky

MW 9:00-10:50

KGH 3301

The course has three parts: (1) fundamental concepts in modeling information, the value of information, and its cost; (2) central topics in implementation that were not covered in 410-3; and (3) information in markets. Each of these parts occupies roughly 1/3 of the time. The course's emphasis is more conceptual than methodological.

Evaluation is likely based on a number of homework assignments throughout the quarter and on a short presentation of a paper selected from a list of papers related to the course's material.

Economics 420-1

American Economic History
Professor Ferrie

TTh 11:00-12:50

KGH 3417

Note location and time.

This course pursues two approaches to economic history in the

context of the development of the U.S. since the early 17th century. First, it traces the historical roots of economic phenomena whose existence we often simply assume such as integrated markets in labor, capital, and products, formal legal structures that shape economic decisions, and the production and adoption of new technologies. Second, the course discusses exploiting the copious record of historical data that can help us assess economic theories in ways that modern sources would not permit. Examples include the efficiency of the market for human capital for workers tied to their employers for years or generations, the ability of the financial sector to operate without regulation, and the impact of early-life circumstances on outcomes observed decades later.

Each class session consists of a brief introduction, followed by student presentations of summaries and critiques of existing research and class discussion. All readings are provided and all are required for each class member whether they are presenting them or not.

Evaluation is based on the presentations, in-class discussion, and the completion within 12 months of the quarter's end of a paper containing significant original research on a topic in American economic history. This paper should be comparable in scope and quality to published work in one of the top field journals (*Journal of Economic History*, *Economic History Review*, or *Explorations in Economic History*).

Economics 425-1

Development Economics

Professor Beaman

TTh 1:30-3:20

KGH 3301

The goal of the course is to introduce the central issues in development economics and to explore the application of microeconomic analysis, using theory and econometrics, to gain deeper

insights into these questions. Applications relate to empirical microeconomic issues in developing countries. The course covers topics including health, education, gender inequality, corruption, labor markets in developing countries, and social networks. Empirical methods are emphasized throughout.

Evaluation is based on referee reports, in-class presentations, and a research project.

Economics 436-1

Public Finance

Professor Vannutelli

TTh 9:00-10:50

KGH 3301

Note time and location.

The course provides a broad overview of some of the most important topics in public finance, with a focus on recent research as well as areas that have been overlooked for a while and could be revived.

The course starts with a general overview of the role of government in the economy and thinking about modern methods to compare the welfare impacts of different policy intervention. It then moves to how governments finance themselves through taxation, covering issues related to how should tax systems be designed, how individuals and firms respond to taxation and who bears the cost of tax changes, how tax evasion affects the optimal design of taxes and transfers and how can governments fight tax evasion.

The course then discusses the structure of governments, exploring issues of local public finance, analyzing why some policies in many countries are carried out by local governments, and how to design and evaluate place-based interventions.

The second half of the course analyzes government spending in more depth, exploring mostly issues related to the economics of education. This part of the course also analyzes problems related to the assessment of public goods and public service

provision such as the difficulty of measuring performance and quality of public goods.

The course concludes by thinking about the personnel economics of the public sector, meaning the role played by the quality of individuals who work as public sector workers and how to attract and retain talent in the public sector.

Economics 450-1

Industrial Organization

Professors Illanes

MW 1:30-3:20

KGH 1410

This course is an introduction to industrial organization theory and empirical analysis. The first few weeks are devoted to theory. Topics include static and dynamic oligopolistic price / quantity competition, entry, collusion and antitrust.

The remainder of the course is devoted to empirical analysis. Topics include tests of market power and collusion, estimation of production functions, estimation of demand functions, and empirical studies of differentiated products industries.

Evaluation is based on a number of problem sets and a final exam.

Economics 481-1

Advanced Econometrics

Professor Auerbach

MW 3:30-5:20

KGH 3301

A gentle introduction to various econometric methods for social and economic network data. The first half of the course is a focused review of network economics and random matrix theory. The second half is about applications. Previous topics include models of social interaction and network formation, community detection, recommender systems, network recovery, interactive fixed effects, and more. About two-thirds of the course focuses on theory (i.e., definitions and proving things), the other one-third is about

implementation and computational issues.

Evaluation is by class participation.

Economics 498-2

Advanced Topics

Professor Angeletos

MW 1:30-3:20

KGH 3301

This course focuses on the role of coordination, information, expectations, and bounded rationality. Topics include beauty contests, global games, rational inattention, higher-order uncertainty, and behavioral biases in the formation of expectations (e.g., cognitive discounting, diagnostic expectations). The primary applications are drawn from macroeconomics (e.g., business cycles, bank runs, asset prices, bubbles, optimal monetary policy), but the settings used, and insights delivered may also be of interest to microeconomists.

Evaluation is by problem sets, a research proposal, and a presentation.

Other Departments' Classes

See the Department's field sequence rules before registering for any of these classes.

Finance 584

Introduction to Econometrics

Professor Todorov

This is a Kellogg first-year course and is not appropriate as an Economics field course.

Finance 585-1

Asset Pricing I

Professor Skiadas

TTh 9-10:30

KGH 4302

An introduction to competitive asset pricing theory. Topics include arbitrage pricing, mean-variance analysis, competitive equilibrium, and optimal consumption / portfolio choice.

There is equal emphasis on sound economics and well-motivated methodology, which includes an introduction to continuous-time methods of arbitrage pricing and dynamic consumption and portfolio choice with recursive utility.

There is an online textbook available from the class website. Evaluation is by weekly problem sets.

Finance 586-1

Corporate Finance I

Professors Benmelech & Fishman

F 9:00-12:00

KGH 4302

The objective of this course is to provide an in-depth introduction to both theory and empirical work in modern corporate finance. Students are expected to be familiar with basic notions in finance, contract theory, and econometrics.

The starting point is the irrelevance of capital structure result of the Modigliani-Miller (MM) theorem. The course then looks at a series of departures from MM such as moral hazard, adverse selection, debt overhang, bankruptcy costs, illiquid markets, bank runs, intermediation, safe assets, and debt maturity.

Evaluation is based on problem sets, referee reports and a final exam. While there is no primary textbook, some of the static models are based on Jean Tirole's *The Theory of Corporate Finance* (Princeton U.P., 2006).

MECS 540-1

Political Economy I

Professor Persico

T 5:30-8:30pm

KGH 4301

Budget Deficits: A Political Economy View. This class reviews the economic and political-economic literature on budget deficits. It covers theoretical and empirical papers on topics including economic and politico-economic models of government debt; the impact of debt on growth; the

effect of fiscal rules; and sovereign defaults. The emphasis is on recent developments in the field. The course is designed to be complementary with Public Finance and Macroeconomics.

Evaluation is by written assignments and class participation.

MECS 549-1

Technology & Innovation

Professor Spulber

T 10:00-12:50

KGH 5424

The course covers the economics of technology and innovation. The course shows how to go from economic modeling and hypothesis formulation to gathering and presenting data, conducting empirical analysis, and analyzing and interpreting empirical results.

Topics include empirical analysis of research and development (R&D) innovation, platforms and multi-sided markets, innovation competition, internet economics, adoption and diffusion of technology, markets for technology, intellectual property (patents, copyrights, trademarks, and trade secrets), dominant designs and entrepreneurship.

Evaluation is based on a short research paper. The paper can be empirical or theoretical and in the style of the student's field and department. The instructor will provide help, guidance, and suggestions on how to choose a topic and prepare the short paper.

MECS 550-1

Economic Theory: Decision Theory

Professor Klibanoff

W 5:30-8:30pm

KGH 4301

This is a course on decision theory and focuses mainly on theories of individual decision making under uncertainty. The course begins with classical theories and their preference foundations. Then it explores a selection of topics that expand on the classical work in various directions.

Specific topics vary depending on time and the interests of members of the class, but include at a minimum: ambiguity, intertemporal choice, updating, and stochastic choice.

Evaluation is based on class participation, a class presentation on a topic or paper from the reading list, and several problem sets. A textbook used in the first part of the course is *Notes on the Theory of Choice* by David Kreps (Routledge, 1988).

MECS 551-1

Health Economics

Professor Dranove

TTh 12:00-1:30

KGH 4130

After an introduction to the institutions of healthcare markets, students read and discuss health economics research in the areas of medical R&D, as well as research at the intersection of health economics with organizational economics, information economics, industrial organization, and antitrust economics. Each class features a combination of lecture and student presentations of seminal papers. Students are also introduced to a wide variety of healthcare data sources and begin work on an original empirical research project to be completed during the second course of the sequence,

Evaluation is based on the presentation of research papers, in-class discussions, a research proposal, and final exam.

The second course in the sequence is Econ 436-2 with Professor Schnell in the next academic year in Winter Quarter 2025.

MECS 560-1

Static Optimization in Economics

Professor Chaves

M 3:00-6:00

KGH 2430A

The course covers optimization techniques that arise in economic applications. The focus is on convex optimization. The first half introduces

the theory of convex optimization, duality, and Karush Kuhn Tucker theory in Euclidean spaces, with some pointers to infinite-dimensional issues. The second half is comprised of applications to mechanism design, statistics, game theory, and finance.

The textbook is *Convex Optimization* by Boyd and Vandenberghe (Cambridge, UP, 2004) that is available free online. Evaluation is based on class participation, a midterm exam and a final exam.

Economics 501 Seminar

This year the seminar is run by Professor Pavan in both the Fall and Spring Quarters. The random drawing of the order of student presentations was in the March *Graduate Connection*.

Fall Presentation Schedule

The seminar is on Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:00AM to 11:50AM, and on some Fridays from 2:00PM to 2:50PM, all in KGH 1410.

The specific dates are:

Week	Mon 11-12	Wed 11- 12	Fri 2-3
18-Sep	No Class	Xie	No Class
25-Sep	No Class	Sousa	Jorquera
2-Oct	Seida	Rashid	No Class
9-Oct	Wolf	Pienkny	No Class
16-Oct	No Class	No Class	No Class
23-Oct	Tran	Kreps	Obradovic
30-Oct	Zhang, Y.	Di Giovan Paolo	Bonomo
6-Nov	No Class	No Class	Majic
13-Nov	Rayl	Sagawa	Fisher
20-Nov	Sanchez	No Class	Thanksgiving
27-Nov	Zhang, D.	Marcolin	Saxena
4-Dec	Williamson	No Class	No Class

Pareto-improving exchanges are permissible with the permission of Professor Pavan.

Administrative Requirements

Full practical details are on our [web site](#). Note that:

1. Students must register for Econ 501 P/N in the Fall and Spring of their third year. Two pass grades are necessary to meet the Department's research paper requirement.
2. The signed [approval form](#) must be returned to the Graduate Program Manager within two weeks of the presentation or by the Friday of exam week, whichever is earlier. At least one of the faculty signing must hold a tenure-line appointment in the Economics Department.
3. A "pass grade" is issued based on the signed approval form and satisfactory attendance (see below).

Attendance Policy

Economics 501 is designed to be an interaction between the presenter and peer students. It is mandatory that all third-year students attend every Economics 501 seminar. However, things do come up, so we have formalized how we treat excessive absence. "Excessive absence results in an "N" grade being assigned for the Spring Quarter registration. Excessive absence is defined as being absent from more than 10% of the combined number of sessions in the Fall and Spring Quarters. (For example, we expect 43 sessions this academic year, so absence from five or more sessions is considered excessive absence.) A student is considered absent irrespective of the reason or whether the instructor had been notified in advance. A student assigned an "N" grade for this reason can have the grade changed to a "P" by attending in the following Fall Quarter three sessions for each absence above 10%. (For example, a student missing six sessions in a year with 43 sessions has to make up six sessions, calculated as $3 \times (6-4) = 6$.)"

Next Spring Quarter

Specific dates for the Spring Quarter will appear in the March *Graduate Connection*. However, the (random) order of presentations was included in last March's edition and is:

Sagawa, Takaaki
Jorquera, Miguel
Williamson, Chase
Sousa, Rui
Sanchez, Pablo
Marcolin, Giacomo
Pienkny, Max
Zhang, Dalton
Rashid, Myera
Zhang, Yutong
Wolf, Aaron
Rayl, Johanna
Kreps, Aver
Di Giovan Paolo, Andrea
Tran, Thu
Seida, Timothy
Xie, Zhen
Obradovic, Jana
Bonomo, Tessa
Saxena, Mansa
Majic, Evan

Formal Announcements**TA Periods in Residence**

Each quarter that you are a TA, you are expected to be in Evanston on weekdays from the first day of classes until the Monday after examinations end (which is the day that grades are filed). Absences during this period require permission of the instructor. In the past people have left early and arrived back late, in some cases without informing the instructor. The Department does not tolerate this. You must arrange your vacation airline flights to be able to fulfill your duties. This is especially true as you make travel arrangements for the coming holiday season. Failure to do so is grounds for rescinding your TAship. For the coming year, the dates for which you should be in attendance are:

Fall: Tues Sept 19 - Mon Dec 11

Winter: Wed Jan 3 - Mon March 18
Spring: Tues March 26 - Mon June 10

Graduate School Deadlines

Deadlines for students wishing to receive a MA or PhD degree in December.

October 20: Application for a Degree.

November 17: Completed dissertation and all supporting materials for the PhD degree.

December 1: Final examination report and any change of grade forms for the MA degree.

Human Subjects Research

Even though we are a social science rather than a medical science, it is possible that government restrictions on the privacy of human subjects may apply to your PhD dissertation. If you are collecting new data, or even using previously collected data, on individual identifiable people, then you may have to get prior approval for your research from Northwestern's Institutional Research Board. You should read the Submitting to IRB > Getting Started section of their web site to see if it applies to you:

<https://irb.northwestern.edu/>

The web site also includes information on the approval process if that is necessary.

Funding**Non-Departmental Funding**

There are several funding awards that have application deadlines during the Fall Quarter. We have listed some on a page in the [Graduate > Funding](#) section of our web site. In particular, NSF Fellowships are available to U.S. citizens and permanent residents and have a deadline of late October.

Funding for Research-Related Travel and Expenses

TGS has available funds to pay for research expenses and for travel to conferences. The maximum one-time research grant is \$3,000. There is funding for two conferences during your time at Northwestern that covers up to a maximum of \$800 for each conference. Full details of the application procedures and links to application forms are on the [funding web page](#).

One of the necessary conditions for obtaining TGS conference support is the commitment of the department to contribute \$200 in matching funds to the expenses if a student's application is successful. The Department contributes \$100 from the Eisner account and requires that the other \$100 is covered by the student's advisor.

Placement Report

Best wishes to our job market candidates from last year as they start their professional careers (academic appointments are in the economics department except where indicated):

Yong Cai – University of Wisconsin

Santiago Camara - McGill University

Eduardo Campillo Betancourt –

CRI Foundation

Mario Cannella – Bank of Italy

Eilidh Geddes - University of Georgia

Joao Guerreiro - University of California Los Angeles

Carl Hallmann – Jane Street Capital LLC, New York City

Nicole Holz – Walmart Inc.

Jingxiong Tony Hu - Warwick University, UK (Business School)

Paul Kim – Michigan State University

Valentyn Litvin – Université de Montreal (Pharmacy)

Kensuke Maeba - Compass Lexecon, Chicago

Aleksandra Paluszynska - Amazon, San Francisco

Thomas Pellet – Bloomberg Finance L.P., New York City
Federico Puglisi - Bank of Italy
Kelly Gail Strada - Uber, New York City
Matthew Thomas - Federal Trade Commission, Washington DC
Udayan Vaidya - Duke University (Business School)
Ting Wang - Cornerstone Research, Chicago
Boli Xu - University of Iowa (Business School)
Emre Enes Yavuz - T-Mobile US Inc., Seattle

Graduation Rates

The first table shows the percentage of each class making it to completion of first year classes, achieving candidacy (passing qualifying examinations), defending a dissertation prospectus, and completion of the Ph.D.

Class	First Year	Cand- idacy	Pros- pectus	Ph.D.
2007	96%	86%	79%	75%
2008	89%	85%	81%	74%
2009	100%	85%	77%	69%
2010	96%	81%	67%	63%
2011	90%	85%	75%	70%
2012	100%	90%	90%	90%
2013	97%	90%	83%	79%
2014	100%	88%	71%	71%
2015	95%	80%	75%	75%
2016	96%	77%	77%	73%
2017	93%	87%	83%	63%
2018	100%	88%	81%	na
2019	91%	91%	83%	na
2020	100%	100%	na	na
2021	96%	96%	na	na
2022	100%	90%	na	na

For the 248 students entering in the ten-year period between 2007 and 2016, on average 96% completed the first-year classes, 85% completed candidacy, 77% defended a dissertation prospectus and 74% received a doctoral degree. One of these students is still registered and may yet obtain a Ph.D.

The second table shows the time to completion for students entering

between 2007 and 2016. Completion is based on the date that the degree was awarded, which may be up to a year from the time that the student left Northwestern to take up a job. The mean is 5.93 years, and the median is 6 years.

Duration	Number of Students
3 years	1
4 years	3
5 years	30
6 years	131
7 years	11
8 years	6
9 years	1
10 years	1

Notes

Office Allocations

The carrel selection process was completed in August. Students move between now and the start of classes. Check your email detailing how you can pick up metal keys and when the access lists for rooms with electronic access will be updated.

The carrel rooms contain small lockers that function in the same way as a hotel safe. Users select a 4 to 8 digit code. Instructions can be found on the [Graduate > Current Student Resources](#) page of our web site. First year students using the locker room (3486) must provide their own padlock(s).

Keys

If you are having problems with your Wildcard accessing electronically-controlled exterior and wing-entry doors in the building, please see the Business Administrator. If you lose your Wildcard you need to contact the Wildcard office.

If you lose the key to your office door key or the key to your carrel drawers, we charge a \$15 replacement fee for each.

Printing and Copying

Instructions for installing drivers on your computer to print to the copiers in room 3320 are posted in the [Graduate > Current Student Resources](#) section of our website. Your usercode is your 7-digit NU student ID number. You can also use this code to make walk-up copies on the copy machines.

Graduate students are given an allowance of 500 copies/prints per calendar month. You are billed each month at 6¢ a page for any excess above 500.

You will be given a separate code for any prints / copies made as part of teaching assistant duties.

First Year Group Meeting Rooms

There are six rooms assigned as group meeting rooms for first year students (3192, 3196, 3478, 3482, 3488 and 3494). We do not have a formal booking system in place for these rooms but could introduce one if problems emerge. Currently usage is based on first come – first served. It is inappropriate for groups to lay permanent claim to a specific room. Belongings should not be left in the rooms when not in use. Lockers are provided in room 3486 for storage.

E-mail Group Mailing Lists

The Department has four group mailing lists. The group mailing list for graduate students is:

<econ-grads@northwestern.edu>.

There is also a list called <econ-1stysr@northwestern.edu> which is for first year students. Do not mail to both lists as the second is a sub-set of the first.

Note that these are “closed” lists to avoid spam postings. To post to the

lists you must use your @u.northwestern.edu e-mail address. Mail from other addresses (e.g., gmail) is automatically rejected.

Coffee Machines in Pantry

There are coffee machines in the pantry that can either brew espresso or regular coffee. The machine requires capsules that you need to provide yourself.

Next Graduate Connection

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