

Masters Program in Applied Economics

Utah State University, College of Agriculture

Introduction

The Master of Science (MS) degree in Applied Economics is primarily a terminal degree that prepares students for positions in industry, private consulting firms, local, regional and national policy-making agencies, private not-for-profit organizations, and community/regional economic planning and development agencies. The program's main areas of specialization are (1) environmental and natural resource economics, (2) community development and regional economics, and (3) agricultural economics. In terms of thesis research, these areas can be broadly interpreted (please contact the Graduate Program Director for further information).

Although it is not required, many students in this program choose to serve an internship. Recently, students have found internships at statewide environmental advocacy groups, municipal economic development agencies, and nationally recognized macroeconomic consulting firms. Over the years, our Masters students have found employment with a variety of public and private institutions, including a private environmental consulting firm, AT&T Corporation, and the Federal Reserve Bank. During their schooling, beyond subsequently finding employment, our graduates have found that studying economics leads to a fulfilling career.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the Masters program in the Department of Applied Economics, College of Agriculture, requires a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 (4.0 = A) for the last 60 semester credits earned prior to applying for the program. Educational requirements include previous bachelors (BA or BS) level (or above) courses in intermediate microeconomic theory, econometrics/statistics, and mathematical economics/calculus. Students whose prior academic performance warrants admission, although some of these courses have not been taken, may be admitted provisionally. These students will be required to make up deficiencies by enrolling in appropriate courses prior to beginning the Masters program.

The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is required. GRE scores should be included with the application. Scores must be at or above the 40th percentile for both the quantitative and verbal portions of the examination. A TOEFL score is also required of all students whose native tongue is not English. Application forms and more information about application requirements (such as GRE and TOEFL scores) can be found online at <http://www.usu.edu/graduateschool/> or by phoning 435-797-1189.

Program Requirements

A student must earn a minimum of 30 credits above a bachelor's degree for Plan A (thesis) or Plan B (research paper), or 33 credits for Plan C (coursework only). For Plan A students, these credit requirements include a minimum of 6 (maximum of 15) thesis research credits. For Plan B students, these credit requirements include a minimum of 2 (maximum of 3) thesis research credits.

The Plan of Study (POS) is as follows:

First Fall Semester (9 credits)

Macroeconomic Theory 1 (Econ 6000)

Microeconomic Theory 1 (Econ 6100)

Applied Econometrics (Econ 6330)

First Spring Semester (9 credits)

Quantitative Analysis (Econ 6300)

Specialization Course (see below)

Specialization Course (see below)

Second Fall Semester

Specialization Course (see below)

Additional 6000-level course(s) outside area of specialization

Specialization Courses/Sequences

1. Agricultural Economics

Agricultural Marketing (Econ 6030)

Agricultural Production/Policy (Econ 6040)

2. Environmental/Natural Resource Economics

Natural Resource Economics (Econ 6500)

Environmental Economics (Econ 6510)

3. Community Development/Regional Economics

Regional/Community Economic Development (Econ 6700)

Community Planning/Impact Analysis (Econ 6710)

Students must also complete at least one economics course at the 6000 level outside the required core and specialization courses.

For More Information

Arthur J. Caplan

Director of Graduate Programs

and Acting Graduate Program Coordinator

Department of Applied Economics

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Faculty of the Department of Applied Economics

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Field of Interest</u>
Bailey, DeeVon	Professor	PhD	Texas A&M University	1983	Agricultural economics and marketing
Bentley, Marion	Extension Specialist – Human Resources	MS	New York University	1970	Manpower economics
Caplan, Arthur J.	Associate Professor/ Grad Program Dir.	PhD	University of Oregon	1996	Environmental economics, applied microeconomics
Feuz, Dillon	Professor	PhD	Colorado State University	1990	Livestock marketing and farm management
Godfrey, E. Bruce	Professor	PhD	Oregon State University	1971	Agricultural and resource economics
Jakus, Paul	Professor	PhD	North Carolina State University	1992	Environmental economics and natural resource economics
Keith, John	Professor	PhD	Utah State University	1973	Agricultural and resource economics
Lyon, Kenneth	Professor	PhD	University of Chicago	1970	Economic and mathematical theory
Oladi, Reza	Associate Professor	PhD	McGill University	2000	International economics, microeconomics
Snyder, Donald	Professor	PhD	Utah State University	1979	Resource economics and production
Ward, Ruby	Assistant Professor	PhD	Texas A&M University	1998	Agribusiness management and operations research

Staff

Russell, Morgan	Accountant	Timecards, employment, etc.	797-0236
Unfilled	Staff Assistant	Grad Program Coordinator	797-2290
Nye, Katrina	Staff Assistant	General office	797-2310