

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS GRADUATE PROGRAM HANDBOOK

Academic Year 2016-2017



**Department of Economics
8283 Bunche Hall
Mail Stop: 147703
Los Angeles, CA 90095**

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Welcome to the Ph.D. Program in Economics at UCLA

The Ph.D. Program in Economics at UCLA prepares students for careers as economists in academia, business, and government. The program combines rigorous work in economic theory and careful study of real-world problems and institutions. Graduates from our program work at major universities around the world. They also work at national and international government agencies, banks, research centers, and private businesses. Some of our graduates have achieved great prominence, such as William Sharpe, who earned both his B.A. and Ph.D. degrees at UCLA, and was co-recipient of the 1990 Nobel Prize in Economics for his work on the capital asset pricing model.

The Department includes internationally recognized scholars in various areas of economics. These outstanding scholars form one of the foremost departments of economics in the world.

The Economics Department is situated within one of the world's most youthful and vibrant universities. Founded in 1919, UCLA first developed into a major university in the 1950's. After so short a history, the university was ranked second in the United States among public research universities by the Conference Board of Associated Research Councils in 1982. 31 of its Ph.D. programs are currently ranked in the top 20 in their field—third best in the nation.

I. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

DOCTORATE DEGREE

ADVISING

Students are encouraged to consult with the Graduate Vice Chair whenever doubts or questions arise about their proposed program or academic goals. As the student becomes more familiar with the faculty, at the student's initiative, a faculty member in the student's area of interest and specialization can be selected as a main advisor.

In addition, the Graduate Committee meets once a year in the Fall quarter after written qualifying examination results have been made known, to review the performance of each graduate student in the program. At that time, a student making slow or unsatisfactory progress is interviewed by a committee member and given guidelines for successful completion of the program. The Graduate Vice Chair (same as Chair of Graduate Committee) also meets with students who are failing to meet University and/or departmental minimum standards. The Graduate Committee also meets whenever necessary to address ongoing issues of the program.

MAJOR FIELDS OR SUBDISCIPLINES

Economic Theory; Econometrics; Information and Uncertainty; Mathematical Economics; Macroeconomics/Monetary Theory; Economic History; Public Finance; Labor Economics; Industrial Organization; International Economics

FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

None.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In the student's first year of study, students are required to enroll in the standard First-year graduate core sequences in Microeconomic Theory (Economics 201A, 201B, 201C), Macroeconomic Theory (Economics 202A, 202B, 202C) and Quantitative Methods (Economics 203A, 203B, 203C).

TEACHING REQUIREMENT

None.

WRITTEN AND ORAL QUALIFYING EXAMINATIONS

Academic Senate regulations require all doctoral students to complete and pass University written and oral qualifying examinations prior to doctoral advancement to candidacy. Also, under Senate regulations the University Oral Qualifying Examination is open only to the student and appointed members of the doctoral committee. In addition to University requirements, some graduate programs have other pre-candidacy examination requirements. What follows in this section is how students are required to fulfill all of these requirements for this doctoral program.

A. Written Examinations

All Ph.D. qualifying examinations are intended to determine competency in the overall field. While the courses offered are intended to prepare students for the field examinations, and while the professors of the courses are normally also the examiners, the qualifying examination is not restricted solely to the material explicitly presented in course lectures or assigned exercises. Students are assisted in acquiring knowledge of the overall field by course reading lists that include recommended supplementary and complementary readings.

The Department offers written qualifying examinations in the areas listed below (with preparatory courses shown in parentheses):

Core Sequences: Microeconomic Theory (Economics 201A, 201B, 201C); Macroeconomic Theory (Economics 202A, 202B, 202C); Quantitative Methods (Economics 203A, 203B, 203C).

Econometrics (Economics 231A, 231B, 231C, 232B); Information and Uncertainty (Economics 211A-211C, 212A-212B); Mathematical Economics (213A-213B, 214A); Monetary Economics (Economics 221A-221C); Economic History (Economics 241, 242); Public Finance (Economics 251A, 251B, 252); Labor and Public Economics (Economics 261A, 261B, 262A, 262F, 262P); Industrial Organization (Economics 271A, 271B, 271C, 272A); International Economics (Economics 281A- 281C, 282A-282C).

Examinations are graded H (Ph.D. honors pass), P (Ph.D. pass), M (M.A. pass), and F (Fail). Students must pass (with a P or better) the qualifying examinations in all three of the standard First-year core sequences—Microeconomic Theory, Macroeconomic Theory, and Quantitative Methods—before starting the Fall quarter of their second year. Students are required to take these examinations at the first available sitting (normally in June, at the end of student's first year of study). If students are unsuccessful on their first try, they may repeat one or all of the qualifying examinations at the next available sitting (normally in late August or early September, before the beginning of the student's second year of study). Students who have successfully completed their First-year core requirements must regularly attend a departmental workshop and a dissertation pro-seminar each quarter of their second year.

Students must pass (with a P or better) qualifying examinations in three doctoral elective fields (or two fields plus breadth option), usually by the end of the second year, but no later than by the beginning of the student's third year. Written qualifying examinations may be repeated, but students may sit for no more than nine times in total for all (core and field) examinations combined. Students who have successfully completed all course requirements and written qualifying examinations must enroll in and regularly attend a departmental workshop and a dissertation pro-seminar for each of their remaining quarters in the doctoral program.

Qualifying examinations in all core sequences are offered twice a year (normally in June and late August or early September). Doctoral field qualifying examinations are offered at least once a year.

By employing the breadth option, students may substitute a field by coursework, defined as three graduate-level courses for one of the three elective fields. Courses used to satisfy this requirement cannot include any courses used in the core sequence requirements nor can they include courses preparatory for the written qualifying examinations which the student is using for field requirements. The breadth option must include Economics 207, 241, or 242. Students may apply courses at the graduate level (200-level) outside the Economics Department on written preapproval by the Graduate Vice Chair. Only courses in which a minimum grade of B is earned may be used to satisfy this requirement.

B. Field Paper

Fields that require a field paper must receive at least a grade of "Pass" before advancing to doctoral candidacy. A particular paper can only be submitted to one field. If a student's specialty is in more than one field that requires a paper, then a different paper should be submitted to each field of study, unless pre-approved by the Graduate Vice Chair.

C. Paper Requirement

A written paper must be completed by the end of the student's second year. This paper is to be read and evaluated by a member of the Department faculty, who must certify in writing that it satisfied this requirement. This paper could be based on or be an extension of an optional or required paper for a course. Alternatively, the paper could be one presented in a workshop or an outgrowth of a research assistantship or independent study. Ideally, the paper would be related to the student's doctoral dissertation. The materials of this paper may be used as the basis for presentation in a departmental workshop, as well as the basis for the dissertation.

Before advancing to the University Oral Qualifying Examination, students are expected to present a paper in a departmental pro-seminar. It is recommended that this be completed by June of the second year.

D. Oral Qualifying Examination

The University Oral Qualifying Examination, administered by the student's doctoral committee, is scheduled after successful completion of all First-year core examinations as prescribed, completion of the economic history or history of thought requirement, receipt of a pass at the Ph.D. level for all qualifying examinations in the student's fields, and the submission of a written dissertation proposal. The proposal should be made available to the committee members at least one week prior to the date of the examination. The examination focuses on, but is not limited to, the dissertation proposal.

A student should attempt the oral examination no later than the third week of September before the beginning of the third year of study. Students must have been registered in the immediately preceding Spring term in order to take the examination in the summer. In case of failure, a student may repeat the Oral Qualifying Examination once.

A student's doctoral committee will meet with the student at the end of the third year to determine if the student's progress in the dissertation research is satisfactory. At this meeting, the student will submit a written progress report on the proposed topic that describes the work completed to date and includes a detailed outline of the plan for completing the project. With the consent of the student's committee, completed papers may be submitted as part of, or in lieu of, the written progress report. A student is also required to provide a short progress report each quarter. The report must be provided to the student's main advisor no later than two weeks after the beginning of each quarter.

ADVANCEMENT TO CANDIDACY

Students are advanced to doctoral candidacy and awarded the Candidate in Philosophy (C.Phil.) degree upon successful completion of the written and Oral Qualifying Examinations.

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

Every doctoral degree program requires the completion of an approved dissertation that demonstrates the student's ability to perform original, independent research and constitutes a distinct contribution to knowledge in the principal field of study.

FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION (DEFENSE OF THE DISSERTATION)

Not required for all students in the program. The decision as to whether a defense is required is made by the doctoral committee.

TIME-TO-DEGREE

The department has established a five-year normative time-to-degree plan which is divided into a two-year pre-candidacy period and a three-year candidacy period. This projection is

suggestive, and it should be recognized that the amount of time necessary to complete the degree has been found to vary widely among students, due to differences in previous training and other factors. All requirements for the Ph.D. degree, however, must be completed within seven calendar years after entering the program.

TERMINATION OF GRADUATE STUDY AND APPEAL OF TERMINATION

A. University Policy

A student who fails to meet the above requirements may be recommended for termination of graduate study. A graduate student may be disqualified from continuing in the graduate program for a variety of reasons. The most common is failure to maintain the minimum cumulative grade point average (3.00) required by the Academic Senate to remain in good standing. Other examples include failure of examinations, lack of timely progress toward the degree and poor performance in core courses. Probationary students (those with cumulative grade point averages below 3.00) are subject to immediate dismissal upon the recommendation of their Department. University guidelines governing termination of graduate students, including the appeal procedure, are outlined in *Standards and Procedures for Graduate Study at UCLA*.

B. Special Departmental or Program Policy

Students who fail an examination at the first sitting are then required to retake the examination at the next available sitting (normally in late August or early September, before the beginning of the student's second year of study). Students who do not earn Ph.D. passes in the First-year written qualifying examinations in these two sittings are ineligible to continue in the Ph.D. program.

Our program requires that a grade point average of 3.5 is maintained to qualify for any departmental funding or employment including Teaching Assistant, Readership, and Research Assistant positions. A student who is not making satisfactory progress toward the degree is notified to meet with the Graduate Vice Chair, who determines whether to recommend termination to the Graduate Committee. Termination is normally recommended in cases where a student: (1) has failed to maintain a 3.00 grade point average; (2) has failed to pass the written qualifying examinations in the first year core fields by the end of the second sitting; (3) has failed to pass all written qualifying examinations in nine sittings (or by the end of the third year); (4) has failed to be advanced to candidacy by the end of the third year; or (5) has failed to complete all requirements for the degree by the end of the seventh year.

The student is informed of the Graduate Vice Chair's recommendation and has an opportunity to provide written materials in support of continued enrollment in the Ph.D. program. The Graduate Committee thoroughly reviews the student's record as well as the supplementary materials provided by the student and makes a final recommendation to the Graduate Division.

II. FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS

REGISTRATION AND ENROLLMENT

Registration and enrollment is typically done on-line through my.ucla.edu. Please refer to the Graduate Division [Orientation Handbook](#), which contains information on how to register, enroll, and access <http://my.ucla.edu/>. For the most updated enrollment information visit the [Schedule of Classes](#) website at.

First-year Ph.D. students should enroll in the following four (4) courses in the Fall quarter:

- 200. Mathematical Methods in Economics (Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading basis)
- 201A. Microeconomics: Theory of the Firm and Consumer
- 202A. Macroeconomics: Dynamics and Growth Theory
- 203A. Probability and Statistics for Econometrics

In addition to these four courses, students are required to enroll in a two-week “Math Camp,” a pre-requisite for Econ 200. Math Camp typically begins two weeks before the first day of the Fall quarter. This year, Math Camp will be from September 7th through September 20th. Please refer to the Econ 200 [course website](#) for complete information.

Course descriptions of all Economics courses are available in the UCLA General Catalogue [Current Course Descriptions](#).

NOTE: If you are unable to enroll in a course through my.ucla.edu, please contact the course instructor for permission prior to requesting a Permission to Enroll (PTE) number from the Graduate Advisor.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The following are the main sources of financial support available to incoming/First-year students:

A. Departmental Fellowships

The Department awards fellowships (which may provide tuition, registration fees, and/or a stipend) to approximately seven or eight entering students. The primary criterion for the departmental fellowship is the strength of the incoming student’s application.

B. Graduate Division Fellowship Programs and Support from UCLA Centers

There are a number of campus-wide fellowship programs. Some of the available fellowships (specifically the Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellowship and Graduate Opportunity Fellowship programs) are intended to help ensure access to graduate study for students who have experienced significant socioeconomic disadvantages or have overcome other major

educational or physical disadvantages in their pursuit of higher education. Others are privately endowed fellowships with specific eligibility requirements. For a list of University fellowships and grants for entering graduate students, visit <https://grad.ucla.edu/asis/entsup/fellgrnt.htm>

C. Extramural Funding

There are many extramural agencies that provide fellowships for graduate students. We strongly urge all of our students to research external funding opportunities and apply for every fellowship for which they are eligible.

The UCLA Graduate Division has an on-line database of extramural funding opportunities called GRAPES, available at: <https://grad.ucla.edu/funding/>. The GRAPES database catalogs over 500 private and publicly funded awards, fellowships, and internships and allows searches by field, academic level, award type, award amount, and other criteria. In addition, there are directories of extramural support that can be found at most university libraries. You can find a list of these directories at <https://grad.ucla.edu/asis/entsup/extramrl.htm>.

D. Financial Aid for US Citizens and Permanent Residents of the U.S.

Applicants who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. may apply for aid (such as loans, work-study funds, and grants) based on financial need. Applications may be obtained at the Financial Aid Office-UCLA, A129 Murphy Hall, 405 Hilgard Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90095-1435, or at <http://www.financialaid.ucla.edu/>.

ADVISING

The Graduate Vice Chair is the primary advisor for all entering students. The primary advisor is responsible for monitoring the students' degree progress; students should consult the primary advisor whenever doubts or questions arise about their proposed program or academic goals.

After students identify a dissertation topic, typically at the end of the second year of study, the chair of the dissertation committee becomes their primary advisor.

In addition to the Graduate Vice Chair, the Graduate Committee also oversees student performance. The committee meets in the Fall quarter after comprehensive examination results have been made known, to review the performance of each graduate student in the program. At that time, a student making slow or unsatisfactory progress is interviewed by a member of the Graduate Committee and given specific recommendations to correct the situation. A record of this recommendation is placed in the student's academic file. Students who are found to be consistently performing unsatisfactorily may be recommended for termination by a vote of this committee. The Graduate Vice Chair (same as the Chair of Graduate Committee) may also meet with students who are failing to meet University and/or departmental minimum standards. The Graduate Committee also meets whenever necessary to address ongoing issues of the program.

FIRST YEAR CORE COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATIONS

Students must pass (with a Ph.D. pass or better) the qualifying examinations in all three of the standard First-year core sequences—Microeconomic Theory, Macroeconomic Theory, and Quantitative Methods—before the beginning of the second year. Students are required to take these examinations at the first available sitting (normally in June, at the end of student's first year of study). If students are unsuccessful on their first try, they may repeat one or all of the qualifying examinations at the next available sitting (normally in early August or late September, before the beginning of the student's second year of study).

In order to be eligible for departmental funding in the second year, students must have a minimum 3.5 GPA, successful completion of all First-year core courses, plus Ph.D. level passes in written qualifying examinations in Microeconomic Theory, Macroeconomic Theory, and Quantitative Methods after the first sitting.

TA TRAINING COURSE

All students must complete the TA training course (Econ 495, Teaching College Economics) to become eligible to TA in the Department. Students normally take the TA training course a few weeks before the beginning of the second year, because the second year is when most students begin to TA. The training usually begins during the second week of September (one or two weeks before the beginning of Fall quarter) and ends on week eight of the Fall quarter. The course is offered only once a year. Students are advised to make summer plans accordingly so that they do not miss this mandatory TA training course. All students enrolled in the TA training course should enroll in Econ 495 for 2 units in the Fall quarter.

NOTE: International graduate students **MUST** also pass the Test of Oral Proficiency (TOP) examination with a minimum score of 7.1 before working as a TA in the Economics Department. All *non-U.S. citizens* are considered international students. This means for example that permanent residents must take the exam. However, international students who hold a bachelor's degree from an institution in the U.S. do not need to take the test (effective since Winter 2013).

No alternatives to the TOP examination are accepted. The examination should be taken during the first year of study but no later than September of the student's second year of study. Because examination slots fill up quickly, students should schedule the exam as soon as possible. International students who do not pass this examination by the time they are scheduled to TA do not qualify for a teaching assistantship offer and will most likely receive a readership offer instead. For more information about the TOP exam, please visit the UCLA Office of Instructional Development (OID) at <http://www.oid.ucla.edu/training/top>.

ESL PLACEMENT EXAMINATION (INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ONLY):

You must take the [ESL Placement Examination \(ESLPE\)](#) at UCLA if you are a non-native speaker of English and are new to the United States. If you are a non-native speaker of English but are not new to the United States, you may also be required to take the ESLPE. For example, if you were required to submit a TOEFL score when you applied to UCLA, you will need to take the ESLPE.

EXEMPTION NOTE: If you enter UCLA with a score of 100 or above on the TOEFL iBT or at least a 7.5 on the IELTS exam; **OR** hold a Bachelor's or higher degree from a university in a country where the official language is English and in which English is the spoken language and the medium of instruction **you do not need to take the ESLPE.**

The test is offered once per quarter during the academic year with more exams offered at the beginning of the Fall quarter. Test dates are found at the UCLA Writing Programs website: [ESLPE Exam Schedule](#). Please do not delay—this test is **MANDATORY**. ESLPE is designed to facilitate your studies here at UCLA. Visit [ESL Requirements for International Graduate Student](#) for details.

In order to take the ESLPE, students MUST register via the website:

<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/ucla-english-as-a-second-language-placement-exam-eslpe-registration-25417299828>.

NOTE: You must check-in at the test center one hour before the exam begins.

ESLPE Contact Information:

Tara Contreras
tara@humnet.ucla.edu
(310) 206-1145
146 Humanities Building

ESTABLISHING CALIFORNIA RESIDENCY FOR TUITION PURPOSES (US CITIZENS AND PERMANENT RESIDENTS ONLY):

Establishing California Residency for Tuition Purposes:

Domestic students who are not California residents will need to establish residency to avoid assessment of nonresident tuition. In order to establish your residency, certain requirements must be met. Please refer to the Registrar's web page at: <http://www.registrar.ucla.edu/Fees-Residence/Residence-Requirements/Classification-as-a-Resident> or call the Residence Deputy at (310) 825-1091, option 7, for the complete details on establishing California Residency. If

you do not establish your California residency, you are required to pay non-resident tuition during your second year, which currently is \$15,102 per year.

III. SECOND-YEAR STUDENTS

REGISTRATION AND ENROLLMENT

Three courses (or twelve units) per quarter is considered the normal enrollment for graduate students and are required in order for a student not in doctoral candidacy to be counted for full-time status in the University's official enrollment. Therefore, a student is expected by the Department to enroll full time.

NOTE: Teaching Assistants (TAs) and Graduate Student Researchers (GSRs) are required to enroll in at least twelve quarter units throughout their appointments. Course 375 for teaching assistants, and independent studies at the 500-level (596) for graduate student researchers, may be included in reaching the twelve-unit load requirement.

In the second year, students are expected to enroll in all of the required courses for their chosen doctoral field(s) and to pass each course with a minimum grade of B. (Students will be informed of their field requirements before the beginning of their second year.) At the end of the second year, students are required to pass (with a P or better) qualifying examinations in three doctoral elective fields (or two fields plus the breadth option). (See under "Second Year Field Comprehensive Examinations" for details on the breadth option.)

For each term, graduate students are responsible for registering and for enrolling in the correct courses and in the correct number of units; for making sure that their fees and tuition are paid; and for making any necessary changes in their registration and enrollment by the appropriate deadlines listed here: <http://www.registrar.ucla.edu/Calendars/Term-Calendar>.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The following are the main sources of financial support available to continuing students:

A. Teaching Assistantships (TA)

Teaching assistantships are awarded to second-, third-, and fourth-year continuing students. Subject to "Satisfactory Academic Progress" with respect to program requirements (including a minimum 3.50 GPA), all second- through fourth-year students are eligible to receive a Teaching or Research Assistant position. Teaching Assistant re-appointments also require satisfactory quarterly teaching evaluations by the course professor and by the students enrolled in the course.

NOTE: International graduate students MUST also pass the Test of Oral Proficiency (TOP) examination with a minimum score of 7.1 before working as a TA in the Economics Department. All *non-U.S. citizens* are considered international students. This means for example that permanent residents must take the exam. However, international students who hold a

bachelor's degree from an institution in the U.S. do not need to take the test (effective since Winter 2013). No alternatives to the TOP examination are accepted. The examination should be taken during the first year of study but no later than September of the student's second year of study. Because examination slots fill up quickly, students should schedule the exam as soon as possible. International students who do not pass this examination by the time they are scheduled to TA do not qualify for a Teaching Assistantship offer and will most likely receive a readership offer instead. For more information about the TOP exam, please visit the UCLA Office of Instructional Development (OID) at <http://www.oid.ucla.edu/training/top>.

B. Readerships

Readers help grade exams or assignments for a course. The perks and pay of a readership are less than that of a Teaching Assistantship. International students who are guaranteed an assistantship but do not qualify to serve as a Teaching Assistant, for example, will get a readership offer.

C. Research Assistantships (RA)

Research Assistantships are awarded to continuing students by faculty members with research funds. Advanced students find Research Assistantships with faculty members not only in the Economics Department, but also in other academic units such as: the Graduate School of Management, the Institute for Industrial Relations, and the School of Public Policy. Since the faculty members with research funds are different from year to year, we do not have a list of available Research Assistantships. Students are encouraged to approach faculty with whom they may want to work with.

D. Graduate Division Fellowship Programs and Support from UCLA Centers

There are a number of campus-wide fellowship programs. For a list of University fellowships and grants for entering graduate students, students can visit <https://grad.ucla.edu/asis/stusup/contspprt.pdf>. Various fellowship/award announcements are also distributed periodically by email by the Economics Graduate Advisor and by the Graduate Division.

The Department encourages all eligible students to apply for the following awards: **Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Program** and the **Graduate Research Mentorship Program**. These programs are open to doctoral students in the humanities and social sciences who (1) will have completed at least one year but no more than three years of UCLA doctoral study by the beginning of the summer with priority given to students in year one or two of doctoral study; (2) have not yet advanced to candidacy; and (3) are U.S. citizens or permanent residents. These programs are designed to assist students in acquiring and developing advanced research skills under faculty mentorship.

E. Extramural Funding

There are many extramural agencies that provide fellowships for graduate students. We strongly urge students to research external funding opportunities and apply for every fellowship for which they are eligible.

The UCLA Graduate Division has an on-line database of extramural funding opportunities called GRAPES, available at: <https://grad.ucla.edu/funding/>. The GRAPES database catalogs over 500 private and publicly funded awards, fellowships, and internships and allows searches by field, academic level, award type, award amount, and other criteria. In addition, there are directories of extramural support that can be found at most university libraries. You can find a list of these directories [at https://grad.ucla.edu/asis/entsup/extramrl.htm](https://grad.ucla.edu/asis/entsup/extramrl.htm).

F. Financial Aid for US Citizens and Permanent Residents of the U.S.

Applicants who are U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents of the U.S. may apply for aid (such as loans, work-study funds, and grants) based on financial need. Applications may be obtained at the Financial Aid Office-UCLA, A129 Murphy Hall, 405 Hilgard Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90095-1435, or at <http://www.financialaid.ucla.edu/>.

NOTE: Based on need, students may apply for Financial Aid even if supported by a Teaching or Research Assistantship.

ADVISING

Students are encouraged to begin thinking about their research interests as early as possible. After students identify a dissertation topic, typically during the second year of study, the Chair of the dissertation committee becomes their primary advisor. In addition to the primary advisor, the Graduate Committee meets once a year in the Fall quarter after written qualifying exam results have been made known, to review the performance of each student. A student making slow or unsatisfactory progress is interviewed by a member of the Graduate Committee and given specific recommendations to correct the situation. A record of this recommendation is placed in the student's academic file. Students who are found to be consistently performing unsatisfactorily may be recommended for termination by a vote of this committee. The Graduate Vice Chair (same as the chair of Graduate Committee) may also meet with students who are failing to meet University and/or departmental minimum standards.

For advanced graduate students who have begun dissertation work, the determination of satisfactory progress is typically delegated to the dissertation chair.

AWARDING OF THE MASTER'S DEGREE

If students do not pass the qualifying examinations in all three of the standard First-year core sequences – Microeconomic Theory, Macroeconomic Theory and Quantitative Methods with a Ph.D. pass or higher before starting the Fall quarter of their second year and do not continue in the program, they will be awarded a Master of Arts if the requirements below are satisfied.

NOTE: If admitted to the PhD program having already been awarded an academic Master's in Economics (MA or MS) from another institution, the University's duplication of degree policy prevents the awarding of another Master's degree.

- Complete (with B or better) eight out of the nine following courses:
 - Econ 201A, 201B, 201C, 202A, 202B, 202C, 203A, 203B, 203C
- Complete (with B or better) one Economic History course (Econ 207, 241, or 242).
- Master's-level (M) passes in comprehensive examinations for the three First-year sequences.

Upon successful completion of these requirements, the Master of Arts (MA) degree is awarded.

NOTE: Students can begin their advancement to candidacy for the Master's degree during the quarter in which they are enrolled in the final course requirement, typically Economic History.

ADVANCEMENT TO CANDIDACY FOR THE DOCTORATE DEGREE

Students are advanced to candidacy and awarded the Candidate in Philosophy (C.Phil.) degree upon successful completion of the written and oral qualifying examinations.

Before students can advance into doctoral candidacy, they must fulfill the following requirements:

- Pass (with a P or better) all written qualifying examinations.
- Form a doctoral committee.
- Submit a completed Nomination of Doctoral Committee Form to the UCLA Graduate Division for approval. <https://grad.ucla.edu/gasaa/library/docnomin.pdf>
- Submit a written dissertation proposal to the doctoral committee.
- Pass the University Oral Qualifying Examination.

Upon successful completion of these requirements, the Candidate in Philosophy (C.Phil.) degree is awarded. The Candidate in Philosophy (C.Phil.) is awarded in the quarter the student is

advanced to candidacy. Once advanced to candidacy, international students do not pay foreign student fees (non-resident tuition) for three calendar years beginning the quarter following the term in which the student formally advances to candidacy.

A. Regulations Governing the Nomination of Doctoral Committees

The following are regulations governing the nomination of doctoral committees:

- Doctoral committees are appointed by the Dean of the Graduate Division acting for the Graduate Council, upon nomination by the Chair of the Department after consultation with the student.
- Doctoral committees consist of a minimum of four faculty members from UCLA of the following academic ranks:
 - Professor
 - Associate Professor
 - Assistant Professor
- Three of the four doctoral committee members must hold an appointment at UCLA in the Department of Economics, with the remaining member being “outside” of the Department. Note: Faculty who hold multiple appointments count as “inside” if one of those appointments is in Economics.
- Two of the four doctoral committee members must hold the rank of Professor or Associate Professor.
- The Chair of the doctoral committee must hold a UCLA appointment in the Department of Economics as Professor, Associate or Assistant Professor.
- Additional members (above the minimum number of four) may be nominated and, if appointed, have the same voting rights and responsibilities as the other committee members. They may also serve as Co-Chair of the Committee.
- By petition, **one** of the minimum four members may be a faculty member from outside of UCLA who holds an appropriate appointment as listed above.

B. Dissertation Proposal

Students must submit a written dissertation proposal before they can advance to doctoral candidacy.

NOTE: The proposal should be made available to the dissertation committee members at least one week prior to the date of the oral qualifying examination.

C. University Oral Qualifying Examinations

Academic Senate regulations require all Ph.D. students to complete and pass the University Oral Qualifying Examinations prior to doctoral advancement to candidacy. Under Senate regulations the University Oral Qualifying Examination is open only to the student and appointed members of the doctoral committee.

The University Oral Qualifying Examination, administered by the student's doctoral committee, is scheduled after successful completion of all First-year core examinations as prescribed, receipt of a pass at the Ph.D. level for all of the qualifying examinations in the student's elective fields, and the submission of a written dissertation proposal. The examination focuses on, but is not limited to, the dissertation proposal.

Students should attempt the Oral Examination **no later September** of their second year of study. Students must have been registered in the immediately preceding Spring term in order to take the examination in the Summer. In case of failure, a student may repeat the oral qualifying examination **once**.

Preparing for the University Oral Qualifying Exam:

- Obtain a Nomination of Doctoral Committee Form from:
<https://grad.ucla.edu/gasaa/library/docnomin.pdf>
- Form a doctoral committee (see "Regulations Governing the Nomination of Doctoral Committees," Section A, under ADVANCEMENT TO CANDIDACY).
- Return the completed Nomination of Doctoral Committee Form to the Graduate Advisor **no later than August 1st** of the student's second year of study.
- Await approval of the committee from the Graduate Division. The exam cannot take place until the committee has been approved by the Graduate Division.
- Schedule the exam. Coordinate a time with the committee members and reserve a room with the assistance of the Graduate Advisor.
- Provide the dissertation proposal to committee members **at least one week** prior to the date of the oral qualifying examination.
- One or two days before the exam, remind committee members of the time and location of the exam. The exam cannot proceed if any members are not present at the exam.
- The Graduate Advisor prepares the student's academic file, including the Report on the Oral Qualifying Exam Form.

- After the exam, the committee members sign the Report on the Oral Qualifying Exam Form. The Chair of the committee returns the form DIRECTLY to the Graduate Advisor.
- The student “advances to candidacy” when a successful Report on the Oral Qualifying Exam Form is received by the Graduate Division. Two doctoral candidacy fees totaling \$90 will be billed to the student’s BAR account. Students are responsible for this fee.

SECOND YEAR FIELD COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATIONS

Written and Oral Qualifying Examinations

Academic Senate regulations require all doctoral students to complete and pass University written and oral qualifying examinations prior to doctoral advancement to candidacy. Also, under Senate regulations the University oral qualifying examination is open only to the student and appointed members of the doctoral committee. In addition to University requirements, some graduate programs have other pre-candidacy examination requirements. What follows in this section is how students are required to fulfill all of these requirements for this doctoral program.

Written Examinations

All Ph.D. qualifying examinations are intended to determine competency in the overall field. While the courses offered are intended to prepare students for the field examinations, and while the professors of the courses are normally also the examiners, the qualifying examination is not restricted solely to the material explicitly presented in course lectures or assigned exercises. Students are assisted in acquiring knowledge of the overall field by course reading lists that include recommended supplementary and complementary readings.

The Department offers written field qualifying examinations in the areas listed below (with preparatory courses shown in parentheses):

Econometrics (Economics 231A, 231B, 231C, 232B); Information and Uncertainty (Economics 211A-211C, 212A-212B); Mathematical Economics (213A-213B, 214A); Monetary Economics (Economics 221A-221C); Economic History (Economics 241, 242); Public Finance (Economics 251A, 251B, 252); Labor and Public Economics (Economics 261A, 261B, 262A, 262F, 262P); Industrial Organization (Economics 271A, 271B, 271C, 272A); International Economics (Economics 281A- 281C, 282A-282C).

Examinations are graded H (Ph.D. honors pass), P (Ph.D. pass), M (M.A. pass), and F (Fail). Students must pass (with a P or better) qualifying examinations in three doctoral elective fields (or two fields plus the breadth option), usually by the end of the second year, but no later than the end of Spring Quarter of the student's third year. Written qualifying examinations may be repeated, but students may sit for no more than nine times in total for all (core and field)

examinations combined. Students who have successfully completed all course requirements and written qualifying examinations must enroll in and regularly attend a departmental workshop and a dissertation pro-seminar for each of their remaining quarters in the doctoral program.

Doctoral field qualifying examinations are offered at least once a year, normally after the end of Spring quarter.

By employing the breadth option, students may substitute a field by coursework, defined as three graduate-level courses for one of the three elective fields. Courses used to satisfy this requirement cannot include any courses used in the core sequence requirements nor can they include courses preparatory for the written qualifying examinations which the student is using for field requirements. The breadth option must include Economics 207 or 241 or 242. Students may apply courses at the graduate level (200-level) outside the Economics Department on written pre-approval by the Graduate Vice Chair. Only courses in which a minimum grade of B is earned may be used to satisfy this requirement.

Field Paper

Fields that require a field paper must receive at least a grade of “Pass” before advancing to doctoral candidacy. A particular paper can only be submitted to one field. If a student’s specialty is in more than one field that requires a paper, then a different paper should be submitted to each field of study, unless pre-approved by the Faculty Committee in the field.

Paper Requirement

Before advancing to the University Oral Qualifying Examination, students are expected to present a paper in a departmental pro-seminar. It is recommended that this be completed by the end of Spring quarter of the second year.

Oral Qualifying Examination

The University Oral Qualifying Examination, administered by the student's doctoral committee, is scheduled after successful completion of all First-year core examinations as prescribed, completion of the economic history or history of thought requirement, receipt of a pass at the Ph.D. level for at least one qualifying examination in the student's field, and the submission of a written dissertation proposal. The proposal should be made available to the committee members at least one week prior to the date of the examination. The examination focuses on, but is not be limited to, the dissertation proposal.

A student should attempt the oral examination before the beginning of the third-year of study. Students must have been registered in the immediately preceding Spring term in order to take the examination in the summer. In case of failure, a student may repeat the oral qualifying examination once.

IV. STUDENTS ADVANCED TO CANDIDACY

REGISTRATION AND ENROLLMENT

Three courses (or twelve units) per term is considered the normal enrollment for graduate students and are required for a student not in doctoral candidacy to be counted for full-time status in the University's official enrollment. Therefore, a student is expected by the Department to enroll full time.

Teaching Assistants (TAs) and Graduate Student Researchers (GSRs) are required to register and enroll in at least twelve quarter units throughout their appointments. Course 375 for Teaching Assistants, and independent studies at the 500-level for Graduate Student Researchers, may be included in reaching the twelve-unit load.

Graduate students are responsible for registering (paying fees), enrolling (enrolling in specific courses for a specific number of units and a grading basis), and making changes in registration and enrollment each term by the Graduate Council-approved deadlines posted in the Registrar's calendar in the online Schedule of Classes.

<http://www.registrar.ucla.edu/Calendars/Term-Calendar>.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The following are the main sources of financial support available to continuing students:

A. Teaching Assistantships (TA)

Teaching Assistantships are awarded to second-, third-, and fourth-year students. Subject to "Satisfactory Academic Progress" with respect to program requirements (including a minimum 3.50 GPA), all second- through fourth-year students are eligible to receive a Teaching or Research Assistant position. Teaching Assistant re-appointments also require satisfactory quarterly teaching evaluations by the course professor and by the students enrolled in the course.

Some fifth-year students are awarded Teaching Assistantships, but based on departmental budget and need for additional Teaching Assistants, which vary quarter by quarter.

B. Readerships

Readers help grade exams or assignments for a course. The perks and pay of a readership are less than that of a Teaching Assistantship. Readerships are usually awarded to fifth-year continuing students who are no longer eligible to receive Teaching Assistantships. Readerships are usually paid by the hour, and may or may not include fee remission benefits.

C. Research Assistantships (RA)

Research Assistantships are awarded to continuing students by faculty members with research funds. Advanced students find research assistantships with faculty members not only in the Economics Department, but also in the Graduate School of Management, the Institute for Industrial Relations, and the School of Public Policy. Since the faculty members with research funds are different from year to year, we do not have a list of available research assistantships. Students are encouraged to approach faculty with whom they may want to work with.

D. Graduate Division Fellowship Programs and Support from UCLA Centers

There are a number of campus-wide fellowship programs. For a list of University fellowships and grants for entering graduate students, students can visit <https://grad.ucla.edu/asis/stusup/contspprt.pdf>. Various fellowship/award announcements are also distributed periodically by email by the Economics Graduate Advisor and by the Graduate Division.

For the final year of dissertation research and writing, the Department recommends that students apply for the **Dissertation Year Fellowship (DYF)**. This program is intended for students who will be in their final year of graduate school, at the dissertation writing stage and planning to start teaching and research appointments soon after the end of their dissertation fellowship year. Award recipients should complete all degree requirements within 12 months of beginning their dissertation fellowships and will be asked to submit a report of their progress at midyear. The deadline for this award application is normally in February. No additional funding can be provided to students by the Department once they are awarded the DYF.

E. Extramural Funding

There are many extramural agencies that provide fellowships for graduate students. We strongly urge students to research external funding opportunities and apply for every fellowship for which they are eligible.

The UCLA Graduate Division has an on-line database of extramural funding opportunities called GRAPES, available at: <https://grad.ucla.edu/funding>. The GRAPES database catalogs over 500 private and publicly funded awards, fellowships, and internships and allows searches by field, academic level, award type, award amount, and other criteria. In addition, there are directories of extramural support that can be found at most university libraries. You can find a list of these directories at <https://grad.ucla.edu/asis/entsup/extramrl.htm>.

F. Financial Aid for US Citizens and Permanent Residents of the U.S.

Applicants who are U.S. citizens or Permanent Residents of the U.S. may apply for aid (such as loans, work-study funds, and grants) based on financial need. Applications may be obtained at the Financial Aid Office-UCLA, A129 Murphy Hall, 405 Hilgard Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90095-1435, or at <http://www.financialaid.ucla.edu>.

NOTE: Based on need, students may apply for financial aid even if supported by a Teaching or Research Assistantship.

ADVISING

A student's doctoral committee will meet with the student at the end of the third and fourth year to determine if the student's progress in the dissertation research is satisfactory. At this meeting, the student will submit a written progress report on the proposed topic that describes the work completed to date and includes a detailed outline of the plan for completing the project. With the consent of the student's committee, completed papers may be submitted as part of, or in lieu of, the written progress report. A student at this stage is required to submit a quarterly report to the main advisor (with a copy to the Graduate Advisor. This report should be delivered no more than the end of the second week of each quarter.

If the student intends to go on the job market the final job market paper should be ready for distribution no later than the end of August in the year prior to the year in which the student goes on the job market.

WORK SPACE

Once students have successfully advanced to doctoral candidacy, they can request a work space in one of the graduate labs in the Department. Please make your work space request to the Graduate Advisor. Work spaces are allocated accordingly to priority on a first-come-first-serve basis.

DISSERTATION PREPARATION AND FILING

A. Dissertation Preparation

All policies and procedures for dissertation preparation, including manuscript construction and formatting instructions, are available at <https://grad.ucla.edu/gasaa/library/thesisintro.htm>.

B. Dissertation Filing

Students who are not registered for the term in which the manuscript is filed must follow the steps below to determine eligibility:

- A doctoral candidate must be registered for the immediately preceding term in order to be eligible to pay the Filing Fee in lieu of registering for the current term (note: Spring term is considered to be the term which immediately precedes both summer and Fall terms). Candidates who were not registered for the immediately preceding term must register for the current term in order to file the dissertation.

- A student who was registered for the immediately preceding term and who does not need to be registered for the current term for any other reason (e.g., an academic apprentice personnel appointment), obtains the Filing Fee Application Form at <https://grad.ucla.edu/gasaa/etd/filingfee.htm>. The application must be signed by the Department Chair and the Committee Chair.

The student submits the completed application to Graduate Academic Services (1255 Murphy Hall). If approved, the fee is billed through the Billing and Receivables System (BAR).

Note: Students who are registered for the term in which the dissertation is to be filed do not submit a Filing Fee application.

The dissertation must be filed online as an Adobe PDF file. It is not necessary to be physically present on campus to submit the dissertation; only access to the internet is required. To begin the submission process, visit www.grad.ucla.edu/etd/ and log in with your UCLA Logon ID.

Submissions on the day of the deadline will be accepted until 5pm PST. To count as submitted, the following steps must have been completed:

- All required committee members have signed off
- Committee has certified you have passed the final oral exam (if applicable)
- You submitted a final PDF via ProQuest
- You completed the online Graduate Division process

For detailed instructions for electronic dissertation filing, please visit <https://grad.ucla.edu/gasaa/etd/thesisguide.pdf>

TERMINATION OF GRADUATE STUDY AND APPEAL OF TERMINATION

A. University Policy

A student who fails to meet the program requirements may be recommended for termination of graduate study. A graduate student may be disqualified from continuing in the graduate program for a variety of reasons. The most common is failure to maintain the minimum cumulative grade point average (3.00) required by the Academic Senate to remain in good standing (some programs require a higher grade point average). Other examples include failure of examinations, lack of timely progress toward the degree and poor performance in core courses. Probationary students (those with cumulative grade point averages below 3.00) are subject to immediate dismissal upon the recommendation of their Department. University guidelines governing termination of graduate students, including the appeal procedure, are outlined in *Standards and Procedures for Graduate Study at UCLA*, available at <https://grad.ucla.edu/gasaa/library/spintro.htm>.

B. Special Departmental or Program Policy

A student who fails a qualifying examination at the first attempt is required to retake the examination at the next available sitting. A student who does not earn Ph.D. passes in all three of the First-year written qualifying examinations by the second attempt is ineligible to continue in the Ph.D. program. A student who is not making satisfactory progress toward the doctorate degree is notified to meet with the Graduate Vice Chair, who determines whether to recommend termination to the Graduate Committee.

Termination is *normally* recommended in cases where a student: (1) has failed to maintain a 3.00 grade point average by passing all courses with a B or better; (2) has failed to pass all three written qualifying examinations in the first year core fields by the second attempt; (3) has failed to pass all written qualifying examinations in nine total sittings; (4) has failed to advance to candidacy by the end of the second year; or (5) has failed to complete all requirements for the degree by the end of the seventh year. The student is informed of the Graduate Vice Chair's recommendation and a record of this recommendation is placed in the student's academic file. The student has an opportunity to provide written materials in support of continued enrollment in the Ph.D. program. The Graduate Committee thoroughly reviews the student's record as well as the supplementary materials provided by the student and makes a final recommendation to the Graduate Division.

The Appeal Process

A student has the right to appeal any decision made by the Graduate Vice Chair. For example, a student may appeal a dismissal decision from the Ph.D. program because of failure to pass the three preliminary examinations before the beginning of the student's second year. To do so, the student has an opportunity to provide written materials in support of continued enrollment in the Ph.D. program. The appeal must be addressed to the Graduate Committee in the supplementary materials provided by the student and makes a final recommendation to the Graduate Division.

V. COURSES OFFERED

NOTE: *All course schedules and instructors are subject to change.* Also, specific course content will vary from year to year. For a detailed course description, please check the individual course website for the most up-to-date syllabus. Course websites can be accessed through <https://sa.ucla.edu/ro/Public/SOC>.

PRE-REQUIREMENT FOR CORE COURSES

- 200. Mathematical Methods in Economics (4)
(Fall 16, John Riley)

CORE COURSES

Microeconomics

- 201A. Microeconomics: Theory of the Firm and Consumer (4)
(Fall 16, Ichiro Obara)
- 201B. Microeconomics: Basic Concepts and Techniques of Noncooperative Game Theory and Information Economics (4)
(Winter 17, Moritz Meyer-ter-Vehn)
- 201C. Microeconomics: General Equilibrium and Welfare Economics (4)
(Spring 17, John Riley)

Macroeconomics

- 202A. Macroeconomics: Dynamics and Growth Theory (4)
(Fall 16, Gary Hansen)
- 202B. Macroeconomics: Business Cycles (4)
(Winter 17, Pierre-Olivier Weill)
- 202C. Macroeconomics: Topics in Macroeconomics (4)
(Spring 17, Lee Ohanian)

Quantitative Methods

- 203A. Introduction to Econometrics I (4)
(Fall 16, Rosa Matzkin)
- 203B. Introduction to Econometrics II (4)
(Winter 17, Jinyong Hahn)

- 203C. Introduction to Econometrics III(4)
(Spring 17, Zhipeng Liao)

2016-17 GRADUATE FIELD COURSES

Information and Uncertainty

- 211A. Contract Theory (4)
(Fall 16, Simon Board)
- 211C. Game Theory and Economic Applications (4)
(Fall 16, Tomasz Szadzik)
- 213B. Economics of Uncertainty, Information, and Games (4)
(Winter 17, Marek Pycia)
- 212B. Topics in Advanced Theory: Applied Game Theory (4)
(Spring 17, Jay Lu)

Monetary Economics

- 221A. Monetary Economics I (4)
(Fall 16, Andrew Atkeson)
- 221B. Monetary Economics II (4)
(Winter 17, Roger Farmer)
- 221D. Monetary Economics IV (4)
(Winter 17, Gary Hansen)
- 221C. Monetary Economics III (4)
(Spring 17, Saki Bigio)

Econometrics

- 231A. Advanced Econometrics (4)
(Fall 16, Rosa Matzkin)
- 231B. Advanced Econometrics II (4)
(Winter 17, Shuyang Sheng)
- 231C. Advanced Econometrics III (4)
(Spring 17, Denis Chetverikov)

Economic History

- 207 - History of Economic Thought (4)
(Spring 17, Joe Ostroy)
- 242. Economic History of the U.S. (4)
(Fall 16, Leah Platt Boustan)
- 241. Economic History of Western Europe (4)
(Winter 16, Michela Giorcelli)

Labor Economics

- 232M. Topics in Econometrics
(Winter 17, Moshe Buchinsky) (4)
- 261A. Labor Economics I (4)
(Fall 16, Maurizio Mazzocco)
- 261B. Labor Economics II (4)
(Winter 17, Till von Wachter)
- 262A. Topics in Labor Economics (4)
(Spring 17, Rodrigo Pinto)
- 262B. Topics in Labor Economics (4)
(Spring 17, Youssef Benzarti)

Industrial Organization

- 271A. Industrial Organization, Price Policies, and Regulation I (4)
(Fall 16, Volker Nocke)
- 271B. Industrial Organization, Price Policies and Regulation II (4)
(Winter 17, John Asker)
- 272A. Topics in Industrial Organization (4)
(Spring 17, Hugo Hopenhayn)
- 271C. Mathematical Theory in Industrial Organization (4)
(Spring 17, Martin Hackman)

International Economics

- 281B. International Finance (4)
(Fall 16, Aaron Tornell)
- 282A. Topics in International Economics (4)
(Winter 17, Ariel Burstein)
- 282B. Topics in International Economics (4)
(Spring 17, Pablo Fajgelbaum)

Population and Public Sector Economics

- 232M. Topics in Econometrics
(Winter 17, Moshe Buchinsky) (4)
- 262P. Topics in Labor Economics (4)
(Fall 16, Adriana Lleras-Muney)
- 262F. Topics in Labor Economics: Public Sector Microeconomics (4)
(Winter 17, Edward Kung)

Breadth Option (must include one of the following):

- 207. History of Economic Thought (4)
(Spring 17, Joe Ostroy)
- 241. Economic History of Western Europe (4)
(Winter 17, Michela Giorcelli)
- 242. Economic History of the U.S. (4)
(Fall 16, Leah Platt Boustan)

VI. REGULAR FACULTY FIELD AND RESEARCH DESCRIPTIONS

John Asker, Professor

Office: 8363 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-1011

E-mail: johnasker@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Industrial Organization.

Research: John Asker's research investigates topics related to antitrust policy, cartel behavior, vertical restraints, auction design, firm-level productivity and the effects of industry subsidies. To investigate these issues he employs a mix of theoretical and empirical methods. Current research-in-progress is directed at understanding vertical restraints in search markets, the impact of cartel structure on industry productivity and the effects of information sharing agreements in bidding environments.

Andrew Atkeson, Stanley M. Zimmerman Professor

Office: 9379 Bunche

Phone: (866) 312-9770

E-mail: andy@atkeson.net

Field(s): Macroeconomics, International Economics.

Research: Andy Atkeson's research focuses on macroeconomics and finance. I have had a longstanding research focus on sovereign debt, on dynamic contracts, on the special role of money in leading to the segmentation of financial markets, and on the role of firms in shaping macroeconomic dynamics.

Youssef Benzarti, Assistant Professor

Office: 8337 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-1011

E-mail: benzarti@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Public Finance, Behavioral Economics

Saki Bigio, Assistant Professor

Office: 9282 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-9397

E-mail: sbigio@econ.ucla.edu

Field (s): Macroeconomics, Finance and Banking

Research: Saki Bigio's work studies the nexus between financial markets liquidity and the macro-economy. There are two broad literatures in macroeconomics studying this question. One strand of the literature builds on real business cycle models and studies financial frictions that impair direct trades between households and firms. Another strand of the literature, building on micro-founded models of monetary economics, provides deeper models of financial market liquidity and financial intermediation. Bigio's work helps bridge the gap between these two literatures. He builds on a broad range of theories of financial market liquidity and financial intermediation, and develops models designed to provide meaningful quantitative answers.

Simon Board, Associate Professor

Office: 9353 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-5304

E-mail: sboard@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Microeconomic Theory, Industrial Organization.

Research: Simon Board is a microeconomic theorist who studies contract theory, industrial organization and labor economics. He has three main strands of research. First, models of reputation and their application to IO. Second, the use of informal, relational contracts to motivate workers and suppliers. Third, the design of pricing mechanisms such as auctions and revenue management systems.

Leah Platt Boustan, Associate Professor

Office: 9262 Bunche

Phone: (310) 794-4263

E-mail: lboustan@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Economic History; Labor Economics; Urban Economics.

Research: Much of my research focuses on the effect of black migration from the rural South during and after World War II on the northern economy. I document a white flight response from central cities, and argue that relocating to the suburbs reflected, in part, a desire for political distance from the policies and school districts in diverse central cities. I am also working on projects concerning the causes and consequences of the relocation of employment from central cities to the suburbs, internal migration in the United States during the Great Depression, and the link between education and economic growth.

Moshe Buchinsky, Professor

Office: 8373 Bunche

Phone: (310) 206-9665

E-mail: buchinsky@econ.ucla.edu

Fields: Applied Econometrics, Econometrics and Labor Economics.

Research: My research concentrates at studying the dynamics of individual's decision making over time. Part of the research is devoted to studying human capital accumulation over time. Other aspect of my research examines the decision of older people toward the end of their life-cycle. My research in econometrics revolves around the identification and estimation of dynamic models with unobserved heterogeneity.

Ariel Burstein, Associate Professor

Office: 8365 Bunche

Phone: (310) 206-6732

E-mail: arielb@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): International Macroeconomics.

Research: My research combines quantitative theory and new data to shed light on central questions about the functioning of the world economy: Can the large observed movements in international relative prices be reconciled with the observed patterns of international trade? What are the aggregate consequences of reallocating firm-embedded know-how across

countries in the form of FDI? How does international trade change the incentives of firms to engage in innovative activities? Can the increase in globalization account for the observed rise in wage inequality? Can changes in monetary policy lead to large effects on aggregate economic activity?

Denis Chetverikov, Assistant Professor

Office: 8369 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-4521

E-mail: chetverikov@econ.ucla.edu

Field: Econometrics

Research: Denis Chetverikov's is an econometrician whose work focuses on three broadly defined themes: (a) nonparametric inference with shape restrictions, (b) high dimensional inference, and (c) quantile regression with panel data models. Under nonparametric inference with shape restrictions, Chetverikov investigates testing for regression monotonicity in econometric models, nonparametric instrumental variable estimation under monotonicity and adaptive test of conditional moment inequalities.

Dora Costa, Professor

Office: 9272 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-4249

E-mail: costa@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Economic History, Aging, Health, and Social Capital.

Research: Dora Costa's research focuses primarily on issues in labor economics, demography, and health, as interpreted over the long span of American economic history. Her work has covered a wide range of topics including: retirement, elderly living arrangements, determinants of older age mortality and morbidity, long-term trends in the health of the population, trends in leisure, CPI bias, and social capital. Most of her research contrasts and compares the past with the present and examines why cross-sectional relations have been changing to better inform our understanding of the future.

Michael R. Darby, Warren C. Cordner Professor (courtesy appointment)

Office: AGSM C511

Phone: (310) 825-4180

E-mail: michael.r.darby@anderson.ucla.edu

Field(s): Money and Banking, Macroeconomics, International Finance, Industrial Organization, and Science and Technology Change.

Research: Social security; international economic linkages; productivity growth; evolution of biotechnology & other high-tech industries.

Sebastian Edwards, Henry Ford II Professor (courtesy appointment)

Office: AGSM C508

Phone: (310) 206-6797

E-mail: sedwards@agsm.ucla.edu

Field(s): International Economics, Economic Development, Macroeconomics, Economic Theory, and Public Policy

Research: The economics of exchange rates with special application to less developed countries; adjustments in developing countries; the pricing of risk in international markets; international trade liberalization; interest rate behavior in semi-open economies; international wage comparisons.

Pablo Fajgelbaum, Assistant Professor

Office: 8347 Bunche

Phone: (310) 794-7241

E-mail: pfajgelbaum@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): International Trade, Macroeconomics.

Research: Pablo Fajgelbaum's research focuses on international trade patterns, foreign investment, and quality differentiation; interaction between trade and frictions in labor markets; firm dynamics.

Roger Farmer, Distinguished Professor

Office: 8345 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-6547

E-mail: rfarmer@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Macroeconomic Theory, Monetary Theory.

Research: Causes of unemployment; the role of confidence, market psychology and self-fulfilling prophecies; the stock market and the business cycle; new approaches to monetary and fiscal policy; the role of the Fed.

Francois Geerolf, Assistant Professor

Office: 8389 Bunche

Phone: (310) 794-5342

E-mail: fgeerolf@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Macroeconomics and Finance.

Research: Francois Geerolf's primary fields are macroeconomics and finance. The main focus of his work is on the dynamics of asset markets and of asset prices. His work has important implications for several central questions in macroeconomic theory: the sustainability and desirability of asset price bubbles, efficiency in overlapping general equilibrium models desirability of public debt and pension systems or the incentives to sustain external debt between countries.

Michela Giorcelli, Assistant Professor

Office: 9357 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-1011

E-mail: mgiorcelli@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Labor Economics, Applied Microeconomics, Economic History

Martin Hackmann, Assistant Professor

Office: 9284 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-1011

E-mail: hackmann@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Industrial Organization and Health Economics

Jinyong Hahn, Professor

Office: 8383 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-2523

E-mail: hahn@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Econometrics.

Research: Jin Hahn is a theoretical econometrician, and most of his research is focused on developing methodologies that help analyzing micro-econometric data, i.e., data on many economic agents. His previous research was focused on mathematically characterizing the amount of information contained in various econometric models and variables. Recent research includes analysis of panel data models. When each agent's behavior is observed over a period of time, a panel data structure arises. Such data structure may help resolving problems of heterogeneity of individual tastes, etc., yet it also raises methodological challenges, which his research tries to overcome.

Walker Hanlon, Assistant Professor

Office: 9357 Bunche

Phone: (310) 206-2794

E-mail: whanlon@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Economic history; international trade; technological change.

Research: Hanlon is primarily an international economist whose work cuts across economic growth, economic development, economic history and economic geography. Hanlon's work breaks new ground in induced innovation literature.

Gary D. Hansen, Professor

Office: 9369 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-3847

E-mail: ghansen@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Macroeconomics.

Research: Gary Hansen's primary research focus is on understanding business cycles. In particular, he has explored why fluctuations in the number employed (as opposed to fluctuations in hours per worker) is important for understanding the properties of U.S. business cycles. He has also studied the role of monetary policy for aggregate fluctuations, the distorting effects of inflation relative to other forms of taxation, and the distorting effects of unemployment insurance. More recently, Hansen has done research demonstrating that technological advancement in production processes that are less land intensive could have led to the Industrial Revolution, and is currently working on using theoretical models to understand how consumption and labor market behavior changes over the life cycle.

Hugo Hopenhayn, Professor

Office: 9377 Bunche

Phone: (310) 206-8896

E-mail: hopen@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Hugo Hopenhayn's research has made significant contributions to the theory of dynamic optimal contracting and mechanism design with important applications to patent design and the impact of financial frictions on firm dynamics. He has also continued his line of research into the optimal design of unemployment insurance.

Matthew Kahn, Professor (courtesy appointment)

Office: 8283 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-1011

E-mail: mkahn@ioe.ucla.edu

Field(s): Urban Economics and Environmental Economics

Edward Kung, Assistant Professor

Office: 8343 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-4387

E-mail: ekung@econ.ucla.edu

Fields: Applied Microeconomics, Public Finance, Finance, Urban/Regional

Research: Ed Kung studies the interactions between credit markets and housing market outcomes. He is currently working on models that explain how mortgage market institutions affect house prices, neighborhood choice, and residential sorting. These questions are important because the mortgage market is the primary policy lever through which governments try to influence housing markets.

Edward E. Leamer, Professor (courtesy appointment)

Office: AGSM C507

Phone: (310) 206-1452

E-mail: eleamer@agsm.ucla.edu

Field(s): Econometrics, and International Economics.

Research: Methodology issues involved in searching for a model; the consequences of incomplete assumptions; studies of the determinants of comparative advantage; tariff policies and adjustment cost.

Zhipeng Liao, Assistant Professor

Office: 8379 Bunche

Phone: (310) 794-5427

E-mail: zhipeng.liao@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Econometric Theory and Applied Econometrics.

Research: Model Selection with Shrinkage Methods, Sieve Methods in Semi/nonparametric Models, Time Series.

Adriana Lleras-Muney, Professor

Office: 9373 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-3925

E-mail: alleras@econ.ucla.edu

Fields: Health Economics; Development Economics; Applied Microeconomics; Applied Econometrics.

Research: The relationships between socio-economic status (in particular education) and health; the effect of disease on income and economic development; the determinants of fertility. Recent work investigates whether cash transfers to poor families improve poor children's education, lifetime incomes and long term health.

Jay Lu, Assistant Professor

Office: 8283 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-1011

E-mail: jay@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Economic Theory, Decision Theory, Behavioral Economics.

Research: Jay Lu is an economic theorist with research interests in decision theory, behavioral economics and financial economics. His research focuses on the role of information in both individual decision-making and strategic market environments.

Rosa Liliana Matzkin, Charles E. Davidson Professor and Graduate Vice Chair

Office: 8349 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-7371

E-mail: matzkin@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Econometrics, Microeconomics, Nonparametric Methods.

Research: My research has been aimed at creating a tight connection between econometrics and economic theory, relaxing, at the same time, the parametric restrictions that one typically imposes when estimating a model. When doing applied work, one may decide to make parametric assumptions because of computational benefits, scarcity of data, or other important considerations. Analyzing what can be inferred when such assumptions are not in place allows one to learn what type of conclusions do not depend on such parametric specifications. A tight connection between econometrics and economic theory allows one to interpret estimates in terms of the elements of the model, and to evaluate counterfactuals under environments where some of the elements in the model do not change. It also allows one to determine whether observations are consistent with any particular model.

Maurizio Mazzocco, Associate Professor

Office: 8377 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-6682

E-mail: mmazzocc@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Applied Microeconomics, Labor Economics, Economic Development.

Research: Household decision; inter-temporal collective models; risk sharing; consumption.

Kathleen McGarry, Professor and Department Chair

Office: 9268 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-1011

E-mail: mcgarry@ucla.edu

Field(s): Labor Economics, Public Economics and Health Economics.

Research: Kathleen McGarry's research focuses on the well-being of the elderly with particular attention paid to public and private transfers and the transfer of resources within families. Her research combines work on the financial aspects of aging with issues related to health economics to examine insurance coverage among the elderly. She has studied the long term care, health, and life insurance markets, as well as the role played by families in providing insurance for their least well-off members. McGarry's current work analyzes the importance of end of life medical expenses, particularly expenses associated with nursing homes and home health care, and differences in spending by disability status.

Moritz Meyer-ter-Vehn, Assistant Professor

Office: 9365 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-1011

E-mail: mtv@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Microeconomic Theory, Game Theory.

Research: Moritz Meyer-ter-Vehn is a microeconomic theorist with research interests in both pure and applied economic theory. His research agenda in pure theory focuses on robust mechanism design. On the applied side, he studies dynamic games with incomplete information and has written papers on firm reputation, relational labor contracts and information aggregation.

Ichiro Obara, Associate Professor

Office: 9381 Bunche

Phone: (310) 794-7098

E-mail: iobara@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Economic Theory, Game Theory, Industrial Organization.

Research: Private information in repeated games; dynamic oligopolistic competition with imperfect or private information; theory of experts and information transmission.

Lee Ohanian, Professor

Office: 8391 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-0979

E-mail: ohanian@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Macroeconomics, International Economics.

Research: Macroeconomic theory and policy, business cycles, growth.

Sule Ozler, Associate Professor

Office: 9361 Bunche

Phone: (310) 206-6031

E-mail: ozler@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Psychoanalysis, history of economic thought, economics of gender, international economics.

Research: Current: Psychoanalytic studies of Adam Smith's works.

Former: Inequalities/differences in a globalizing world as manifested in gender relations, productivity growth, and international private capital markets.

Rodrigo Pinto, Assistant Professor

Office: 8385 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-0849

E-mail: rodrig@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Applied econometrics, Economics of human development, and the study of causality.

Research: One aspect of Rodrigo Pinto's research utilizes social experiments to answer very important and policy relevant questions such as the long-term health effects of early childhood interventions, returns on preschool programs, and relocating families from disadvantaged inner city neighborhoods to low poverty communities. Another aspect of his research addresses important technical econometric methods with an eye towards measuring causal effects of social experiments.

Marek Pycia, Assistant Professor

Office: Bunche 9371

Phone: (310) 794-7278

E-mail: pycia@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Microeconomic Theory, Game Theory, Market Design.

Research: Marek Pycia's research focuses on theoretical market design including matching, allocation without transfers, multi-unit auctions, and the foundations of market design. Marek developed first general approaches to the study of complementarities and externalities in matching. He constructed and analyzed incentive-compatible and efficient mechanisms for major allocation problems without transfers and analyzed the main formats of multi-unit auctions. In his work on the foundations of market design, he analyzed the emergence of endogenous commitment, the possibility of efficient trade, and the role of randomness.

John G. Riley, Distinguished Professor

Office: 8367 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-1541

E-mail: riley@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Microeconomic Theory, Economics of Information.

Research: Theory of contests; economics of incentives.

Peter Rossi, Professor (courtesy appointment)

Office: 8283 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-1011

E-mail: peter.rossi@anderson.ucla.edu

Tomasz Sadzik, Assistant Professor

Office: 9359 Bunche

Phone: (310) 206-2833

E-mail: tsadzik@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Microeconomic Theory, Game Theory

Research: Tomasz Sadzik's most recent research looks at dynamic contracts and finance. Over the last decade there has been a resurgence of interest in the design of optimal dynamic contracts. This literature was big in the 1980s, but then waned as a result of a lack of tractability. Recent work in the field has showed how continuous time methods can be used to characterize the optimal contract via a differential equation. These ideas have since been used in micro theory, finance and macro theory. Sadzik's recent work has produced important papers that develop these ideas.

Shuyang Sheng, Assistant Professor

Office: 8357 Bunche

Phone: (310) 825-8018

E-mail: ssheng@econ.ucla.edu

Fields: Econometrics

Research: Shuyang Sheng's research aims to develop methodologies for the econometric analysis of large-scale game-theoretic models, which involve strategic interactions between a large number of agents. Examples include social interaction models, matching models, and network formation models. A variety of challenges can arise in the identification and estimation due to multiplicity of equilibria, computational complexity, and data unavailability. Her current research concentrates on the econometric analysis of network formation models. The primary objective is to identify and estimate utility parameters from observed data on network structure.

Connan Snider, Assistant Professor

Office: 8351 Bunche

Phone: (310) 794-6617

E-mail: snider@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Industrial Organization.

Research: Snider is an industrial organization economist with particular interest in understanding how we should do competition policy, regulation, and market design in environments where firms and consumers interact strategically and over time. His recent research has studied allegedly predatory practices in the airline industry and the impact of regulations forcing airports to make gate space more available to potential entrant airlines.

Aaron Tornell, Professor

Office: 8387 Bunche

Phone: (310) 794-1686

E-mail: tornell@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): International Economics, Political Economy, Robust Control.

Research: Aaron Tornell's current research focuses on two areas: exchange rate forecasting, as well as lending booms and economic crises. Although random-walk beats most exchange rate forecasting models based on fundamentals, there are many instances in which exchange rates are predictable. His research studies this predictability and what may cause it. His research on boom-bust cycles analyzes empirical patterns observed across both emerging and developed countries, proposes theoretical explanations, and uses them to evaluate the effects of regulation and central bank policy on volatility and growth.

Till Von Wachter, Associate Professor

Office: 9367 Bunche

Phone: 310-825-5665

E-mail: tvwachter@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Applied Microeconomics, Aging and Health, Labor/Population/Migration

Research: Till von Wachter is an applied micro-economist working on labor markets. In prior work von Wachter has examined public programs available to displaced workers and how these programs affect subsequent labor market outcomes.

Pierre-Olivier Weill, Associate Professor

Office: 8355 Bunche

Phone: (310) 794-6495

E-mail: poweill@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Macroeconomics, Finance, Real Estate.

Research: Search frictions in asset markets; quantitative models of economic geography; information transmission. Weill has produced important work in the study of search frictions in asset markets. It has focused on the questions of frictions that shape market institutions and trading patterns and the extent to which various market institutions that might arise in equilibrium together with their associated trading patterns are, in fact, optimal. Recent work has studied liquidity and the threat of fraudulent assets; equilibrium pricing and trading volume under preference uncertainty; entry and exit in OTC markets.

William R. Zame, Distinguished Professor

Office: 8359 Bunche

Phone: (310) 206-9463

E-mail: zame@econ.ucla.edu

Field(s): Mathematical Economics, Economic Theory, Game Theory, and Finance.

Research: Incomplete markets; bankruptcy; continuous and non-standard models in game theory; economic geography.