

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AND FINANCE  
GRADUATE PROGRAM****SELF-ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE FOR APPLICANTS TO THE  
MA PROGRAM IN ECONOMICS**

**Will you have completed an Honours BA in Economics  
by the summer before you plan to start the MA?**

YES  Go to Question 2.

NO  Go to Question 1.

**QUESTION 1.**

**Will you have completed a Bachelor's degree that contains a significant mathematics component and have you taken economics theory courses as electives?**

YES  Go to Question 2.

NO  Based on our experience your application is not likely to lead to an offer of admission.

**QUESTION 2.**

**Is your first language English?**

YES  Go to Question 4.

NO  Go to Question 3.

**QUESTION 3.**

**Have you taken a TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB or CAEL test?**

YES  Please check your results against the following minimum requirements.

TOEFL – A copy of your TOEFL score report is acceptable only if you have also applied for the official test score to be sent to the department.

Paper-based TOEFL: minimum score is 550

Computer-based TOEFL: **NO LONGER VALID AND NOT ACCEPTED**

Internet-based or IBT: minimum overall score is 89 with no individual component scoring less than 21

IELTS: minimum score is 6.5

MELAB: minimum score is 85

CAEL: minimum score is 60

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If your score is adequate, go to Question 4. If not, you will need to improve your English language score prior to applying.

NO  You will need to take one of these tests to qualify for admission. If you plan to do so, proceed to Question 4.

**QUESTION 4.**

**Have you (or will you have) taken 3<sup>rd</sup> year courses in micro, macro and econometrics?**

YES  Proceed to Question 5.

NO  Based on our experience, it is unlikely an applicant without 3<sup>rd</sup> year core theory will obtain an offer of admission. However, if you have some economics courses, a superior average and solid mathematical skills, you may choose to apply. If so, proceed to Question 6.

**QUESTION 5.**

**Have you (or will you have) taken 4<sup>th</sup> year courses in micro, macro and econometrics?**

YES  Proceed to Question 6.

NO  We recommend you take the most advanced undergraduate theory courses available at your University prior to starting the MA degree. If you have a good average and solid mathematical skills you may choose to apply without having taken 4<sup>th</sup> year courses, but be advised the MA program will involve a substantial step up in the difficulty level. Proceed to Question 6.

**QUESTION 6.**

**Is your average over the past two years B+ or higher, including your core theory courses? (B+ is equivalent to 75% or Upper Second Class)**

YES  Proceed to Question 7.

NO  Based on our experience your application is likely to be ranked below the cut-off for an offer of admission. However if you are close to B+, or if you have some indicators of potential success in an economics graduate program, you may choose to apply. If no, proceed to Question 7.

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**Do you want to specialize in economics or financial economics, rather than business?**

(What's the difference? You should make sure you fully understand the difference. Our MA is not a business degree – it is a social science degree.)

YES  You are qualified and encouraged to apply.

NO  We encourage you to look at another graduate program more closely related to business or management.