

Program overview

for the master's program

M.Sc. Economics

University of Mannheim



Welcome at the University of Mannheim!

We are happy that you have decided to pursue (or thinking about) the master's program „**Master of Science in Economics**“ at the University of Mannheim. The Department of Economics is considered to be one of the best in Europe. Our faculty members are engaged in a wide variety of research projects at the frontiers of their fields, covering topics from micro- and macroeconomics, econometrics, and IO to finance, game theory, policy analysis, economic history, and international trade. Pursuing a master's degree in economics at Mannheim means joining an international student body. The past four cohorts comprised students from more than 40 countries who accounted for about 40% in each cohort. Due to the cooperation with the University of Heidelberg you can choose among the course catalog of two economic departments during your time in Germany. We wish you a successful start to your studies and hope you enjoy your time at the University of Mannheim.

Profile of the program

1) Academic and professional goals

The master's program in Economics is based on a qualitative approach and builds on mathematical principles. In three tracks of specialization, which are different in terms of content and structure, both methodological and theoretical knowledge in a broad range of research fields is conveyed. The program not only caters to individuals who are keen to pursue a corporate career, but also to those looking to begin a career in academia, as students can choose to study our “fast-track” option to acquire their doctorate. With this option one could save two years compared to a traditional combination of a master's program followed by a doctorate.

2) Structure and contents

The master's program in Economics lasts two academic years (four semesters), and always starts in the fall semester (September). The language of administration and instruction is English. Upon successful completion of the program, students are awarded a Master of Science (M.Sc.).

Graduation requires 120-126 ECTS credits, where one ECTS credit refers to 30 hours of workload. The mandatory modules of the Introductory Phase sum up to 30 ECTS credits. During the Specialization Phase students acquire 60-66 ECTS credits in class. The master's thesis can be written starting from the fourth semester and is worth 30 ECTS credits.

The Introductory Phase in the first semester comprises the mandatory core modules of the program. Students can choose between two module combinations: „Economics“ or „Economic Research Preparatory Courses“.

Depending on their choice, students take either three or four modules during the introductory phase:

Economics	Economic Research Preparatory Courses
E600 Mathematics (optional)	E700 Mathematics for Economists (PhD)
E601 Advanced Microeconomics	E701 Advanced Microeconomics (PhD)
E602 Advanced Macroeconomics	E702 Advanced Macroeconomics (PhD)
E603 Advanced Econometrics	E703 Advanced Econometrics (PhD)

Application to the Economic Research track requires successful attendance of the “Economic Research Preparatory Courses” module combination. Students may change the module combination until four weeks prior to the beginning of the examination period (end of November). Please note that the module combination cannot be changed at a later point in time.

After the Introductory Phase students can choose to follow one of three study tracks:

The **Economics** track gives students the opportunity to choose their own specialization(s) from a wide range of elective courses, including courses from other departments at the University of Mannheim, such as Business Mathematics, Political Science, and Sociology. Furthermore, students may obtain up to 40 ECTS credits from elective modules offered in the master’s program in Economics at the University of Heidelberg.

The **Competition and Regulation Economics** track prepares students for a professional career in an organization or governmental institution, or at a company where specialized knowledge in the field of competition and regulation economics is required or desirable (e.g. competition and regulatory authorities, companies in regulated sectors such as the energy and telecommunications sectors, and consultancies). During the specialization phase electives are complemented by tailor-made courses in the fields of competition policy and regulation economics. Furthermore opportunities for internships, field trips, and other forms of collaboration with our partners are offered.

The third track - **Economic Research** – gives a number of outstanding students the opportunity to enter into a fast-track program for acquiring a doctorate. From the second semester on, students attend courses from the doctoral program at the Center for Doctoral Studies in Economics (CDSE). After obtaining their master’s degree, graduates from this field of study can formally enter the doctoral program with a scholarship, and begin writing their doctoral dissertation. Participation in this track requires successful attendance of the “Economic Research Preparatory Courses” module combination and a separate application at the end of the first semester.

The master’s thesis may be registered in the fourth semester at the earliest. Candidates must have completed at least one (block-)seminar and have obtained at least 45 ECTS credits during

the specialization phase. The choice of a supervisor and topic is within the responsibility of the candidate. The regular period of completion is four months.

3) Important information for the first semester

- Participation in the first sessions of the preparatory module E600 Mathematics is recommended. You get to know your future class mates and make sure that you have all the necessary prerequisites. If you are already comfortable with the content, you may drop the module as a whole or visit only specific parts of it.
- Students pursuing the Economic Research track are required to successfully attend E700 Mathematics for Economists (PhD level). The module will take place in intensive form during the first two weeks of September. We recommend that participating master students still try to attend classes from the Economics module combination. According to experience, many students who successfully attended E700 and started with the subsequent modules (E701-703) decide to change to the Economics module combination at a later point in time. Please make a realistic judgment of your capabilities.
- A final decision about the module combination must be made until the end of November. The student services will then automatically register you for the examinations in the module combination of your choice.
- Applications for a semester abroad at a partner institution in North America in the following academic year must be submitted until 31 October. An information session will take place prior to the deadline.
- Fellow students, especially in higher semesters, can provide useful information for most issues in every day student life. However, it is recommended to check the examination regulations (see below) for regulatory issues. It is useful to bookmark them in your browser. In case of doubts, please do not hesitate to contact the program management.

4) Perspectives

Economists are in demand in any sphere, where an understanding of overall economic relations is important. Depending on the chosen specialization and interest, graduates may start a career, for instance, in ministries, international organizations, in politics, banking, or insurance. Furthermore, traditional employers are the federal, state, and local governments, the European Central Bank, the Deutsche Bundesbank (the German Central Bank), the Federal Statistical Office as well as chambers, and associations. Working as a consultant or business journalist is also a possibility.

Moreover, the program provides a solid foundation for scientific careers in Germany or abroad.

Examination regulations

The examination regulations for the master's program in Economics at the University of Mannheim can be accessed [here](#). Please note that English translations of Prüfungsordnungen are intended solely as a convenience to non-German-reading students. Only the German text published in the Bulletin of the President's Office ("Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats") is legally binding.

Contact persons

Program Management / Office of the Examination Committee:

L7, 3-5, Room 450, 68159 Mannheim, Office hours: by appointment

Phone: 0621 / 181-1763

Email: econgrad@uni-mannheim.de

Website: <https://www.vwl.uni-mannheim.de/en/academics/msc-economics/>

Dean's Office Department of Economics:

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Website: <https://www.vwl.uni-mannheim.de/en/>

Students Association Economics

L9, 7, 68191 Mannheim

Phone: 0621 / 181-1780

Email: info@fsvwl-mannheim.de

Website: <http://fsvwl-unimannheim.de/en/>

Administrative Officers at the Student Services

Alessandra Troilo and Julia Völler

Studienbüro I, L 1, 1 Room 128, 68131 Mannheim; Office hours: see website

Phone: 0621 / 181-1124; 0621 / 181-1180

Email: studienbuero-vwl@verwaltung.uni-mannheim.de

Website: <https://www.uni-mannheim.de/en/academics/during-your-studies/student-services/>

Further Contact Persons

International Office (stays abroad, international students)

L 1, 1, 1st Floor, 68131 Mannheim

Phone: 0621 / 181-1151

E-Mail: aaa@verwaltung.uni-mannheim.de

Institute of Sports

Schloss, Ostflügel, Schneckenhof Ost, SO 102 - SO 105, 68161 Mannheim

Phone: 0621 / 181-3419;

E-Mail: ifsport@uni-mannheim.de

Website: <https://www.uni-mannheim.de/en/sports/>

Other leisure activities offered by the University, e.g. choir, orchestra, theater group, campus magazine and campus radio can be found on the homepage of the University.

Studium Generale (foreign language courses, IT courses, communication courses)

L 9, 7, Zimmer 110, 68131 Mannheim

Phone: 0621 / 181-1164

Website: <https://www.studiumgenerale.uni-mannheim.de/en/>

Studierendenwerk (cafeteria, housing agency, psychological counseling center, student jobs)

Data Library | Housing | BAföG | PBS | Cafeteria at Castle

Bismarckstraße 10, 68161 Mannheim

Phone: 0621 / 49072-333;

Email: info@studentenwerk-mannheim.de

Website: <https://www.stw-ma.de/en/International.html>