

**New Graduate Students Admitted for Fall 2011:**

May 27, 2011

Congratulations on your admission to the University! I'm writing to welcome you to the department and to tell you a few things you should know before you arrive in Davis.

The Economics Department is located in the Social Sciences & Humanities Building (east of the UCD Bookstore).

Please come by the department before the quarter begins, to meet me and introduce yourself. My office is room 1135.

I will not be assigning you to an advisor until a few weeks after the fall quarter begins. Advisors will be available after the quarter begins, during their office hours (office hours are not scheduled until after the quarter begins). If you need to consult an advisor before that, please contact me for assistance.

The **Graduate Handbook** on the web provides detailed information about the graduate program requirements. You can find it through the UC Davis Economics Dept. Homepage <http://www.econ.ucdavis.edu/> (Click on Graduate Handbook)

Also, on the web is a **Fall 2011 class schedule**. From the Econ. Dept. Homepage, <http://www.econ.ucdavis.edu/>

(Click on "courses", then again click on "courses" and scroll to the bottom of the page and enter 2011 for the year and Fall for the quarter, and click on "update". This is the most current economics course schedule for fall. It is more recent than the economics course listings in the Fall 2011 Class Schedule and Registration Guide. You should check this schedule on the web again occasionally after you arrive here, because changes are sometimes made in course rooms and times even up to the beginning of the quarter.

Also, while viewing the Fall 2011 class schedule on the web, you can see a **list of course descriptions per course number** (at the top of that page, click on "Course descriptions", above the word "Title").

Also, on the web, you can view the **UC Davis General Catalog** at <http://registrar.ucdavis.edu/UCDWebCatalog/>

You can buy a 2010-2012 General Catalog for \$5.00 from the UCD Bookstore. See <http://ucdavisbookstore.com/home.aspx>

**The standard courses that entering Ph.D. students take during fall quarter are: Econ. 239, Econ. 200A, and an elective course (a good elective course to choose is Econ. 210A which fulfills the Econ. History requirement).** You can refer to the Graduate Handbook for further information.

**Econ. 239 will be on MW 2:10 – 3:30 p.m.**

**Econ. 200A will be on MW 10:00 – 11:50 a.m.**

**Econ. 210A will be on MW 8:00 – 9:50 a.m.**

**All full-time registered graduate students must enroll in 12 units per quarter.** Students who enroll in fewer than 12 units could lose their university employment or financial support.

**If you will be a Teaching Assistant:** New graduate students who are TA's during the Fall Quarter are allowed to postpone taking the elective course until the second or third year, (taking only Econ 200A and Econ 239 that quarter) and they can sign up for 3 units of Econ. 299 to bring their unit total up to the required 12 units (they enroll in 9 units of course work and in 3 units of "299" to increase their unit total to 12). T.A.'s may use 299 units to adjust their unit total up to 12 without being required to do research or individual study to earn those units (they do their T.A. work instead of research or individual study to receive the 299 credit, unless they are at the stage in the graduate program where they should be doing some research).

**If you do not know what 299 is, that is explained below.**

**What is 299?** Econ. 299 provides unit credit (anywhere from 1- 12 units) for students to do individual study or independent research towards writing a thesis. Students nearing completion of their course work or done with their course work enroll in 299. Students choose an Economics professor to supervise them for the 299. Each professor has a different "CRN number" for 299 (and the numbers are different each quarter). To sign up for 299, choose the appropriate professor, find out what their CRN number is (from Marilyn) and enroll using SISweb (**New Grad Students taking Econ. 299 should sign up using the Econ 299 CRN# of the Graduate Program Chair, Professor Paul Bergin; for Fall 2011, the CRN# is 60615.**) *But if you enroll in 299, please tell the 299 professor that you plan to do this and why, before the quarter begins, to be sure that the professor is aware of it and approves.*

**It's important that you read the information in the Fall 2011 Class Schedule and Registration Guide (CSRG) which is on the web at <http://registrar.ucdavis.edu/csrg/> (or you can buy one from the UCD Bookstore for \$1.25) It explains registration (how, where and when to enroll in courses and pay fees), lists classes offered fall quarter and includes other important information.**

Be sure to enroll in your classes and pay your fees by 4:00 p.m., **September 15**. The earliest you can enroll in classes is June 17<sup>th</sup>. *If you are a new international student and are not sure yet if you will be able to get a visa in time to come to Davis this Fall, you should wait to enroll in classes & pay fees until closer to September 15, after you are sure about the visa.*

Please keep me informed of your most current email address, home address and phone number both before and after you move to Davis, so I can reach you if anything urgent comes up.

I will set up a department mailbox for you, in room 1111, before the Math Camp begins. At first, it will be in the form of a file folder with your name on it, in a cabinet near the back of the room. *Your department mailbox is only for mail related to your graduate education or research, not for personal mail. Personal mail should be sent only to your home address (or a P.O. Box address, if you don't want to use your home address).* Please remember to check both your mailbox and email frequently because those are the department's main ways to communicate to you. You should also look at the graduate student bulletin board occasionally, to see posted notices.

Early in the Fall Quarter, the Economics Department will have a welcoming reception for new graduate students. It's our way to welcome you and introduce you to other graduate students, faculty and staff. I hope you'll plan to attend.

Significant dates you might find useful:

**“MATH CAMP” (Lectures in Mathematical Methods) 2011:**

**Math Camp will begin:**

**Wed., Aug. 31** and will meet MWF 10 a.m. – 12 Noon, with some occasional one hour or longer discussion sessions on some afternoons. A more complete schedule of Math Camp will be provided separately.

Fee payment and course enrollment deadline - 4:00 p.m. **September 15, 2011**  
(be careful not to miss the above deadline; a \$110.00 late fee will be charged after that)

English as a second language exam (Required of all new international grad. students) –  
**Sept. 14, 9:00 a.m. sharp – 11:30 a.m., rm. 1100 Social Sciences & Humanities Building**

**UC Davis Photo I.D. card** – New students will receive one at the AggieCard Office in the Memorial Union.  
You must present a valid driver's license or other legal picture identification in order to receive your UC Davis photo ID card; i.e., current passport or passport-type photograph. For further information, see:  
<http://registrar.ucdavis.edu/html/photoid.html>

Fall Quarter Begins – Monday, September 19

Instruction Begins – Thurs., September 22

Grad. Student Reception – **Wednesday, Sept. 14, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m., at Putah Creek Lodge**

Last Day to Drop courses by SISweb. – Wed., Oct. 5

Last Day to Add courses by SISweb – Fri., Oct. 7

Instruction Ends - Fri., December 2

Final Exams - Mon. - Fri., December 5 - 9

Quarter Ends - Fri., December 9

Holidays will be: Nov. 11, Nov. 24 & 25, Dec. 26 & 27, Dec. 30 and  
Jan. 2, Jan. 16, Feb. 20, Mar. 30, May 28, 2011.

If you have questions or concerns about anything, just let me know. I can be reached at (530) 752-0743 or by e-mail: [mldexter@ucdavis.edu](mailto:mldexter@ucdavis.edu) except during times noted below:

July 15 - Aug. 1, I will be away on vacation, returning on Monday, Aug. 1

Again, I welcome you to the department and look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Dexter  
Graduate Program Coordinator