Department of Economics
Graduate Program

Graduate Handbook
2023-2024

If you are a continuing student you might wish to consult an older version of the graduate handbook, available on the department webpage.

Although the department offers both MA and PhD degrees, the emphasis is on the PhD program. **Prospective students must apply to the PhD program and admission is to the PhD program only.** Students have the option of obtaining an MA degree en route to the PhD or they can choose to leave the graduate program with an MA degree at the end of the first year, provided that they have fulfilled the necessary requirements (see below).

The following detailed list of requirements for the Ph.D. degree and satisfactory progress along the way have been developed with the goals of both successful job placement and timely completion of the Ph.D. degree. The preliminary exams in microeconomics, macroeconomics and econometrics are completed at the end of the first year and remaining required coursework is completed at the end of the second year. The third year is devoted to development of a thesis prospectus (explained below), aided by attendance and participation in the many department seminars and workshops and interaction with relevant faculty. Once the oral qualifying exam, based on the thesis prospectus, is passed, the remainder of the time is devoted to writing of the thesis and further development as a scholar through seminar attendance and participation.

Contents

A. Graduate Advising

Each graduate student is assigned a graduate adviser who provides assistance in planning a program of study and in other matters. In addition, each PhD student selects two Interim Advisors after completion of the second year, and a Thesis Committee upon advancement to candidacy.

The Graduate Studies Committee is composed of the graduate program chair, other faculty members and three PhD students. While the faculty members administer the program, the entire committee is responsible for the consideration of policy. A student who wishes to fulfill degree requirements in a manner other than described in this *Handbook* must submit a request in writing to the graduate program chair. Inquiries may be addressed to the graduate program coordinator, Kaitlin Aparicio.

B. Before The First Year Begins

Pre-admission requirements: Students admitted to the graduate program in economics are normally expected to have completed an undergraduate degree in economics. (The minimum requirement is intermediate microeconomics and macroeconomics plus two upper division courses in economics.) Entering students are also expected to have completed two courses in college statistics (at least one at the upper division level) and one year of calculus prior to admission. They are also expected to have completed a course in linear algebra. This basic mathematical preparation is critical to success in the first year.

GRE scores for applicants: Applications to the graduate program in the Economics department at UC Davis will **NOT** BE CONSIDERED if:

1. The GRE Verbal score is less than 60% (for international students: if it is less than 30%)

OR

a) The GRE Quantitative score is less than 70%

Additional requirement for international students:

3. The TOEFL score must be at least 600 points (or 250 if computer based TOEFL) or total score of 68, counting all 4 sections of the IBT TOEFL (Internet based TOEFL).

September lectures in mathematical methods: The department offers an intensive series of Lectures in Mathematical Methods typically beginning after Labor Day (early September). These lectures focus on differential calculus and linear algebra, building upon rather than sufficing for the undergraduate preparation described above. The lectures emphasize the specific tools used in the required first-year micro, macro, and econometrics courses, and all students in these courses will be assumed to have mastered the material covered in the September lectures. Therefore, while these lectures are informally structured (registration and the payment of fees are not required), all students—including those with extensive coursework in mathematics—should attend.

C. The First Year In The Graduate Program

a. First year Coursework:

Every first-year student, no matter what his/her degree objective, is required to take the following courses:

1. **Microeconomic Theory**: Economics 200A (Fall), 200B (Winter) and 200C (Spring), or successful completion of the Microeconomic Theory preliminary exam.
2. **Macroeconomic Theory**: Economics 200D (Fall), 200E (Winter), and 200F (Spring), or successful completion of the Macroeconomic Theory preliminary exam.
3. **Econometrics**: Economics 239 (Fall), Economics 240A (Winter) and Economics 240B (Spring), or successful completion of the Econometrics preliminary exam.

The **FIRST YEAR** course schedule is thus as follows:

Fall Quarter	Winter Quarter	Spring Quarter	*June/July*
Economics 200A	Economics 200B	Economics 200C	micro prelim
Economics 200D	Economics 200E	Economics 200F	macro prelim
Economics 239	Economics 240A	Economics 240B	metrics prelim

<u>Consistent with the policies of the Office of Graduate Studies, students must receive a grade of B- or better in any course to receive credit towards either the MA or the PhD degree.</u>

All first year students are required to take the micro theory, macro theory and econometrics first-year courses, except in two cases. (1) In some rare instances, a new student has been allowed to take preliminary exams in August prior to entering our Ph.D. program and passed. (2) If a new student already passed similar prelim exams for a Ph.D. (not master) degree at another institution, the graduate program chair may accept this in lieu of our theory courses and prelim exams. Simply completing a master's degree in economics does not satisfy this requirement.

In exceptional cases where the econometrics faculty and graduate program chair agree that a student has previous coursework equivalent to our whole first year econometrics sequence (ECN 239, 240A, 240B), the first-year econometrics sequence may be waived, and the student will instead take the second year econometrics sequence (ECN 240C, 240D and either 240E or F) in their first year. A student who thinks he or she fits in this category should contact the graduate program chair two weeks before fall quarter begins, and present him/her with evidence of past econometrics and statistics courses, including grades and syllabi listing the text. The chair will refer the case to econometrics faculty for evaluation.

Economic History/History of Economic Thought: In addition to the first year courses, all PhD students must, by the Winter Quarter of the third year, satisfy the following requirements: one course selected from Economics: 201A, 201B, 210A, 210B, 210C or 210D, passed with a grade of B or better.

b. Core theory prelims:

All first-year students must take written preliminary examinations ("prelims") in Microeconomic Theory (covering Economics 200A, B, C), Macroeconomic Theory (covering Economics 200D, E, F), and Econometrics (covering Economics 239, 240A, B). *Preliminary examinations should be taken in late June/early July immediately following the first year.*

Prelims are "closed book" and are graded on a 0-4 numerical scale as follows:

- Fail (0-1.79)
- Pass at the MA Level (1.80-1.99)
- Pass at the PhD Level (2.00-2.99)
- Good (3.0-3.99)

Grades of 3.0 or above reflect unusually good performance. All exams are graded by three faculty members. Students may read the examiners' comments by contacting the graduate program coordinator.

Students can pass preliminary examinations in one of two ways.

a) Earning a grade of "pass at the PhD level" on one of the three exams and a grade of "pass at the MA level" on the other two exams, or

b) Earning a grade of "pass at the PhD level" on two exams and earning a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 in the third core sequence, with a least a B- in each course in the sequence.

Retaking core theory prelims and time limits: To allow for instances in which a core theory prelim is not passed at the first attempt (or for unusual situations beyond the student's control), the exams may also be administered in August or September. Students may re-take each exam not more than once, that is, only two attempts are allowed for each exam.

Registration requirements

Students must register for a minimum of 12 units per Quarter, including Individual Study (Economics 299) where appropriate.

c. <u>At The End Of The First Year</u>

1. A student who has completed the first-year courses (Ecn 239, Ecn 200A,B,C,D,E,F, Ecn 240A,B) with a GPA of at least **3.0**, and passed at least two of the three prelim exams at the MA-level can obtain an MA degree. Applying for a Master's degree does not preclude remaining in the PhD program, as long as the requirements for good standing in the PhD program are met (see point 2 below).

   (Thus the MA degree is through the university's Plan II (examination) only: students are required to take 36 units of graduate courses in Economics and to pass two of three written preliminary examinations in microeconomics, macroeconomics and econometrics.)

   Students who already have a Master's degree *in economics* from another university will not be able to obtain a second Master's degree in Economics from UC Davis.
2. In order to continue into the second year of the PhD program, the student must meet the following requirements at the end of the 12-month mark:

   1. completion of the first-year courses (Ecn 239, Ecn 200A,B,C,D,E, F, Ecn 240A,B) with a letter grade of B- or better in each course,

   2. a cumulative GPA of at least **3.25,** and

   3. Passing prelim exams in one of two ways:

      - Earning a grade of "pass at the PhD level" on one of the three exams and a grade of "pass at the MA level" on the other two exams, or

      - Earning a grade of "pass at the PhD level" on two exams and earning a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 in the third core sequence, with a least a B- in each course in the sequence.

3. If a student fails to satisfy either requirement 1 or 2 of the PhD requirements above, the student may petition the graduate program chair to remain in the PhD program. After a review of the student's complete record, the student will be given a specific number of quarters (typically one in the case of a GPA below 3.25) to satisfy the requirement. If the student fails to satisfy the requirement after that time, the Graduate Studies Committee may recommend that the student be disqualified from the graduate program, but the student may still receive an MA degree if all MA requirements have been met.
4. Any student who fails to pass prelim exams under requirement 3 will have his or her case considered by the Preliminary Examination Committee. The committee will evaluate the student's record at UC Davis, including, but not limited to, the student's performance on prelim examinations, on final and midterm exams in the first-year core sequence and on other material evaluated in first-year courses. The committee will make the final decision about whether the student passes the preliminary examinations and continue into the second year of the program.
5. A student who, before the beginning of the second year, fails to meet the requirements listed under point 2 above must leave the graduate program. This requirement may be waived on petition to the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee if the student can prove adequate grounds. If the student fulfills the requirements listed under point 1, he/she can leave with an MA degree.

D. The Second Year In The Graduate Program

The PhD degree requirements after successful completion of the first year are:

- (a) Field courses in 2 "Major" elective fields of specialization, with a grade of B+ or better, plus two additional courses in a third "Minor" elective field, with a grade of B- or better,
- (b) submission of a paper or in-depth literature review by Sept. 30 following completion of the second year,
- (c) submission of a "Third Year Paper" during the third year (a suggested target date is April 30, to be on track to take an oral exam before the start of the fourth year (see more details below in Section E.b.)
- (d) an oral PhD qualifying examination by the end of the third year,
- (e) regular seminar attendance,
- (f) at least one seminar or workshop presentation by May 30th of the fourth year,
- (g) the thesis, and
- (h) a total minimum residency of at least two years.

A student may elect to take at most one course per quarter outside of economics on an S/U basis (in addition to any courses normally graded on an S/U basis) *provided that it does not fulfill any degree requirements*. Many students use the S/U option when taking optional courses outside economics (such as Math 125 B or C). (It is stated in the General Catalog that "the grade of S is awarded to graduate students for work in graduate courses that otherwise would receive a grade of B- or better and for work in undergraduate courses that otherwise would receive a grade of C- or better".) Students may take courses within economics on a S/U basis once they have advanced to candidacy for the PhD.

A student may satisfy the requirements as listed in any single *Graduate Handbook* in effect while registered in the graduate program, as long as registration is continuous.

a. Course Scheduling For PhD Students In The Second Year

In the second year the student completes all course requirements while attending seminars for at least one quarter:

Fall Quarter	Winter Quarter	Spring Quarter	June through September
Major Field Course	Major Field Course	Major Field Course	
Major Field Course	Major Field Course	Major Field Course	Literature Review & Research Proposal
Minor Field Course	Minor Field Course	Elective	

The order in which the Minor Field courses and the elective are taken is immaterial (e.g. the student could take the elective in Fall and the Minor Field courses in Winter and Spring).

The normal course-load is three courses per quarter. If one of the fields consists of only two courses, the student can choose to take any other graduate-level economics course in the remaining quarter.

As indicated by the chart above, the required course load is three standard courses each quarter of the second year (397 and 291 do not count). Under certain conditions an independent study (299) can substitute for an elective course in the 2nd year. For example, a student can take a 299 if there was no field course or real elective of interest to take and the student does a real, substantive project/paper. If the student wishes to follow this route, they should find a faculty to supervise the work, and then request written permission from the graduate program chair at least one week before the quarter begins.

If one of the fields in which the student is interested in is not offered in the student's second year, the student can petition the graduate program chair to postpone taking that field to the third year. The petition must be in writing at least one week before the beginning of Fall Quarter.

b. Fields of Specialization

Each student must complete coursework in two of the following fields of specialization, each of which consists of 2 or 3 related courses. Each course which will be used to satisfy the requirement for two “major fields” must be completed with a grade of B+ or higher. The following are the course sequences from which these elective fields may be chosen. This list may change somewhat year by year, depending on what courses are being offered. Prior to each year, the graduate program chair will provide a current list of fields offered, and which courses will comprise those fields.

The list below details the major field courses for the ***2023-2024 academic year***. Major field requirements might change in the future, depending on course offerings.

- Advanced Macroeconomics: 235B, 235C, and Professor Marin's fall quarter 290.

- Advanced Economic Theory: this sequence is not offered this year. Students interested in pursuing a thesis in micro theory should take 203C and petition in writing to the graduate program chair to postpone finishing the rest of the sequence. In the petition, students shall propose what alternative courses relevant to micro theory (such as math courses) they intend to take.

- Econometrics: three of the following four courses: 240C, 240D, 240E, and 240F. To find out which combination of courses better fits their specific research interests, students are encouraged to reach out to members of the Econometrics group.

- Labor Economics: 230A, Professor Page's 290, 250B. Although 250A is not offered in the academic year 2023-2024, it is expected in 2024-2025. Students interested in pursuing a thesis in labor economics are highly encouraged to take 250A in their third year as an elective course.

- Public Economics: 230A, 230B, and 230C.

- Energy/Environmental Economics and Industrial Organization: this sequence is not offered in academic year 2023-2024. Students interested in the field are encouraged to take the Econometrics sequence and/or the Pubic Economics sequence in their second year, as well as two EEE/IO field courses in academic year 2024-2025 as electives. Students are also encouraged to reach out to members of the EEE/IO group.

- International Economics: 260B and both of Professor Marin's 290 for the major sequence of ``International Macroeconomics''; three out of the aforementioned courses and Professor Jiang's 290 for the major sequence of ``International Economics''.

- Economic History: 210B, 210C, and Professor Perez' 290.

- Economic Development: 215A, Professor Moreira's 290, and one of 230A, 215B, and 215C, for the major sequence of ``Economic Development''; 215A and Professor Moreira's 290 for the minor sequence of ``Economic Development''.

Please read carefully the following notes on major and minor requirements.

Economics minor field: The minor field may be completed by passing with a letter grade of B- or better two graduate courses in that field (see above for a list of courses in each field). These two courses must be in addition to those used to satisfy the core economic history/history of economic thought course requirement and must not be a component of the subject matter for the two major fields. Subject to that constraint, courses in the History of Economic Thought (201A,B) can be used to satisfy a minor field requirement.

Alternative minor fields: Students may also satisfy the minor field requirement by choosing courses to suit a specific interest in economics or in a related discipline, *subject to the written approval of the chair of the Graduate Studies Committee prior to taking the relevant coursework*. In recent years course sequences in the Graduate School of Management (Management 275A,B: Capital Markets and Corporate Finance), in the Law School (Contracts; Antitrust), in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics and in the Department of Mathematics have been approved as minor fields. (Because of registration restrictions and differences in the academic calendar, special arrangements must be made to take law courses.)

Students Specializing in Mathematical Economics or Econometrics: Students who plan to write a thesis in Economic Theory should consider taking course work in real analysis (the full sequence is Math 127A,B,C). Real analysis is very useful in Economics 203A,B,C and is helpful, more generally, in building the mathematical sophistication necessary to do modern microeconomic theory. Students who plan to write a thesis in theoretical econometrics should consider taking some of the courses in real analysis (Math 127A,B,C) or theoretical statistics (Statistics 231A,B,C) or probability theory (Statistics 235A,B,C). In all cases students should discuss plans with an instructor in the relevant field to obtain guidance on the most suitable courses to take.

c. Literature Review

By the end of the summer after their second year in the program (no later than September 30th) students must have completed a detailed literature review (15 to 20 pages, double spaced in 12 pts.) in one of their major fields, and a related research proposal (3 to 4 pages). This research proposal should describe a research paper in the field to be undertaken and completed during their third year. Prior to turning in this review (and preferably early in the summer), students should find two faculty members who will serve as their third year paper committee, agree to read and evaluate their literature review, and provide advice on the research project throughout their third year. The literature review will be graded on a pass/fail basis. A paper submitted as part of the requirements for one of the field courses, cannot be resubmitted unless it incorporates a substantial amount of new material.

E. The PhD Program After the Second Year

After the second year, students are primarily involved in thesis research and, consequently, attend seminars on a regular basis. Courses will consist of electives, Econ 291 (research seminars), and Individual Study (Economics 299) as appropriate.

A student pursuing thesis research full-time should aim to complete the degree by the end of the fourth year. Students are expected to complete their degree within the "normative time" of five years.

By early June at the end of the second year (beginning of third year) the Graduate Program Chair makes sure that every student is "matched" with two interim advisors. These are the faculty members who will supervise the literature review, assess the third year paper, and serve in the student's Qualifying Oral Exam committee (more details below). Typically, one of these faculty members will serve as the student's main advisor, although, changing the main advisor later in the PhD is possible (hence, the term "interim").

a. Initiating Thesis Research

The department takes particular interest in helping students initiate thesis research, and several programs are available to students.

Seminar and "brown-bag" attendance is critical to obtaining thesis ideas, maintaining contact with faculty members, and seeing how research presentations are made. Seminar series are offered throughout the year in economic theory, applied microeconomics, macro/international and economic history, featuring presentations by faculty, students, and outside speakers. Students are expected to attend these seminars according to the following rules:

1. Every graduate student, with the exception of first-year and second-year students, is expected to register for and attend Economics 291 (Spring 2008 and later), and attend a minimum of 5 seminars of that 291 topic in each of the Fall and Spring quarters. Students should register for the section of 291 corresponding to the seminar(s) they attend regularly. ECN 291 enrollment and attendance is required for students in their third and later years who have not yet advanced to candidacy.
2. A student presentation in a seminar or a brown bag (i.e., informal workshop series) counts towards meeting the above requirement.
3. The seminar organizer will circulate a sheet of paper to be signed by the graduate students who attended the seminar. Hence, it is the responsibility of the student to notify the seminar organizer of his/her attendance.
4. If a student (again, with the exception of first and second year students) is enrolled in a 291 in a given quarter and he/she has not attended at least 5 seminars of that Econ 291 topic during that quarter, then he/she will get a grade of Unsatisfactory (or No Pass) in that 291.
5. The above requirement of 5 seminars per quarter is the *absolute minimum*. Students are strongly encouraged to attend more than the minimum. Seminar attendance is strongly recommended also to first and second year students.
6. Students beyond their second year should also register for Economics 299 (or 299D for those advanced to candidacy) with one of their interim advisors, if they have not yet taken the oral exam, or their dissertation chair, if advanced to candidacy. Students must be in regular contact with their dissertation advisor to receive a satisfactory Econ 299 (or 299D) grade.

Third Year Paper: students must submit a research paper of a minimum 20 pages, double-spaced, during the third year (a suggested target date is **<u>April 30</u>**, to be on track for taking the oral exam by the end of the third year) to the two interim advisors. This paper will be evaluated by the interim advisors and assigned a grade of either "accept" or "revise." Papers will receive an accept score when the faculty judge them to be of sufficient quality and completeness to form a substantial part of the dissertation prospectus. This research paper must be submitted and accepted prior to scheduling the Qualifying Exam.

An interim adviser will assist the student in formulating a research agenda, preparing for seminar or workshop presentations, and writing the thesis prospectus. The Interim Adviser need not necessarily serve later on the thesis committee, and a new Interim Adviser may be substituted if the direction of the student's research changes. Each student should select one or two Interim Advisers no later than the **June 30** at the end of the second year. Students finding it difficult to select an Interim Adviser should consult with the graduate program chair for assistance.

Seminar and workshop presentations are excellent ways to receive feedback and to gain experience in making presentations. As thesis research develops, the student should schedule a presentation in the appropriate seminar series. Each student is required to make at least one presentation (see below).

b. The Oral Qualifying Examination and Advancement to Candidacy

The thesis prospectus: The Interim Adviser helps the student prepare the thesis prospectus, which should be approximately 20 double-spaced pages in 12-point fonts. The prospectus should outline clearly the intellectual content of a central chapter of the thesis by including (1) a clear exposition of the problem and a statement of what is new in the proposed research, (2) an indication that the student has read the literature enough to know whether the proposal is really new, and what significant problems are likely to be encountered, (3) a discussion of the relevant methodologies, and (4) a confirmation of the availability of usable data (if relevant). Approximately two-three pages of the prospectus should also contain an indication of what would constitute the remaining part of the thesis.

The oral qualifying examination is scheduled after the proposed thesis committee chair has approved the thesis prospectus and all other pre-thesis degree requirements have been satisfied. Questions will be related chiefly to the thesis, with the goal of confirming that a viable topic has been identified and that the student will be able to pursue the topic to successful completion using the proposed methodologies. It should be pointed out that a literature review is not enough to pass the Qualifying Examination. Actual original work with data and/or theoretical results should be the bar, but the original work does not need to be pathbreaking. The oral is a constructive exercise designed to provide guidance to the student in research, and many students choose to tape-record the proceedings for later review.

Typically, the oral exam will last about two hours.

The examination committee will consist of four members of the Economics Department and 1 member from outside the department. All members of the orals committee must hold PhD degrees and must be professors from a UC campus unless the Interim Adviser secures a waiver from the Dean of Graduate Studies. The same person may not serve as both the *chair* of the oral and the *chair* of the thesis committee. A student must be registered during the quarter in which the exam is taken (Spring registration includes the following summer).

Scheduling and deadlines: Orals are scheduled only after the proposed thesis committee chair has approved a final draft of the thesis prospectus (or a penultimate draft on which the student is to make small changes). The Request to Schedule Oral Examination form must then be submitted to the graduate program coordinator at least one month prior to the examination date. *The final prospectus must be distributed to the oral examination committee not later than two weeks before the oral*. Students should consult with the graduate program coordinator for help with scheduling the exam date.

Students must pass the oral exam **before** the beginning of the Fall quarter of year four. (For international students, failure to pass the oral exam by that time will result in NRST fees.) However, since planning the oral exam can be challenging during the summer months, students are expected to set the date of their oral examination by **May 31** of the third year (i.e., even if the actual date of the exam is as late as September). After the oral exam, students are expected to keep working on their thesis and incorporate the feedback they received during the oral exam (which part of the feedback should be incorporated into the thesis is something the students should discuss with the main advisors; see more details below in "The Thesis" section.)

If **exigent circumstances** do not allow a student to pass the oral exam by the end of the third/beginning of the fourth year, the student may file a petition to the Graduate Chair asking to delay the oral exam by one quarter (i.e., take the oral exam by the end of the Fall quarter of year 4.) Such petitions will be discussed by the graduate committee, and will need final approval by the Department Chair.

Advancement to candidacy: The student may file for advancement to candidacy upon completion of the oral and all other degree requirements except the thesis. An Application for Advancement to Candidacy must be submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies and approved by that office before advancement occurs.

International students who advance to Ph.D. candidacy before the first day of a quarter are entitled to elimination of nonresident tuition for up to three years. See below under financial aid for details.

c. The Thesis

The thesis (dissertation) is the means by which candidates demonstrate research proficiency. Upon advancement to candidacy, the student will assemble a thesis committee consisting of three faculty members, chaired by the student's major professor, to direct the research. All three committee members must hold PhD degrees and must be professors from a UC campus unless the major professor secures a waiver from the Dean of Graduate Studies. Students should consult with the graduate program coordinator regarding thesis format and submission guidelines.

Verification of progress. By May 30th of the fourth year every student is required to give a **progress seminar** on his/her research at one of the brown bag lunch seminar series. The purpose of the seminar is to show that substantial progress has been made since the PhD qualifying exam. The three members of the dissertation committee and at least one other faculty member (typically a faculty member who took part in the PhD qualifying examination) will be expected to attend the seminar. *At least two weeks before the seminar* the student should submit a written paper of at least 20 double-spaced pages to the members of the dissertation committee and the fourth faculty member who will attend the seminar. The paper should contain all or most of the material on which the seminar will be based. (Whether the brown bag seminar will cover the same material as the Qualifying Exam is something that will be discussed and agreed upon with the main advisor.)

Students who complete the various requirements by the specified deadlines will be deemed to be making satisfactory progress towards their degrees and will accordingly receive favorable consideration when TA positions and fellowships are awarded.

F. Registration and Scholarship Requirements

Students must register for a minimum of 12 units each Quarter, including Individual Study (Economics 299) where appropriate. A minimum overall GPA of 3.25 is required for good standing in and for successful completion of the PhD program.

If the cumulative GPA falls below 3.25 for two consecutive quarters, the student may be asked to meet with the graduate program chair. After a review of the student's complete record, the student will be given a specific number of quarters to improve the GPA. If the cumulative GPA remains below 3.25 after that time, the Graduate Studies Committee may recommend that the student be dismissed from the PhD program (with an MA degree if the corresponding requirements are met).

Time Limits for Completion of Degree Requirements and Readmission

(Note: these are mainly university time limits and it is hoped and expected that student progress will be faster than this)

Five-Year Rule for advancement to candidacy: If a student has not advanced to candidacy by the end of the fifth year, registration will not be allowed except for the quarter in which orals are taken. (Note: As described in Section E.b. above, the department expects students to advance to candidacy in their third year. In the case of international students, failure to advance to candidacy by the end of year three will result in NRST fees.)

Three-Year Rule for completion of the thesis: A student who is advanced to candidacy for the PhD and expects to complete the dissertation within the academic year may go on filing fee status for one quarter only (their last quarter in the program). Once the time limit is exceeded, filing fee status will automatically lapse. Similarly, students who break registration (without going on PELP or filing fee status) lose their student status.

Readmission after an absence: A student wishing to re-enter the program after a break in registration or after a lapse in filing fee status must file an application for readmission for the following Fall, subject to normal admissions deadlines. Readmission (if granted) may be conditional on retaking the oral and/or satisfying any new course or programmatic requirements then in effect.

G. <u>Financial Assistance For Current Graduate Students</u>

Information on deadlines and application requirements will be provided in January.

California residency for tuition purposes: Nonresident domestic students (US citizens and permanent residents) should take steps to be classified as California residents by the end of their first year.

Limits on appointments: Typically, graduate students may hold academic teaching appointments (including TA, Associate-In, or Reader) for up to 18 quarters and may hold research appointments (GSR) for up to 21 quarters.

However, in response to the ongoing pandemic and its subsequent disruptions, on Friday, June 19, 2020, UC Provost Michael Brown announced a temporary extension of the total length of service for academic student employees (ASE) up to 21 quarters “for matriculated students during the quarters in which instruction is substantially impacted by COVID-19”. This means that all matriculated students in Spring 2020 and Fall 2020 (and perhaps beyond, “should these conditions persist”) can receive permission to extend their total length of service to a maximum of 21 quarters at any point in the future.

<u>Fellowships:</u> New and continuing students (both foreign and domestic) may apply for fellowships, which provide a stipend and/or remission of fees. Applicants should have a GPA above 3.70 and both verbal and quantitative GREs above the 85^{th} percentile to be considered for fellowship nomination.

<u>Nonresident Tuition Fellowships and Reduced Nonresident Tuition:</u> International students who have been formally advanced to Ph.D. candidacy before the first day of a quarter are entitled to elimination of nonresident tuition for a maximum of 3 calendar years (regardless of registered quarters including any quarters on PELP) after first being advanced to candidacy.

After this NRST “waiver period” of 3 calendar years, international doctoral students are again charged NRST until they complete their degrees. To offset the NRST charge during this time frame, UC Davis offers a non-competitive fellowship program—the Post-candidacy Nonresident Supplemental Tuition Fellowship Program—intended to mitigate the NRST challenge during the fourth and fifth years after advancement to candidacy. Eligible students may receive a non-competitive fellowship to offset the cost of NRST so that they are able to complete their degrees in a timely manner without the added pressure of the NRST expense. Information about this program is provided annually directly to eligible students.

<u>Teaching Assistantships:</u> TA’s work with faculty members in Economics 1A and 1B (Principles of Economics) and in some upper division and graduate courses. They are generally assigned responsibility for two discussion sections per quarter. TA support to continuing students is offered on the basis of progress in the graduate program, scholarship, and teaching performance.

<u>Research Assistantships and Work-Study Funding:</u> Research assistant positions are generally offered to more advanced students. Some work-study funding may be available for domestic students.

H. Placement

Each October the department assists students in finding permanent employment by compiling a list of PhD students *who have passed their oral qualifying exam,* and by aiding students in sending individual job applications to potential employers. Students who have not passed their orals may, of course, go on the job market, but the department does not consider a student fully ready to do so until advanced to candidacy.

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