

THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

MPhil/PHD Economics

Entry Requirements

MPhil Candidates require at least an Upper Second Class Honours degree with a strong background in the discipline into which entry is being sought. PhD candidates require at least an MPhil degree or its equivalent.

Availability of Expertise and Resources

Admission is contingent upon candidates having a thesis proposal compatible with the expertise and resources available in the Department of Economics.

Programme Structure/Course of Study

Students in the MPhil and PhD degree programme are required to successfully:

1. Complete a minimum of six (6) credits of coursework for MPhil/nine (9) credits of coursework for PhD,
2. Present seminars (2 for MPhil/3 for PhD), and
3. Submit a thesis.

Courses

Students in the MPhil and PhD degree programme should determine with their supervisor which courses would satisfy the credit requirements. Courses should be completed in the first year.

Compulsory Seminar Presentations

For each seminar, candidates are required to write and present a paper to be photocopied and distributed before hand on a topic arising out of their research as well as to field questions put to them afterwards. Seminars should be completed within the first year of the programme.

Postgraduate Research Student Workshop

Introduced in 2015-2016, the general aims of the Postgraduate Research Student Workshop are as follows:

1. To develop in Social Science postgraduate research students a greater understanding of the nature of the post graduate study process.
2. To prepare students better for their research proposals and seminar presentations.
3. To provide useful strategies for the development of their theses.

All students new to Social Sciences research should take this course which will prepare them for the postgraduate research and writing process and provide them with useful strategies and skills for all aspects of this process, especially in the key area of taking responsibility for learning and in planning and writing a thesis.

Thesis Proposal

Candidates are required to present and defend a Thesis Proposal of acceptable scope and quality for the degree. The Thesis must follow the guidelines set out in the documentation provided by the School for Graduate Studies and Research. Candidates should also determine whether the materials for the thesis, or a substantial part thereof, are available either in the Main Library here at Cave Hill or elsewhere locally or regionally. The candidate should also determine whether it may be necessary to travel abroad in pursuit of these objectives and how the necessary financial support to accomplish this might be

obtained.

The Proposal, a minimum of five pages (double-spaced, excluding bibliography) should include the following information:

- The working title of the thesis which may be subject to further revision or exact specification as your research proceeds. However, even at this stage, the goal should be to describe your project as clearly and as accurately as possible.
- A definition of the subject agreed upon by both the candidate and the potential Supervisor. This should include a statement of the specific issue or 'thesis' to be investigated.
- An account of the existing state of scholarship on the subject, a justification of the undertaking of such a project, as well as an indication of its potential contribution to knowledge in this area.
- A tentative list of the divisions, phases or chapters into which the thesis will fall so far as the candidate can see them at this stage of his/her work.
- A selective bibliography which should follow the guidelines prescribed by the latest edition of the Chicago Manual of Style. The bibliography should adumbrate the primary sources (authors, texts, editions etc) and the chief secondary sources which bear most closely upon the subject.

The Proposal should be formally sent to the Department's Coordinator of Graduate Studies for review. Candidates will be informed in due course of the date of their defense after which candidates will be informed whether the Proposal has been accepted as is.

Award of the Degree

The successful completion of the compulsory coursework, Seminar presentations and the Thesis will lead to the award of the Degree.

LIST OF COURSES

Compulsory for all students depending on their programme

GRSM 6000 MPhil Research Seminar 1
GRSM 6001 MPhil Research Seminar 2

ECON 6900 MPhil Economics Thesis

GRSM 8001 PhD Research Seminar 1
GRSM 8002 PhD Research Seminar 2
GRSM 8003 PhD Research Seminar 3

ECON 8000 PhD Economics Thesis

Required for all research students

GRSM 6005 Postgraduate Research Student Workshop