



economics

GRADUATE PROGRAMME

BARCELONA 2013/2014

MSc & PhD in Economics

GRADUATE PROGRAMME
2013/2014
Faculty of Economics & Business UB



Universitat de Barcelona



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Elisenda Paluzie i Hernández

*Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Business,
Universitat de Barcelona (UB)*

The University of Barcelona's Graduate Programme in Economics has been developed for students who intend to pursue a professional or research career in the international arena. The Programme comprises a two-year master's degree, **MSc in Economics**, and a research programme leading to the **PhD in Economics**. However, these two stages can be coursed separately in case the student is meeting the conditions required.

The MSc programme is designed to extend students' capabilities in using the theoretical and empirical techniques needed to analyse real world economic problems and to provide students with the chance to undertake independent research. The Programme, which is delivered entirely in English, attracts students from around the world, providing a mix that enhances the international approach to academic life at the University of Barcelona (UB). Over half the students who normally do the MSc programme consider it as a way of beginning their PhD. Some of the students complete their PhD in our Faculty, which is one of only a handful of programmes in Spain to have received the Ministry of Education's 'Pathway to Excellence award' for the quality and impact of its research and benefits.

The Graduate Programme is taught at the UB's Faculty of Economics and Business, which is one of the largest in south west Europe and has received outstanding results in the Ministry of Education's teaching and research quality reviews. Moreover, UB's Faculty of Economics and Business is one of the largest economics faculty in Catalonia and also one of the faculties on the Barcelona Knowledge Campus, the most active 'Campus of Excellence' in all Spain. Actually, the University of Barcelona is the second top Spanish University in the URAP'S field-based ranking for Social Sciences. Students enrolled on the Programme are able to attend frequently held seminars and talks delivered by some of the world's most prestigious academics and professionals and enjoy all the benefits of the Faculty's research services and IT facilities in the heart of the vibrant city of Barcelona.

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ECONOMICS AT UB



The University of Barcelona's prestigious academic tradition stretches back over more than 550 years. Today, the University offers programmes to some 90,000 students and employs around 5,250 lecturers and researchers on six university campuses. In the academic year 2011/2012, the teaching and research staff in the University's 19 faculties and university schools published a total of 3,723 journal articles. The UB is among the foremost universities in Spain, with one of the largest student bodies, it teaches a wide range of courses, generates extensive research output and promotes valuable innovation and technology transfer.

The UB's Faculty of Economics and Business is home to around 10,000 students and 400 full-time lecturers and researchers and it publishes some 400 journal articles each year. The Faculty is a leading centre for teaching and research and forms part of an internationally recognised hub of economics research in the Barcelona area.

Research in economics

Our faculty's platform **UB Economics** is committed to excellence in research and teaching in the field of economics. With more than 100 researchers, **UB Economics** boasts experts in many disciplines of both economics and econometrics. Specifically, the platform is committed to research excellence in the three areas included in the figure below.

Growth, Trade and Spatial Economics

Publications ¹	38 (34%)
Research staff members ²	50 (47%)

Public Economics and Policy Analysis

Publications ¹	48 (43%)
Research staff members ²	42 (39%)

Behaviour, Games and Risk

Publications ¹	27 (24%)
Research staff members ²	30 (28%)

¹2010 and 2011 publications in economic research areas according UB output recognition system.

² Some faculty members focus on more than one research area.

THE UB'S GRADUATE PROGRAMME

The University of Barcelona began making its degree courses fully compliant with the requirements of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) in the academic year 2006/2007. This year, the UB is offering more than 140 master's programmes and 71 doctoral programmes across one of the broadest ranges of subjects in Spain, all fulfilling the EHEA's learning outcomes.

The master's programmes articulate student achievement in compatible credit terms (ECTS) within a system that employs comparable criteria to those used in higher education systems across the EHEA. The programmes are also of the same duration as second-cycle degree courses taught in the EHEA countries. The UB's master's programmes have all been specifically designed to promote opportunities for student mobility within Europe and to facilitate access to the European job market.

Doctoral students in the EHEA are now required to first complete a research training programme, which can usually be satisfied by taking the research track on a master's degree. This is followed by a period of work on research design, strategy and methodology culminating in a substantial piece of supervised work that makes an original contribution to knowledge in a particular field.

The Graduate Programme in Economics comprises the following two stages:

The MSc IN ECONOMICS

02
YEARS

The PhD IN ECONOMICS

03
YEARS
(FULL TIME)

05
YEARS
(PART TIME)

MASTER/MSc IN ECONOMICS



Marina Núñez
Director of the
Master's Programme

The MSc in Economics is designed to extend students' capabilities in using the theoretical and empirical techniques needed to analyse real world economic problems and to provide students with the chance to undertake independent research. On successfully completing the course, students can expect to find employment in a broad range of sectors, including higher education, business and economic consultancy, and local and national government. The strongest candidates are encouraged to undertake more advanced research on the PhD Programme.

What you'll get from the course:

- The tools to analyse and resolve complex economic problems
- The skills to evaluate the effects of economic policies
- The knowledge to initiate independent research in economics
- The skills required for decision-making, leadership and being an effective team member
- The ability to communicate your research findings

What we'll need from you:

- A Bachelor degree in Economics, Business or in other degree studies in other fields with solid maths foundations – such as mathematics, physics or engineering- with a good scholastic average (GPA)
- Sufficient level of English language ability
- Specific motivation to course UB Master in Economics

Master/MSc in Economics

Students need to obtain a total of 120 credits to be awarded the MSc in Economics. During the first and second terms, students study a number of **core subjects** (40 credits), including Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Mathematical Economics and Econometrics.

In the third, fourth and fifth terms, students have to choose two options from the list below according their **specialization subject** choice (60 credits), enabling them to specialise in areas of interest for their future profession or research. The options offered are:

Public Economics

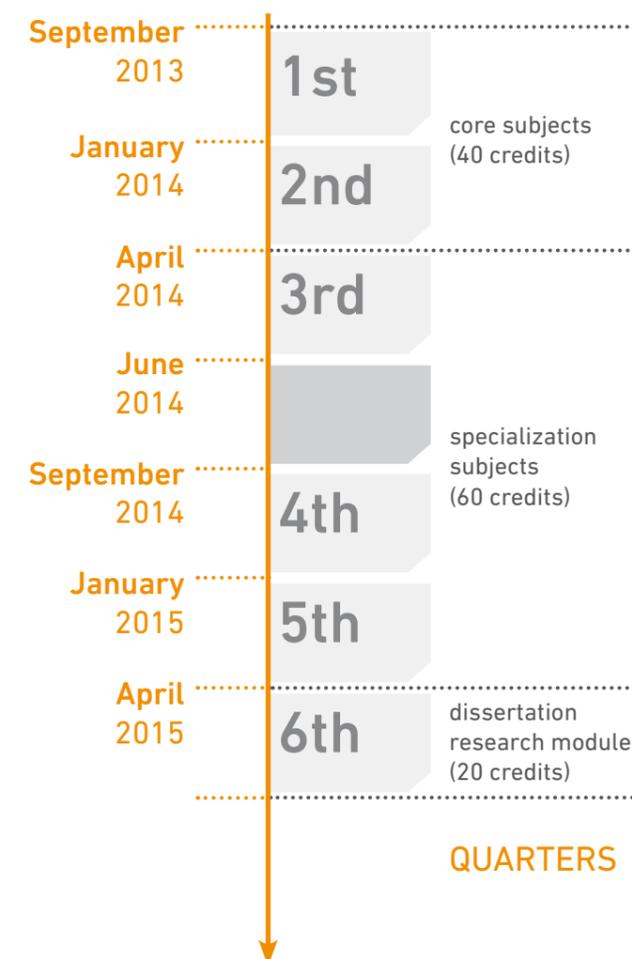
Regional and Urban Economics

Growth and Trade

Government and Markets

Games, Behavior and Incentives

During the sixth term, students must plan and write a **dissertation** in a subject of interest to them, employing the concepts and methods acquired during the course.



PhD IN ECONOMICS



Elisabet Viladecans
Director of the PhD
Programme

The doctoral programme in Economics is one of only a handful of programmes in Spain to have received the Ministry of Education's quality award for research excellence. Students enrolled on the PhD in Economics will be assigned two supervisors who specialise in their chosen research field. All supervisors are expert researchers and regular contributors to the leading Economics journals.

YOU ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE

● ACADEMIC SKILLS

- A) UB MSc in Economics with a good scholastic average
- B) Master in Economics with a good scholastic average (GPA) and equivalent academic contents to A)
- C) Master in other fields, conditional to course 40 ECTS and the dissertation module of A)

● ENGLISH SKILLS

- Sufficient level of English language ability

THE RESEARCH PERIOD

1ST YEAR

- 1 Presentation of a detailed thesis proposal, including a draft work plan, to be evaluated and approved by the PhD monitoring committee no later than April

2ND YEAR (AND FOLLOWINGS)

- 2 Development of thesis proposal and progress made in work plan evaluated by the PhD monitoring committee

3 READING AND DEFENCE

- 3 Oral examination before appointed examiners

COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES

Throughout the programme students are required to participate in a number of complementary activities. These include research seminars, workshops, courses and conferences. PhD candidates are also encouraged to participate in the publishing of their interim findings and to secure research placements at other universities or research institutions

RESEARCH AREAS

GROWTH, TRADE AND SPATIAL ECONOMICS

The Growth, Trade and Spatial Economics research area is concerned with studying the determinants of growth and economic development at both the macroeconomic and regional levels. It therefore addresses a broad spectrum of issues ranging from classic topics such as unemployment and economic growth to the analysis of financial and trade linkages between countries (globalization). One particular focus of this research area will be to frame these questions in a historical perspective, taking into account regional and geographical differences.

PUBLIC ECONOMICS AND POLICY ANALYSIS

The Public Economics and Policy Analysis research area focuses on the study and design of public policies and institutions aimed at improving efficiency and social welfare. This research area builds on the well-established research strength of the UB in the fields of public economics, particularly fiscal federalism, transport economics and market regulation. It also harnesses synergies in the fields of health, education, and labour economics to inform and design public policies.

BEHAVIOUR, GAMES AND RISK

The Behaviour, Games and Risk area is concerned with analysing individual decision-making and group conduct. This area covers the study of strategic behaviour, competition and cooperation between economic agents, and the analysis and evaluation of risk in finance and insurance. It builds on the well-established strength of UB researchers in the fields of game theory and risk and insurance.

Research fields

Development Economics

Economic Growth

Economic History

International Finance

International Trade

Macroeconomics

Regional Economics

Urban Economics

Economics of Education

Environmental and Resource Economics

Health Economics

Labour and Demographic Economics

Political Economy

Public Economics

Regulation Economics

Transport Economics

Behavioural and Experimental Economics

Financial Econometrics

Game Theory

Industrial Organization

Mathematical Economics

Microeconomics

Operations Research

Risk and Insurance

OUR STUDENTS



Kamgo Jean Basile
MSc student (Cameroon)

“I’m happy to be doing the MSc in Economics here at the UB mainly because my lecturers are really on the job and the people in admin are good listeners who know how to cater to our needs as students. And since there aren’t too many of us in class, the follow-up is always good, too.”

Laura Carabotta
PhD student (Italy)

“The UB’s PhD programme gave me the chance to be critical and independent in the way I think, to look for new solutions to economic problems and to study interesting topics in a lively and broad-minded environment where the activities like seminars or conventions were always backed up by a conscientious team of teachers.”



Marta Curto
Graduate student

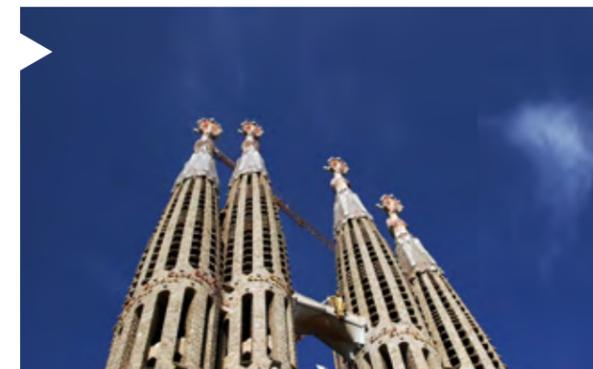
“The MSc and PhD in Economics offered by the Universitat de Barcelona have provided me with a strong knowledge on several research fields such as political and public economics. This specialization has been of invaluable help to achieve my academic and professional goals”.



STUDY / RESEARCH IN BCN

According to the QS World University Rankings 2012, Barcelona is the 11th best city in the world in which to be a student. The city, while one of the most prosperous in Europe, is nevertheless highly affordable, especially when compared to cities such as London and Paris, offering a great quality of living and student mix.

The University of Barcelona offers students the chance to study and undertake their research at an institution that is fully integrated into the city. Lying on the Mediterranean coast, with a population of over 1.5 million, Barcelona is one of the most economically, socially and culturally important cities in Europe and is characterized by its extraordinary diversity. What’s more, the reputation of its graduates is also very high among international employers.



An excellent place to study!

The staff and students of the Faculty of Economics and Business have access to a comprehensive range of services and facilities to meet a spectrum of needs: a network of libraries and resource centres with the largest stocks of all the universities in the region; special seminar rooms; extensive language learning resources, and a great network of sports facilities at locations throughout the city.



Living in Barcelona

A. Accommodation

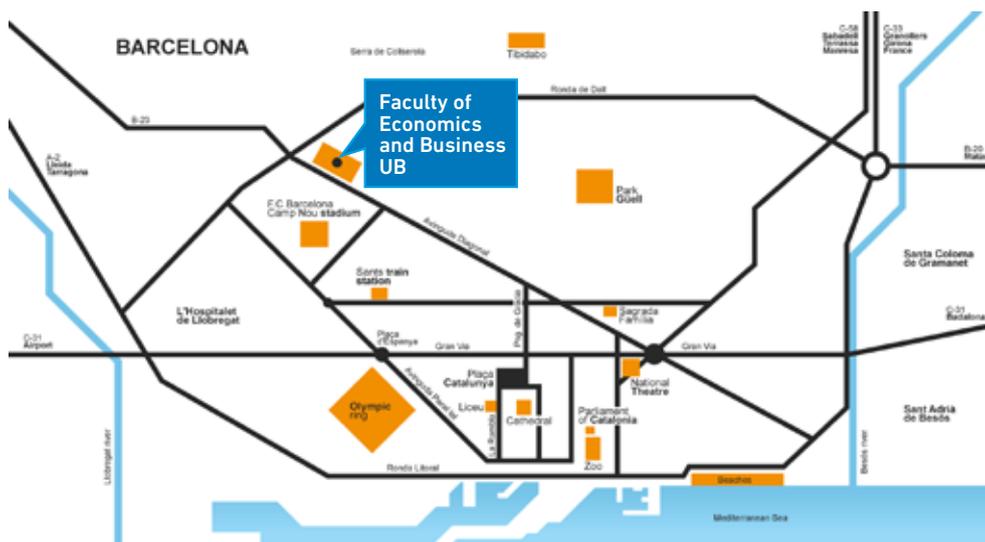
The UB’s Student Support Service (SAE) can help students find the right accommodation in Barcelona before they arrive in the city. The University of Barcelona has its own halls of residence and a quota of places in a number of affiliated collegiate halls around the city. SAE can also help those students who prefer to find a privately rented city apartment or a room in a private hall of residence.

B. Moving around

Barcelona and its metropolitan area boast an excellent public transport system, considered one of the best in Europe. The TMB, the metropolitan transport authority, operates two permanent transport networks (metro and bus) and has recently reintroduced a city tram. Barcelona also has a bicycle sharing system (Bicing), a simple, practical and environmentally-friendly way to get around the city.



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The Faculty of Economics and Business is located at Av. Diagonal 690-696, near the Pedralbes park. To get there by public transport you have several options:

- Subway:** Palau Reial or Zona Universitària (line 3)
- Bus:** 7, 33, 67, 74, 75, 113 (Avinguda Diagonal – Palau Reial)
- Trambaix:** lines T1, T2, T3 (Palau Reial or Zona Universitària)
- Bicing:** 305 station