Western Michigan University’s Applied Economics (M.A, Ph. D.) programs meet the needs of future high-level practicing economists in both academic and non-academic settings.

Fields offered in the doctoral program are econometrics, development, industrial organization, international economics, labor economics and monetary economics.

The M.A. degree provides students with a strong foundation in economic analysis combined with the ability to apply theory to contemporary problems. If desired, the M.A. degree can include a concentration in Econometrics/Statistics or Economic Development.

Students with appropriate backgrounds in mathematics and undergraduate economics can complete the Ph.D. program in 4 years (less than the national norm), and those with no undergraduate prerequisites to satisfy, can complete the M.A. program in less than 2 years.

The option to complete a one-year internship at a non-academic organization is a distinguishing feature of our Ph.D. program. Our students have completed internships at the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, Kellogg Foundation, Fifth-Third Bank, Ally Financial, and Swiss Reinsurance Corporation.

Recent Ph.D. placements include Marshall University, St. Norbert College, Bank of NewYork/Mellon and Swiss Reinsurance Corporation. M.A. graduates have recently taken jobs at Kellogg’s Corporation, Central Bank of the Dominican Republic and Whirlpool Corporation. Some of our MA graduates have decided to pursue further studies in a Ph.D. program.
**Applied Economics (M.A., Ph.D.)**

**Teaching, Research, and Program Focus Areas**

The department faculty are actively involved in promoting and developing the research of graduate students. Our students have a strong record of scholarly publication. Recent examples of published research by our students include the effect of migration in promoting international banking, time-zones and international trade, the gender and racial divide in computer access, stock return anomalies and the contribution of foreign aid to economic growth.

All students are required to complete courses in statistics and econometrics and are guided in applying these tools in solving economic problems. In some cases students complete internships that further develop these talents.

**Admissions**

Applications for the MA program are reviewed year round. Students may commence the MA program either during Fall or Spring semesters. Application deadlines are April 1 for the Fall semester and August 1 for the Spring semester.

Those wishing to apply to the Ph.D. program must submit all their materials by February 1 and accepted students commence their studies in September. GRE scores, letters of reference, statement of purpose and transcripts are all required in order to be considered by the Ph.D admissions committee. For additional application information and materials visit program website: wmic.edu/economics/

**Graduate Assistantships/Associateships**

Graduate assistantships are awarded on a competitive basis. While MA students may sometimes be awarded funding, most funding is awarded to Ph.D. students. Summer support is often available for Ph.D. students.

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**Western Michigan University**

One of America’s 147 public research universities, Western Michigan University offers a wide range of top-notch graduate programs, including 74 at the master’s level and 31 at the doctoral level. Twenty-one percent of WMU’s nearly 24,000 students are enrolled in graduate coursework, another one-fifth are minority students and nearly 8 percent of all students hail from other countries.

**Kalamazoo**

The city of Kalamazoo is located midway between Detroit and Chicago and at the heart of a metropolitan area of more than 330,000 people. On national lists, Kalamazoo rates among the top 10 cities for creative workers as well as for work-life balance. It also numbers among “The 29 Cities All Twentysomethings Should Pick Up And Move To.”