

Ph.D. in Economics at PENN STATE

PENNSTATE



With leading researchers in the core areas of microeconomic theory, macroeconomics, and econometrics and in the field areas of industrial organization, international trade and development, the Economics Department at Penn State is an

outstanding department. Our students receive an up-to-date education in economics and the opportunity to engage in research in a variety of areas. The best students from our department obtain positions at leading academic and research institutions. Some of our Ph.D. students have obtained tenure track positions at Harvard, MIT, New York University, Northwestern, Carnegie Mellon, Chicago, John Hopkins and Cornell. Others have obtained positions in government agencies like the Federal Reserve Board and the Federal Trade Commission. And some have joined well-known consulting firms. (Some of our recent placements are listed below.)

The Department

The department has grown in recent years and it is expected that we will continue to do so. There are 36 graduate faculty and 101 Ph.D. students. Students get a lot of attention from the faculty and there are many student-faculty collaborations in research.

We host five weekly workshops in which visiting speakers, faculty, and graduate students present their current research. These are in the areas of Applied Economics, Econometrics, Macroeconomics, Micro Theory, and Trade & Development.

The department is home to two research centers: the Center for Auctions, Procurement and Competition Policy (CAPCP) and the Center for Research on International Financial and Energy Security (CRIFES). The Centers sponsor research by faculty and graduate students in their respective areas. CAPCP is the repository of many important data sets (FCC spectrum auctions, oil and gas lease auctions, etc.) that are available to all researchers.

The Faculty

We have a distinguished faculty that is actively engaged in research and teaching. Four faculty members are Fellows of the Econometric Society. Some serve on the editorial boards of leading journals in economics. The research of our faculty is supported by grants from numerous government and private research organizations.

The Program

The Ph.D. program involves two years of course work and, usually, three years of research towards a dissertation. The first year is devoted to basic micro, macro and econometrics. In the second year, students take courses in specialized fields.

Students are introduced to research in the field courses where they are typically asked to make small presentations. In addition, there are informal seminars where students present their own work. These, together with the five weekly workshops, introduce students to research. By the end of the second year all students write a research paper, which in some instances evolves into a dissertation.

Students who enter with a strong background are able to progress through the program at an accelerated pace.

Financial Aid

Almost all of our Ph.D. students receive full financial aid (tuition plus stipend) in one of three modes: teaching assistantships, research assistantships, or fellowships. Teaching assistants mainly assist instructors of undergraduate courses by grading, holding office hours, and leading recitation sections. Except for some summer courses, we do not ask graduate students to teach courses. Research assistants are assigned to help faculty members in their research. Fellowship holders have no duties the first year.

GRADUATE INFORMATION AND HOW TO APPLY

How to Apply

Our application process is entirely electronic. Information may be found on the department's web site: <http://econ.la.psu.edu/graduate/admission.html> We require the following supporting documents: your grades from college, GRE scores, TOEFL/IELTS scores (if your native language is not English), three letters of recommendation and any research papers. These materials should be uploaded onto the on-line application—<http://www.gradschool.psu.edu/index.cfm/apply/>

The last date for applications is January 15 (if applying for financial aid). Decisions are communicated in early March.

Recent Student Placements

Here is a list of our academic placements for 2022. A complete list may be found on our web site.

Suat Akbulut (2021) Data Scientist, Billups, Portland, Oregon

Nino Doghonadze (2022) Applied Scientist, Uber, San Francisco, California

Hyung Gyu Rho (2022) Data Scientist, Scentre Group, Australia

Guanling Hu (2022) Assistant Professor, City University of Hong Kong

Berk Idem (2022) Post-Doctoral Fellow, New York University, Abu Dhabi

Murat Inan (2022) Associate, JP Morgan Chase, New York

Na Jiang (2022) Quantitative Specialist, Wells Fargo

Xiao Lin (2022) Assistant Professor, University of Pennsylvania

Guoxuan Ma (2022) Assistant Professor, University of International Business and Economics, Beijing, China

Wei Qiao (2022) Assistant Professor, Jinan University, China

Abhishek Rai (2022) Assistant Professor, Ashoka University, Sonapat, India

Yuta Suzuki (2022) Assistant Professor, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai, China

Rui Wang (2022) Assistant Professor, Ohio State University

Kaida Zhang (2022) Economist, Amazon, Seattle

Student Publications

Here is a sample of recent publications by our students (with year of graduation*):

Xiao Lin (2022, University of Pennsylvania) "How to Sell Hard Information," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 2021.

Ilia Krasikov (2019, Higher School of Economics) "A Theory of Dynamic Contracting with Financial Constraints," *Journal of Economic Theory*, 2021.

Desire Kedagni (2018, Iowa State University) "Identifying Treatment Effects in the Presence of Confounded Types," *Journal of Econometrics*, 2022.

Bulat Gafarov (2017, UC Davis) "Delta-Method Inference for a Class of Set-Identified SVARS," *Journal of Econometrics*, 2018.

Wang Xiang (2017, Renmin University of China) "Who Will Watch the Watchers? On Optimal Monitoring Networks," *Journal of Economic Theory*, 2020.

Yu Awaya (2015, University of Rochester) "Startups and Upstarts: Disadvantages Information in R&D," *Journal of Political Economy*, 2020.

Bruno Sultanum (2015, Federal Reserve) "An Information-Based Theory of Financial Intermediation," *Review of Economic Studies*, 2022.

Felix Tintelnot (2013, University of Chicago) "The Effects of Foreign Multinationals on Workers and Firms in the United States," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 2021.

Yao Luo (2013, University of Toronto) "Structural Analysis of Nonlinear Pricing," *Journal of Political Economy*, 2018.

Yuanyan Wan (2011, University of Toronto) "Testing Local Average Treatment Effect Assumptions," *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 2017.

Haixing Xu (2011, University of Texas, Austin) "Semiparametric Estimation of Dynamic Discrete Choice Models," *Journal of Econometrics*, 2021.

Kerem Cosar (2010, University of Chicago), "Trade, Merchants and Lost Cities of the Bronze Age," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 2019.

Gaurab Aryal (2010, Australian National University) "Signaling and Employer Learning with Instruments," *American Economic Review*, 2022.

Tai-Wei Hu (2009, Northwestern University), "Bargaining Under Liquidity Constraints: Unified Strategic Foundations of the Nash and Kalai Solutions," *Journal of Economic Theory*, 2021.

Daniel Xu (2007, New York University), "Notching R&D Investment with Corporate Income Tax Cuts in China," *American Economic Review*, 2021.

Isa Hafalir (2007, Carnegie Mellon University), "Interdistrict School Choice: A Theory of Optimal Assignment," *Journal of Economic Theory*, 2022.

FACULTY AREAS OF INTEREST

List of Graduate Faculty and Interests

Syed Nageeb Ali (Ph.D. Stanford, 2007)
Economic Theory

Andres Aradillas-Lopez (Ph.D. UC Berkeley, 2005)
Econometrics

David Argente (Ph.D. Chicago, 2018)
Macroeconomics

Kalyan Chatterjee (DBA Harvard, 1979)
Economic Theory

Miaomiao Dong (Ph.D. Toulouse, 2017)
Economic Theory

Ross Doppelt (Ph.D. NYU, 2015)
Macroeconomics

Jonathan Eaton (Ph.D. Yale, 1976)
International Economics

Jinting Fan (Ph.D. Maryland, 2017)
International Trade

Michael Gechter, (Ph.D. Boston, 2015)
Institutions Trade & Development

Patrik Guggenberger (Ph.D. Yale, 2003)
Econometrics

Paul Grieco (Ph.D. Northwestern, 2010)
Industrial Organization

Nima Haghpanah Jahromi (Ph.D Northwestern, 2014)
Microeconomic Theory

Marc Henry (Ph.D. LSE, 1999)
Econometrics

Keisuke Hirano (Ph.D. Harvard, 1998)
Econometrics

Barry Ickes (Ph.D. UC Berkeley, 1983)
Transition and Development

Yuhta Ishii (Ph.D. Harvard, 2014)
Economic Theory

Sun Jae Jung (Ph.D. Brown, 2006)
Econometrics

Kala Krishna (Ph.D. Princeton, 1984)
International Trade, Development

Vijay Krishna (Ph.D. Princeton, 1983)
Economic Theory

Rohit Lamba (Ph.D. Princeton, 2014)
Economic Theory

Jenny Li (Ph.D. Cornell, 1993)
Mathematical Economics

Qi Li (Ph.D. Chicago, 2018)
Macroeconomics

Robert Marshall (Ph.D. UC San Diego, 1983)
Industrial Organization

Fernando Parro (Ph.D. Chicago, 2011)
International Trade

Joris Pinkse (Ph.D. LSE, 1994)
Econometrics

Bee-Yan Roberts (Ph.D. Wisconsin, 1980)
International Trade, Development

Mark Roberts (Ph.D. Wisconsin, 1980)
Industrial Organization

Conor B. Ryan (Ph.D. Minnesota, 2021)
Industrial Organization

Karl Schurter (Ph.D. Chicago, 2017)
Industrial Organization

Bradley Setzler (Ph.D. Chicago, 2017)
Labor Economics

Ran Shorrer (Ph.D. Harvard, 2015)
Economic Theory

Ron Siegel (Ph.D. Stanford, 2007)
Economic Theory

James Tybout (Ph.D. Wisconsin, 1980)
Industrial Trade, Development

Ewout Verriest (Ph.D. New York University, 2019)
Labor Economics

Stephen Yeaple (Ph.D. Wisconsin, 2000)
International Trade

Ruilin Zhou (Ph.D. Pittsburgh, 1994)
Macroeconomics

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This publication is available in alternative media on request.

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