

Department of Economics

MH415

BSc/MSc Economics Integrated Programme

2022-23

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Introduction

Welcome to the BSc Economics degree at Maynooth, and congratulations on getting through the leaving cert and CAO process. The BSc/MSc Economics integrated programme will prepare you to work as professional economists. Employers — medium-sized or large, private or public, in all sectors from government to financial services to agriculture, need people who understand economics to a high level and who can analyse and interpret economic and other data. This programme will provide you with the skills necessary to fulfil these roles.

This handbook outlines the course of study for first year and each of the subsequent years in the BSc/MSc Economics programme. It also provides useful information on key dates, timetabling, lectures, attendance, assessments and progression, as well as general information on the Department and the University, and various supports and services available to you as a BSc/MSc Economics student. If you have any questions that are not answered within the handbook, don't hesitate to get in touch with one of the contacts listed on page 3.

Information about the Department of Economics

The Department of Economics is located on the middle and top floor of Rhetoric House on the South Campus. Economics lecturers' offices are in this building, but most of your lectures will take place on the North Campus. Rhetoric House is on the map below.

The department's website is https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/economics. Information on the website will answer many questions that you may have as a new student.

The department can be contacted by phone at +353-(0)1-7083728. General emails to the department should be addressed to the Department Administrator Sandra Doherty Sandra.Doherty@mu.ie.



For departmental updates, news and events, please follow the department on our social media channels:

Twitter: <u>@MU Econ</u>

Instagram: <u>@maynooth_economics</u>

• Linkedin: https://ie.linkedin.com/school/mueconomics/

Course Coordinator

The Course Coordinator is Dr. Simon Broome. Dr. Broome can be contacted by email at simon.j.broome@mu.ie. His office is Room 3 in Rhetoric House. You should contact Dr. Broome if you have queries about the BSc programme, particularly if you are having difficulties that are affecting all of your modules. He is also available to discuss module choices. You should also contact Dr. Broome if you are going to be absent from college for an extended period (i.e. more than a week).

Lecturers

You should contact your lecturers if you have questions about individual modules. Each lecturer has weekly office hours, during which you can attend without an appointment to discuss any concerns or questions you may have. Each lecturer will inform you of these hours. Alternatively, you may contact your lecturers by email.

Lecturers' contact details can be found at https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/economics/our-people. Lecturers tend to have different preferences on how you communicate with them, and they will let you know the best way to contact them.

Tutorials

You will have tutorials for some modules especially in the first year of the programme. These provide an opportunity to ask tutors any questions you may have about the content covered in that module. The Head Tutor Ciarán Murphy is also available to take questions and provide extra assistance on any economics modules. He can be contacted by email (economics-tutor@mu.ie) or in person in Room 57 in Rhetoric House during his office hours, which will be announced in the coming weeks. You can contact Ciarán with any queries that you have regarding tutorials or any economics modules.

Communication

It is important to use your official Maynooth email address in all correspondence, as this is less likely to get caught in spam filters. Always identify yourself by your programme code (MH415) and student number. This allows the staff member in question to respond to your query more efficiently.

You are expected to write in clear, concise, correct and formal English. You should think of these correspondences as practice for future correspondences with prospective employers. This requires a certain degree of formality – remember that you are writing the email in a professional capacity and that it's not a social message to a friend or family member. For example, you should begin your emails with "Dear (lecturer's name)" and end them with "Kind regards, (your full name)". You should also carefully consider the subject of the email – choose a short subject which makes the reason for the email immediately apparent.

Finally, please note that when a member of staff emails you individually, this requires a prompt response. Your response should show that you have read and understood the email in its entirety. You can make this clear by individually addressing each point raised in the initial email.

Who to Contact

Scenario	Who to contact	Contact details
There is a problem affecting all	Course Coordinator	simon i broomo@mu io
your modules	(Simon Broome)	simon.j.broome@mu.ie
You will be absent for an	Course Coordinator	simon.j.broome@mu.ie
extended period	(Simon Broome)	simon.j.broome@mu.ie
You have a problem or query relating to an individual EC-code module	Module lecturer or tutor	www.maynoothuniversity.ie/ economics/our-people
You have a question or need	Head Tutor	
help with any economics module	(Ciarán Murphy)	economics-tutor@mu.ie
You have a question relating to	Head Tutor	economics-tutor@mu.ie
tutorials	(Ciarán Murphy)	economics-tutor@ma.ie
You have a general question	Department Administrator	sandra.doherty@mu.ie
regarding the department	(Sandra Doherty)	sandra.donerty@md.ie
You would like support or guidance on a non-academic issue	Student Services	www.maynoothuniversity.ie/ student-services

You would need to contact the relevant department for modules you take outside of the Economics Department. For instance GY-code modules are delivered by the Geography Department, HY-code modules are delivered by the History Department etc.

Class Reps

Academic Reps are an essential part of university and student life in Maynooth. They are the eyes and ears of the Students Union (SU) and work as a point of contact between the SU's four full-time Officers and the entire student population.

Becoming a Class Rep is easy. Any student who wishes to represent their classmates may run for election to be the Academic Representative for their course. Interested students should register on www.msu.ie. After registering, students will be able to apply online. If numerous students apply for the same position, there will be an online vote. The application forms will be available from the website on Tuesday the 20th of September and will close for elections on the 4th of October. Elections will be held on Tuesday the 18th of October. Training for the elected representatives will take place on the 21st and 22nd of October.

Why should you get involved as an Academic Rep?

- It's your chance to make a difference for your year and the years to come after you
- It's a chance to meet new people and have fun
- It looks great on a CV
- You'll gain skills that you can use in your studies and your career
- You can improve the relationship between staff and students, and really get to know your lecturers

Academic Mentors

As a BSc Economics student, you will be assigned an academic mentor and potentially a postgraduate economics alumni network member who is established in their profession. Academic mentors are permanent faculty members in the department, and you will keep the same mentor throughout your studies. Your mentor will contact you in the fall semester and set up office meetings to be in continuous discussions regarding academic growth opportunities. You will also be paired with an MSc Economics student, and will share an academic mentor with this student. You will be provided with further information on the mentorship programme in the coming weeks.

Calendar & Timetables

The academic year is divided into two semesters. A semester lasts for 13 weeks (12 weeks of lectures and 1 mid-semester study week). Modules are completed within a semester (an exception is the BSc thesis in Third Year, which spans both semesters). Modules are examined at the end of each semester, meaning that semester 1 examinations are held in January and semester 2 examinations are held in May.

Important Dates

inportant bates	
September 2022	
15 + 16 September 2022	Orientation events for new 1st year (CAO) undergraduates
16 September 2022	New 1st year (CAO) UG registration begins online
19 - 23 September 2022	In person registration verification and Orientation events
19 September 2022	Commencement of Lectures (except for 1st Year Undergraduates)
26 September 2022	Commencement of Lectures for 1st Year (CAO) Undergraduates
October 2022	
07 October 2022	Change of Module Deadline for all Continuing Students
26 October 2022	Entrance Scholarships Ceremony
21 October 2022	Change of Subject Deadline for First Year Students
31 October - 4 November 2022	Study Week
31 October 2022	Deadline to withdraw from studies without losing "Free Fee Status" for following year
November 2022	
25 + 26 November 2022	November Open Days
December 2022	
12 - 16 December 2022	Last week of lectures for First Semester
19 - 30 December 2022	Christmas Vacation (students)
January 2023	
2 - 5 January 2023	Study period
06 January 2023	January examinations commence
23 - 27 January 2023	Inter Semester Break
30 January 2023	Start of Lectures – Second Semester
31 January 2023	Deadline for withdrawing from studies and retain 50% "Free Fee Status"

TBC	Prizes and Award Ceremonies
10 February 2023	Deadline for Change of 2nd Semester Modules
March 2023	
07 March 2023	Postgraduate Open Evening (3-7pm)
13 - 17 March 2023	Study Week
April 2023	
07 April 2023	Good Friday – no lectures
10 - 14 April 2023	Easter vacation (students)
17 April 2023	Lectures resume
22 April 2023	Spring Open Day
May 2023	
01 May 2023	Bank Holiday (no lectures)
2 - 5 May 2023	Last week of lectures for Second Semester
8 - 11 May 2023	Study Period
12 May 2023	Summer Examinations commence
June 2023	
24 June 2023	Summer Open Day
August 2023	
02 August 2023	Autumn examinations commence

Some of the dates above are subject to change. It's therefore sensible to refer to the term calendar on the University website: https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/registrar/key-term-dates.

Timetables

Your timetable for the coming year can be accessed at https://apps.maynoothuniversity.ie/timetable/.

Students should note that timetables are subject to change, so you should check the website regularly to confirm times and locations.

Programme of Instruction

Course Structure and Modules

The BSc Economics is a three-year course. In each year, students take modules worth a total of 60 credits.

First Year

In First Year, students take 30 credits in Economics. Students also take 30 optional credits. These modules are chosen from one or two other Arts subjects defined as Groups I, III or V (excluding Maths Studies) with no more than one subject from each group: For more details see course finder.

Code	Module title	Semester	Compulsory or optional	Credits
EC101	Microeconomics 1	1	Compulsory	7.5
EC112	Exploring Economics	1	Compulsory	2.5
EC205	Intermediate Quantitative Analysis	1	Compulsory	5
EC108	Macroeconomics 1	2	Compulsory	5
EC206	Econometrics (Statistics for Economists)	2	Compulsory	5
EC230	Information Economics	2	Compulsory	5
+ 2 Arts subjects from Groups I, III (excluding Maths Studies) or V, with not more than one subject per group. Critical Skills is available.		1+2	Optional	15+15
Year 1	Total of credits for the year			60

Second Year

Please note that the list of optional modules in the second and third years is tentative as lecturers may be on sabbatical leave or move to administrative positions. If an optional module becomes unavailable, it will be replaced with another option.

In Second Year, students take 40 credits in Economics core modules. Students also take 4 optional modules (20 credits). At least 3 of these modules (15 credits) must be Economics modules. A maximum of 1 (5 credits) can be a module outside of Economics from a wide selection of disciplines, including Business, Geography, History, International Development, Philosophy and Politics.

Code	Module title	Semester	Compulsory or optional	Credit weight
EC201	Intermediate Microeconomics	1	Compulsory	5
EC306	Econometrics	1	Compulsory	5
EC216	History of Economic Thought	1	Compulsory	5
ST203	R for Data Science and Statistics	1	Compulsory	5
FN205	Corporate Finance	1	Compulsory	5
EC212	BSc Team Project	1	Compulsory	5
EC202A	Intermediate Macroeconomics	2	Compulsory	5
EC305	Advanced Quantitative Methods	2	Compulsory	5
	optional modules in total including aree modules from the list below:			
EC211	Money and Banking	2	Optional	5
EC214	Public Economics	2	Optional	5
EC311	Economics of Environment	2	Optional	5
EC342	Economics of Crime	2	Optional	5
EC327	Economics of Sports	2	Optional	5
AND at m	ost one module from the list below:		•	
FN206	Corporate Finance	2	Optional	5
KD201	Globaliz. Economy, Development	2	Optional	5
HY219	Ireland in Modern World	2	Optional	5
HY294	Europe Post 1945	2	Optional	5
PO305	Politics of the EU	2	Optional	5
PO304	Society and State	2	Optional	5
PO314	Policies and Policymaking in EU	2	Optional	5
PO315	Irish Politics & Society	2	Optional	5
GY317	Global Ecosystems and Pressures	2	Optional	5
PH334A	Topics in Analytical Philosophy	2	Optional	5
Year 2	Total of credits for the year			60

Third Year

In Third Year, students take 25 credits in Economics core modules. These include Advanced Microeconomics and Macroeconomics, Applied Econometrics and the BSc Economics Thesis.

The BSc Economics Thesis is worth 10-credits. It is a year-long independent project. Every other week, students will attend joint workshops with MSc Economics students. These workshops will guide students in research and presentation skills such as surveying literature, finding data resources and making oral presentations both to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

Students also take at least 25 credits in optional Economics modules. Like in the second year, in the third year, students can also take at most one optional module from outside of economics.

Code	Module title	Semester	Compulsory or optional	Credits	
EC301	Advanced Microecon. (Game Theory)	1	Compulsory	5	
EC322	BSc Economics Thesis	Full year	Compulsory	10	
EC309	Applied Econometrics	2	Compulsory	5	
EC302	Advanced Macroeconomics	2	Compulsory	5	
+ Four (4) op	tional modules in 1st Semester				
of which, at I	east 3 modules from this list:				
FN305	Portfolio Selection and Analysis	1	Optional	5	
EC329	Health Economics	1	Optional	5	
EC217	Economics of the European Union	1	Optional	5	
ST201	Data Analysis	1	Optional	5	
AND at most	one module from the list below (if not pre	viously take	en):		
FN310	Fixed Income Markets	1	Optional	5	
MT212A	Linear Algebra	1	Optional	5	
MT371A	Experimental and Comp. Math	1	Optional	5	
GY221	Economic Geography	1	Optional	5	
GY240	Development Geography	1	Optional	5	
GY304	Geo. Info. Systems and Science	1	Optional	5	
GY321	Geo. of the Info. Economy	1	Optional	5	
PH352	Intro. to Life Philosophy	1	Optional	5	
PH202	Moral Phil Globalized Society	1	Optional	5	
+ Three (3) o	+ Three (3) optional modules in total of which				
at least two r	modules from the list below (if not taken b	efore)			
EC319	Econ. of Work and Life Decisions	2	Optional	5	
EC308	Competition and Regulation	2	Optional	5	
EC333	International Macroeconomics	2	Optional	5	
EC318	International Trade	2	Optional		
EC311	Economics of Environment	2	Optional	5	
EC327	Economics of Sports	2	Optional	5	
AND at most one module from the list below (if not taken before):					
FN314	International Banking	2	Optional	5	
FN206	Corporate Finance	2	Optional	5	

KD201	Globaliz., Economy, Development	2	Optional	5
HY219	Ireland in Modern World	2	Optional	5
HY294	Europe Post 1945	2	Optional	5
PO304	Society and State	2	Optional	5
PO314	Policies and Policymaking in EU	2	Optional	5
GY317	Global Ecosystems and Pressures	2	Optional	5
GY330	Regional Planning and Development	2	Optional	5
PH334A	Topics in Analytical Philosophy	2	Optional	5
PO315	Irish Politics & Society	2	Optional	5
Year 3	Total of credits for the year			60

Progression to MSc Economics

The BSc Economics is integrated with the MSc Economics. This means that if you meet the requirements (an overall grade of 55%) in the 3-year BSc, you will progress automatically into the 1-year MSc Economics. The training that you will have received during the BSc, particularly in technical and quantitative modules, will have provided you with the skills necessary to undertake the MSc Economics. You will also share workshops with MSc Economics students in third year when you are preparing for your BSc thesis.

The MSc Economics consists of 60 credits of taught modules, taught over two semesters. Students also complete an MSc thesis of a length and style similar to articles published in professional journals.

Further information on MSc Economics is available at the following link:

http://apps.maynoothuniversity.ie/courses/?TARGET=QS&MODE=VIEW&TARGET_SOURCE=QUALIFICATION_ON&QUALIFICATION_CODE=MSCF1

Lectures

Lectures are generally 50 minutes long. They begin at five minutes past the hour and end at five minutes to the hour. Students should arrive on the hour to allow the lecture to begin and end on time. Students are welcome to ask questions at lectures.

Tutorials

Student are required to attend tutorials. For tutorials, students are split into smaller groups. This provides an opportunity for students to discuss the course content in greater detail and focus on any issues which they have encountered. Details on tutorial times and locations will be communicated by lecturers.

Full preparation for and participation in tutorials is an essential part of the course. In some cases, questions for tutorials will be distributed in advance. In these cases, it's essential that students prepare written answers to these questions and bring these answers to the tutorials. Module-specific tutorial information will be provided by your lecturers and tutors. If you have any questions regarding tutorials, you can contact Ciaran Murphy: economics-tutor@mu.ie.

Absence

Although some lecturers make lecture notes or summaries of lectures available on Moodle, these are not a replacement for attendance, and it is not possible to engage with the material sufficiently without attending lectures. Attendance is required in all lectures and tutorials.

If you are absent from college for a couple of days you do not need to inform us, unless this means that you miss continuous assessments (see further information on continuous assessment and attendance in the "Assessment" section of this Handbook). If you are going to be absent from college for an extended period (more than about a week) you should inform the course co-ordinator (Dr. Simon Broome, simon.j.broome@mu.ie) as soon as possible, providing sick certificates where appropriate. Medical certificates need to be sent or delivered to Sandra Doherty (sandra.doherty@mu.ie).

Assessment

Assessment methods vary from module to module, but for most modules assessment involves a mix of final examinations and continuous assessment. Continuous assessment can take the form of mid-term exams, multiple choice question (MCQ) tests, in class quizzes, podcast assignments, written assignments and presentations. The lecturer for each module will detail the assessment types and dates.

Department Policy on Continuous Assessment and Attendance

- (i) Should a student miss one or more in-class continuous assessment exercise or exam, CAE, as a result of an **excused absence**, a make-up will be offered for each missed CAE on the last week of classes. If a student misses the make-up he/she will be assessed a zero for that CAE. The make-up can be an oral exam, an essay exam, a multiple choice question exam, a problem based exam, or a combination of any or all of these formats. It does not have to be the same format as the scheduled in-class continuous assessment exam, the only restriction is that it is on the same subject matter. **For an absence to be excused it must meet the Department's excused absence policy** (see below).
- (ii) Students who fail to turn in a continuous assessment assignment on time and in the proper format will receive a zero on that assignment. No late assignments will be accepted. However, if a student does not turn in an assignment on time for a **lecturer determined genuine reason** supported by proper documentation that is mailed or faxed to the lecturer **on or before** the assignment due date, the lecturer may, but is not required to, choose to assign an alternative assignment to be submitted by the last day of classes.
- (iii) All continuous assessment assignment **due dates** will be in the module information on Moodle from the first day of class. Assignments will generally be posted approximately two weeks prior to the due date.
- (iv) Attendance marks for tutorials allow for 1 or 2 absences over the course of the term. No credit will be awarded for missed tutorials in excess of those allowed regardless of the reason for the absence.

The following are the Departmental guidelines on acceptable reasons for missing assessments:

- 1. Illness: Requires a doctor's certificate dated before the date of the examination or continuous assessment assignment and which states explicitly that the student will be physically/mentally unable to attend lectures or examinations for a specific period. A doctor's certificate dated the day of an assignment submission or examination will be accepted only if the illness is so acute that informing the Department in advance is not possible. A doctor's certificate after the day of an assignment submission or examination will only be accepted in exceptional circumstances which preclude getting a certificate until after the date. All valid certificates must be submitted by email to the module lecturer or Department within three business days of the missed assignment or examination and will only be accepted if the student has telephoned or emailed the module lecturer or Department on or before the date thereof explaining his/her absence.
- 2. **Bereavement**: The death of a close family member or a close personal friend. Student is required to inform the module lecturer or Department by email or phone before the continuous assessment or examination date in the case of a funeral and provide valid documentation, e.g. link to death notice on www.rip.ie. Documentation can also be submitted by post.

- 3. **Sports**: Requires a certified statement from the Maynooth University Sports Officer that the student represents the College, County or Country on a sports team. The certified statement is due **at the beginning** of the semester with all known sporting event times and dates supplied. If additional events are added, this must be certified by the Sports Officer and submitted as soon as they are scheduled. Training or meetings are not acceptable excuses.
- Pregnancy: The student should inform their module lecturer and the Programme Director.
 Accommodations will be made to facilitate the completion of continuous assessment assignments or agreed alternatives.
- 5. **Exceptional circumstances**: Please discuss with the Head of Department.

Note: Holidays during term time is not a valid reason for missing midterm exams or other assessments.

Final Examinations

Modules are examined at the end of the semester. First-semester examinations are held in January and second-semester examinations are held in May. Because first-semester examinations will take place about four months after registration, it's essential that students get down to serious study as soon as possible after registration.

Past exam papers are available on the Maynooth University Library website (https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/library). Note that solutions are not available. These past papers should be seen as a guide to the standard expected, rather than as a predictor of the final content of exams. Module content changes from year to year.

Progression to Second Year

Please check the University's Marks and Standards: https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/university-policies/academic-policies-procedures.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is strictly forbidden. All students are advised to consult the University's policy document on plagiarism, available under Rules and Regulations for Students:

www.maynoothuniversity.ie/universitypolicies/rules-regulations-students.

The university's definition of plagiarism is as follows: "Plagiarism involves an attempt to use an element of another person's work, without appropriate acknowledgement in order to gain academic credit. It may include the unacknowledged verbatim reproduction of material, unsanctioned collusion, but is not limited to these matters; it may also include the unacknowledged adoption of an argumentative structure, or the unacknowledged use of a source or of research materials, including computer code or elements of mathematical formulae in an inappropriate manner."

Working together on assignments is encouraged. However, assignments must always be completed individually. Students may, for example, discuss with each other how to approach an assignment, and the appropriate method to use for a given question. However, they must then complete the assignments separately.

Library Information

The library (located on the South Campus beside the Kilcock Road) is a popular place to meet, study and research in. There are open-access areas on the ground floor, where food, drink and chat is allowed, with access to over 50 laptops and print facilities, and quieter areas on levels 1 and 2. There's a Starbucks on the ground floor, and students can book group study rooms on the library website.

Use LibrarySearch on the library homepage to discover everything MU Library holds on whatever subject and topic you're looking for. It gives you the location and details of thousands of e-books and e-journals you can read online on your devices (both on and off campus), as well as information on books, journal articles, and databases on your subject.

You can also use the library to print (using your student card), borrow a laptop to use while you're there, or use one of the library's computers. You can borrow books by using your student card.

The "New2MU" page on the library website contains a lot of useful information for new students: https://nuim.libguides.com/newstudent.

The LIST Online library tutorials cover useful topics such as carrying out library searches, avoiding plagiarism and looking up past exam papers: https://nuim.libguides.com/list-online.

If you have any queries about finding material, whether it's online or on the shelf, library staff are happy to help you; just ask at the Library desk or live "Library Chat" box on the library homepage.

Programme Advisory Office

The Programme Advisory Office, within the Office of the Dean of Teaching and Learning, is available to advise you on any choices you might have to make related to your programme including subject choice. The PAO acts as a guide to students as you navigate your own way through your programme options. The PAO consists of the Programme Advisor, Caitriona McGrattan, who is supported by a team of PG students during peak times.

The PAO will brief First Year students during the Welcome Week. Further information on the PAO, the support that they provide and how to contact them is available on the PAO website: https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/programme-advisory-office.

Other Support Services

Outside of the Department, there are a number of other supports at University level, where experienced staff are available across a range of services to provide advice, support and guidance. **The Counselling Service**, **Pastoral Care**, **Student Health Centre and Budgeting Advice** support and empower all students in achieving their personal and academic potential, and help them on their journey through university.

You can visit https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/student-services to find out about the various supports available to you.