

Note:

The following curriculum is a consolidated version. It is legally non-binding and for informational purposes only.

The legally binding versions are found in the University of Innsbruck Bulletins (in German).

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Curriculum for the joint

PhD Program in Economics

at the Faculty of Economics and Statistics of the University of Innsbruck and
the Faculty of Social Sciences, Economics and Business of the Johannes Kepler
University of Linz

§ 1 Qualification Profile

- (1) The joint PhD Program in Economics of the Faculty of Economics and Statistics of the University of Innsbruck and the Faculty of Social Sciences, Economics and Business of the Johannes Kepler University Linz belongs to the group of studies in the social and economic sciences as defined by § 54 para. 1, Universities Act 2002.
- (2) Graduates of the PhD Program in Economics will mostly:
 1. conduct theoretical and empirical research in economics and publish on an international level,
 2. teach in the economic sciences,
 3. apply theoretical and empirical research methods to solve economic questions and develop these methods to make them applicable to new questions.
- (3) Graduates of the PhD Program in Economics find career opportunities, among others:
 1. at universities
 2. in research institutions and other post-secondary educational institutions
 3. in research departments of the European Central Bank, the Austrian National Bank, of commercial banks, rating agencies, regional development organizations, market research institutions, and in other enterprises and commercial organizations
 4. in research departments of international organizations, for example the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development), EU (European Union), IMF (International Monetary Fund) or the World Bank
 5. in research departments of public institutions, interest groups, and NGOs (non-governmental organizations)
 6. in politics and the media industry

- (4) Educational objectives: Graduates of the PhD Program in Economics acquire the competences
1. to write scientific publications according to the international standards of reviewed publications;
 2. to integrate into international research network;
 3. to develop independent research programs with scientific integrity, to successfully submit them to national and international research funding organization, and to carry them out;
 4. to communicate about their special field in their scientific environment, with the scientific community, and with society in general.

In the course of the program, these competences are trained by:

1. teaching pertinent research methods on the highest level;
2. the critical introduction to international scientific discourse;
3. teaching and training additional qualifications (e.g. project management, theory of science, communication skills);
4. applying new media in scientific communication, knowledge transfer, and academic teaching;
5. writing publications, especially in small research groups.

§ 2 Scope and Duration

The PhD Program in Economics takes three years (six semesters), which equals 180 ECTS-Credits.

§ 3 Admission

- (1) Valid proof of the necessary academic level for admission to the doctoral program must be provided. This includes proof of completion of relevant diploma or master programs, of completion of relevant diploma or master programs at a university of applied science or completion of other equivalent studies at an accredited Austrian or non-Austrian post-secondary educational institution. If equivalency is given in principle, and only a few elements are missing for full equivalency, the rector's office is entitled to combine the determination of equivalency with the obligation to pass certain examinations in the course of the doctoral program.
- (2) Relevant studies are in any case
 1. the Diploma Programme Political Economy completed at the University of Innsbruck,
 2. the Diploma Programme International Economics and Business Studies completed at the University of Innsbruck,
 3. the Diploma Programme Economics completed at the Johannes Kepler University of Linz,
 4. the Diploma Programme Economic Sciences completed at the Johannes Kepler University of Linz,
 5. the Master's Programme Applied Economics completed at the University of Innsbruck,
 6. the Master's Programme Banking and Finance completed at the University of Innsbruck,
 7. the Master's Programme Economics completed at the Johannes Kepler University of Linz,
 8. the Master's Programme Management and Applied Economics completed at the Johannes Kepler University of Linz.
- (3) Students apply for admission and report continuation at one of the two universities and are automatically admitted at the other university (as "co-registered student").

§ 4 Place of Study

The program is organized at both universities of this joint Doctoral Program. The location where individual modules are held follows the recommended course of studies (see appendix). For organizational reasons, it is possible that modules are offered at a location different from the one recommended.

§ 5 Teaching Language

The study program is offered in English.

§ 6 Types of courses and numbers of participants

- (1) For courses offered at the University of Innsbruck the following applies:

Courses with continuous performance assessment are:

Lectures with integrated practical parts (VU) focus on the practical treatment of concrete scientific tasks that are discussed during the lecture parts of the course. Maximum number of participants: 20

Seminars (SE) provide in-depth treatment of scientific topics through students' presentations and discussion thereof. Maximum number of participants: 20

SE: Dissertation seminars serve to present, discuss and reflect on the dissertation topic and are important milestones of the dissertation project. Seminars also train and expand the competence to clearly communicate scientific questions and results to experts and the general public, but also in the context of academic teaching.

- (2) The definition of types of courses used at the Johannes Kepler University of Linz result from the statute section on study-law regulations of the Johannes Kepler University of Linz. The maximum number of participants for these courses can be found in the study guide of JKU Linz (<http://www.jku.at/studienhandbuch>).

§ 7 Procedures for the allotment of places in courses with a limited number of participants

- (1) At the University of Innsbruck, course places in courses with a limited number of participants are allotted as follows:

1. Students for whom the study duration would be extended due to the postponement are to be given priority.
2. If the criterion as defined in (1) does not suffice to regulate admission to a course, students for whom the module is mandatory are to be given priority, followed by students for whom the module is an elective module.
3. If the criteria as defined in (1) and (2) do not suffice to regulate admission to a course, students for available course places are drawn randomly.

- (2) At the Johannes Kepler University of Linz, admission to courses with a limited number of students is regulated by the procedure of "Admission by Preferential Ranking" according to the admission regulations of the Vice Rectorate for Teaching and Students.

§ 8 Compulsory and Elective Modules

- (1) Compulsory modules with a total of 38 ECTS-Credits are to be taken, whereas according to No 6 and 7 one PhD Seminar is to be completed at the Johannes Kepler University Linz and one PhD Seminar at the University of Innsbruck.

1.	Compulsory Module: Microeconomics	h	ECTS-Credits
	VU Microeconomics Imparting microeconomic core concepts in terms of accentuated manner including associated proof. The course deals with the construction of formal models and proof for prepositions and deals with selected topics of this broad field.	3	6
	Total	3	6
	Objective: Students know the most common microeconomic proof techniques and analysis methods and are able to read and critically reflect scientific publications which use these techniques. They are safe in dealing with these techniques and are able to apply them to individual scientific issues.		
	Prerequisites: none		

2.	Compulsory Module: Macroeconomics	h	ECTS-Credits
	VU Macroeconomics Imparting core models and techniques of theoretical macroeconomics as well as using it empirically. The focus is on the application of recursive methods and dynamic programming to construction and solution of macroeconomic models.	3	6
	Total	3	6
	Objective: Students know the most common core models and techniques of theoretical macroeconomics and are able to read and critically reflect scientific publications which use these techniques. They are safe in dealing with these techniques and are able to apply them to individual scientific issues.		
	Prerequisites: none		

3.	Compulsory Module: Econometrics	h	ECTS-Credits
	VU Econometrics Imparting advanced methods of econometrics and the application of existing procedure to economic issues, critical evaluation of procedures as well as the combination or adaption of individual procedure to solve concrete problems.	3	6
	Total	3	6
	Objective: Students know the most common advanced econometrical methods and are able to read and critically reflect scientific publications which use these techniques. They are safe in dealing with these techniques and are able to apply them to individual scientific issues.		
	Prerequisites: none		

4.	Compulsory Module: Generic Skills	h	ECTS-Credits
	Courses with a total of 4 ECTS-Credits according to the definition of the dissertation agreement are to be completed. One course can be chosen from the subject area „Equality and Gender“.		4
	Total		4
	Objective: Students have practical and theoretical skills to design their individual scientific activity efficiently and to present their results publicly.		
	Prerequisites: none		

5.	Compulsory Module: Core Skills of the Thesis Topic	h	ECTS-Credits
	Courses with a total of 12 ECTS-Credits according to the definition of the dissertation agreement are to be completed.		12
	Total		12
	Objective: Students are able to embed their research work in a recent theoretical and methodical discussion of their dissertation field and discuss their results in this context.		
	Prerequisites: none		

6.	Compulsory Module: PhD Seminar I	h	ECTS-Credits
	SE PhD Seminar I The course aims at accompanying the dissertation project from the first project idea to the analysis of status quo of the scientific discussion to the choice of suitable methods by the students. The result of the seminar is an elaborated research project and the dissertation agreement.	2	2
	Total	2	2
	Objective: Students are able to clearly structure and demonstrate their research project and to constructively adapt the suggestions of their colleagues.		
	Prerequisites: Successful completion of two of the modules mentioned in § 8 Para 1 No 1 to 3.e		

7.	Compulsory Module: PhD Seminar II	h	ECTS-Credits
	SE PhD Seminar II The course aims at professional preparation, presentation and discussion of the results of the individual research work.	2	2
	Total	2	2
	Objective: Students are able to convincingly present the research idea, theoretical and methodical fundamentals and the results of their research work to an expert audience.		
	Prerequisites: Successful completion of PhD Seminar I		

- (2) One elective module with a total of 6 ECTS-Credits from the field of the topic of the Doctoral Thesis is to be taken.

1.	Elective Module: Game Theory	h	ECTS-Credits
	VU Game Theory Imparting advanced concepts of non-cooperative game theory.	3	6
	Total	3	6
	Objective: Students are familiar with the most common advanced concepts of non-cooperative game theory and are able to understand and critically reflect scientific publications which use these concepts. They are confident with the use of these concepts and are able to apply them to individual scientific issues.		
	Prerequisites: none		

2.	Elective Module: Statistics	h	ECTS-Credits
	VU Statistics Presentation and introduction to modern statistical procedure, presentation of current scientific development in statistics and demonstration of the application fields of these new methods.	3	6
	Total	3	6
	Objective: Students are familiar with the current statistical methods and are able to read and critically reflect scientific publications which use these methods. They are confident with the use of these methods and are able to apply them to individual scientific issues.		
	Prerequisites: none		

3.	Elective Module: Financial Market Economics	h	ECTS-Credits
	VU Financial Market Economics Imparting advanced concepts of financial market economics	3	6
	Total	3	6
	Objective: Students are familiar with selected theoretical, empirical and behavioural approaches to advanced concepts of modern financial market economics and are able to read and critically reflect scientific publications which use these concepts. They are confident with the use of these methods and are able to apply them to individual scientific issues.		
	Prerequisites: none		

§ 9 Dissertation

- (1) In the course of the PhD Program in Economics, a dissertation has to be written, which equals 134 ECTS-Credits. The dissertation is a piece of scientific work which serves to prove the student's ability to cope with scientific questions in an independent way.

- (2) The dissertation can be written as a monograph or consist of articles that are related in terms of subject matter or methods. In this case, the dissertation must consist of a minimum of three scientific articles. A minimum of two of these articles have to be accepted for presentation by a reviewed international conference. The latter is not necessary, if at least one scientific article has been published or has been accepted for publication in an internationally accepted and reported journal. The articles must be preceded by an introduction which explains how they are related in terms of subject matter or method. If the articles were written by several authors, the doctoral student's own contribution must be shown in the introduction, as well. In their expert opinions, the evaluators of the dissertation have to examine both the subject matter of the articles and adherence to the requirements of a dissertation which consists of several scientific articles as stated above.
- (3) The dissertation topic must be chosen from the fields of economics, statistics or finance. The allocation of the dissertation topic requires successful completion of the relevant module according to § 8 Para 2.
- (4) The dissertation has to be registered at the university where the student is registered. The statutes of the corresponding university determine topic approval, supervision and evaluation of the dissertation.

§ 10 Examination Regulations

- (1) At the University of Innsbruck, the evaluation of modules which include a course with continuous performance assessment is based on the performance evaluation of the course with continuous performance assessment.
- (2) In courses with continuous performance assessment, the lecturer determines the examination method - oral exam/written exam/exam project(s) - before the course starts.
- (3) Examination regulations of module examinations as well as examination standards for course examination at the Johannes Kepler University Linz can be found in the study guide of JKU Linz.
- (4) The evaluation of the final compulsory module Doctoral Thesis Defense (final doctoral examination) is based on an oral exam taken before an examination board consisting of three examiners. The examination is public and, in particular, requires the candidate to give a short lecture about the content of the dissertation. The final doctoral examination equals 2 ECTS-Credits.
- (5) The admission to the final doctoral examination requires successful completion of all compulsory and elective modules as well as the dissertation.
- (6) If courses, which are to be completed within the compulsory modules 4 and 5, are chosen from other curricula (according to definition of the dissertation agreement), the examination regulations of the corresponding curriculum apply.
- (7) For all aspects of the examination regulations, which are not explicitly regulated, the statutes of the university where the exam takes place apply.

§ 11 Academic Degree

Graduates of the PhD Program in Economics are awarded the academic degree of "Doctor of Philosophy", or "PhD", in short. The degree is awarded by the university where the student is registered.

§ 12 Coming into force

- (1) This curriculum of the PhD Program in Economics comes into force on the 1 October following the announcement of the curriculum in the bulletins of both participating universities.
- (2) Modification of the curriculum published in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 24 June 2015, Issue 74, No 504 and in the Johannes Kepler University Linz Bulletin of 24 June 2015, Issue 28, No 242 is effective as of 1 October 2015 and applies to all students.

§ 13 Transitional Provisions

Successfully completed exams according to the curriculum for the PhD Program in Economics (doctoral programme) 2008 correspond to exams according to the curriculum 2015 as follows:

Curriculum 2008	h/ECTS	Curriculum 2015	h/ECTS
Game Theory	VU 3/6	Game Theory or Core Skills of the Thesis Topic	VU 3/6
Statistics	VU 3/6	Statistics or Core Skills of the Thesis Topic	VU 3/6
Dissertation Seminar 1	SE 2/2	PhD Seminar I	SE 2/2
Dissertation Seminar 2	SE 2/2	PhD Seminar II	SE 2/2
Additional qualification	VU 2/4	Generic Skills	-/4
Mathematics	VU 3/6	Core Skills of the Thesis Topic	VU 3/6
Focus 1	VU 2/4	Core Skills of the Thesis Topic	VU 2/4
Focus 2	VU 2/4	Core Skills of the Thesis Topic	VU 2/4
Focus 3	VU 2/4	Core Skills of the Thesis Topic	VU 2/4
Dissertation Seminar 3	SE 2/2	Generic Skills	SE 2/2

Appendix: Recommended course of studies

Semester		ECTS	University
1	Microeconomics	6	JKUL/LFUI
	Macroeconomics	6	JKUL/LFUI
	Econometrics	6	JKUL/LFUI
	Generic Skills	4	flexible
	Work on the Dissertation		respective university
2	Elective module § 8 (2)	6	JKUL/LFUI
	PhD Seminar I	2	JKUL/LFUI
	Work on the Dissertation		respective university
3	Core Skills	12	flexible
	Work on the Dissertation		respective university
4	PhD Seminar II	2	JKUL/LFUI
	Work on the Dissertation		respective university
5	Work on the Dissertation		respective university
6	Work on the Dissertation		respective university
	Doctoral Thesis Defense	2	respective university
	Total	46	