

MA Economics (Collaborative Programme)- SH540

1. Background

This is a high-calibre, 2-year part-time Masters programme in Economics offered by the University of Mauritius in close collaboration with the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC – website: www.aercafrica.org), a public, non-profit-making organization devoted to advanced economic research and training, based in Nairobi, Kenya. Students will spend the first year at the University of Mauritius, where they will take 4 core modules and sit for the examinations. On successful completion of the core modules, students will travel to Nairobi around late June to take 2 elective modules over one semester (3 months) at the Joint Facility for Electives (JFE). Finally, they will return to the University of Mauritius to prepare their MA thesis during the 4th semester.

All fees relating to the programme are payable to the University of Mauritius. However, the AERC, as per past practice, will meet tuition costs for all students at the JFE, Nairobi. In addition, the AERC will take care of the travel and accommodation costs for students not sponsored by their employer. The JFE is a modern campus, complete with dorms, computer labs and sports facilities, including a swimming pool, and is well secured. All meals are provided free of charge in buffet style, catering for a variety of dietary preferences. The AERC provides health coverage to all students and offers a modest stipend for incidental expenses.

This programme offers solid training in economics and is targeted to those who intend to work as an economist, teacher/lecturer or consultant in the private or public sector as well as those who wish to pursue a PhD in economics. It provides an excellent opportunity for Mauritians to mix with students of different cultures and interact with African and international professors.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the MA Economics programme are:

- To provide advanced training in economic theory and methods to prepare individuals for key positions of responsibility in policy analysis and economic management in Government as well as in the private sector and institutions of higher learning.
- To prepare a select group of individuals for doctoral-level work through rigorous training in theory, methods and applications.
- To develop the ability to identify problems and the capacity for decision-making, leading to practical solutions.
- To enhance the individual's capacity to meet emerging challenges within an organisation with a view to increasing domestic and international competitiveness in a rapidly changing global environment.

3. General Entry Requirements

Successful completion of an undergraduate degree with

- (i) at least a Second Class or 50%, whichever is applicable or
- (ii) a GPA not less than 2.5 out of 4 or equivalent, from a recognised higher education institution.

Or alternative qualifications acceptable to the University of Mauritius

4. **Programme Requirements**

At least a Second Class Honours Degree in Economics, or any other social science discipline of which Economics is a major component, or alternative qualifications acceptable to the Department of Economics and Statistics, from a recognised University.

5. **General And Programme Requirements - Special Cases**

The following may be deemed to have satisfied the general and programme requirements for admission:

- (i) Applicants who do not satisfy any of the requirements as per Regulations 2 and 3 above but who submit satisfactory evidence of having passed examinations which are deemed by the Senate to be equivalent to any of those listed.
- (ii) Applicants who do not satisfy any of the requirements as per Regulations 2 and 3 above but who in the opinion of Senate submit satisfactory evidence of the capacity and attainments requisite to enable them to pursue the programme proposed.
- (iii) Applicants who hold a full practising professional qualification obtained by examination.

6. **Programme Duration**

Minimum: 2 years; Maximum: 4 years

7. **Credits Per Semester**

Minimum 6 credits subject to Regulation 5.

8. **Minimum Credits Required For Degree Award: 45 Credits**

	Core Modules	Dissertation	Electives	Total
Master Degree	24 credits	9 credits	12 credits	45 credits

9. **Assessment**

Continuous And Written Assessment Of Modules

All core modules will be taught over the course of two semesters, and examined at the University of Mauritius at the end of the academic year. Upon successful completion of the core modules, students will, in the month of July, travel to Nairobi to take two elective modules over one semester in a centralized facility, called the Joint Facility for Electives (JFE). The continuous assessment and written exams for the two electives will take place at the JFE.

Students are expected to return to the University of Mauritius to commence work on their thesis or research paper, the successful completion of which may take between 6 to 12 months.

For the core modules taken at the University of Mauritius:

- (i) Continuous assessment can be based on seminars and/or assignments and should include at least 1 class test.
- (ii) For a student to pass a module, a minimum of 30% should be attained in both of Continuous Assessment and Written Examination separately, with an overall total of a minimum of 40% in that module.
- (iii) No resit examinations will be organised. Instead, students will be allowed to carry forward a maximum of three modules at any point in time and will be allowed to sit for the examinations with the next cohort of students.
- (iv) All modules carry their own credit value.
- (v) All modules will be run after 2.00 p.m.

Electives Modules taken in Nairobi

For a student to pass a module, a minimum of 50% should be attained.

Submission Deadlines for Dissertation

- 1st draft: end of April in the final year
- Final copy: Last working day of May in the final year

10. Repeat And Termination Of Registration

If the CPA of a student is $< 40\%$ for an academic year, s/he will have to repeat the entire academic year, and retake modules as and when offered. However, s/he will not be required, if s/he wishes, to retake modules for which **Grade C** or above has been obtained.

Students will be allowed to repeat **only once** over the entire duration of the Programme of Studies.

Registration of a student will be terminated if

- (i) the CPA $< 40\%$ at the end of an academic year and the student has already repeated one year of study; or
- (ii) the maximum duration allowed for completion of the Programme of Studies has been exceeded.

11. List of Modules

CODE	MODULE NAME	Hrs/Wk L + P	Credit
CORE MODULES			
ECON 5013	Advanced Microeconomics	3 + 0	6
ECON 5022	Advanced Macroeconomics	3 + 0	6
ECON 5023	Quantitative Methods	3 + 0	6
ECON 5024	Research Methods and Computer Applications	3 + 0	6
ECON 6000	Dissertation		9
ELECTIVES			
AERC 6001	Agricultural Economics		6
AERC 6002	Corporate Finance and Investment		6
AERC 6003	Econometrics Theory and Practice		6
AERC 6004	Environmental Economics		6
AERC 6005	Game Theory and Information Economics		6
AERC 6006	Health Economics		6
AERC 6007	Industrial Economics		6
AERC 6008	International Economics		6
AERC 6009	Labour Economics		6
AERC 6010	Managerial Economics		6
AERC 6011	Monetary Theory and Practice		6
AERC 6012	Public Sector Economics		6

Note: Contact hours for the electives vary from one elective to another. On average, they range from 7 to 8 hours a week over 14 weeks.

12. Programme Plan – MA Economics (Collaborative)

YEAR 1

CODE	MODULE NAME	Hrs/Wk L + P	Credit
CORE MODULES			
ECON 5013	Advanced Microeconomics	3+0	6
ECON 5022	Advanced Macroeconomics	3+0	6
ECON 5023	Quantitative Methods	3+0	3
ECON 5024	Research Methods and Computer Applications	3+0	3

YEAR 2

CODE	MODULE NAME	Hrs/Wk L + P	Credit
ECON 6000	Dissertation		9
ELECTIVES	<u>Choose ANY 2 from the following 12 electives (Note: These electives are offered at the JFE in Nairobi):</u>		
AERC 6001	Agricultural Economics		6
AERC 6002	Corporate Finance and Investment		6
AERC 6003	Econometrics Theory and Practice		6
AERC 6004	Environmental Economics		6
AERC 6005	Game Theory and Information Economics		6
AERC 6006	Health Economics		6
AERC 6007	Industrial Economics		6
AERC 6008	International Economics		6
AERC 6009	Labour Economics		6
AERC 6010	Managerial Economics		6
AERC 6011	Monetary Theory and Practice		6
AERC 6012	Public Sector Economics		6