Welcome and Introduction

Dear Incoming Economics Graduate Students,

Welcome to Boise State University! We are very pleased that you have chosen Boise State for your graduate studies in Economics. Whether you are a recent graduate preparing to enter an economics-related field, an established professional looking to enhance your knowledge of economics, or a student aiming at a deeper understanding of our academic discipline, we are glad to have you in our programs and excited to know you better.

Once you have settled in, we believe that you will find academic life in the program intellectually challenging but also deeply satisfying. Coursework is rigorous and will demand a great deal of dedication and energy. We believe that you are ready for the challenge given your enthusiasm for learning, curiosity about Economics and willingness to work hard. As you prepare yourselves for these new challenges, we urge you to take advantage of many opportunities available to you as an Economics graduate student. As you advance in the program, you should meet with your advisors and talk with other faculty, students and staff. Faculty can be easily reached and offer their insights on big picture ideas, technical questions, issues related to your coursework, career options, or other topics. Their contact information is provided in Part I of this Handbook. Furthermore, explore the course offerings in other departments throughout the university and attend seminars of interest!

Many of the resources available to you are listed in this Handbook. The Handbook should be used as a tool for your success and enjoyment of our programs. It consolidates some key information that you need to efficiently navigate and complete your Graduate program. The online version of this Handbook (with live links) is available on the Department of Economics’ website (https://cobe.boisestate.edu/economics/) under the “Student Resources” link on the menu on the left-hand side of the screen. We hope you find this information useful—and that it saves you some time. If you have any questions at any time, please do not hesitate to come and see us—or any of our economics faculty members. We are here to make your graduate experience rewarding and help you meet your goals. Best wishes for your graduate studies and your career beyond!

Christine A. Loucks, PhD
Chair, Department of Economics

Michail Fragkias, PhD
Graduate Program Coordinator
Disclaimer: This Handbook is meant to assist economics graduate students by summarizing policies and procedures from various units at Boise State. At times, it refers to various websites (Boise State and external) where further information can be found. These links were active at the time this Handbook was produced, but may have changed since. This Handbook is not a substitute for, and does not supersede, other university policies. Indeed, this Handbook cannot cover all the applicable information that is available. Students are still subject to all policies and procedures as set forth in the Graduate Catalog; the Policy Manual; the Student Handbook; the Student Code of Conduct; the policies of the Graduate College, the College of Business and Economics (COBE), and the Department of Economics; and any other applicable policies (collectively “the Policies”). To the extent that the information contained in this Handbook conflicts with the Policies, the Policies take precedence. Although this Handbook covers information that is important for MSE and M.Ec. students, individuals should work one-on-one with the Graduate Program Coordinator. This Handbook does not constitute a contract between any student and the university. This Handbook is current as of July 28, 2017 and will be updated at the start of each Fall semester.
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I. Graduate Faculty and Staff Directory

The Department of Economics Faculty and Staff are available to help you succeed in your graduate studies and your career. Please feel free to meet with any of our faculty or staff members. Note: MBEB is the acronym for the Micron Business and Economics Building (see Part XII, below for more info on MBEB).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Graduate Classes</th>
<th>Areas of Expertise</th>
<th>Community Involvement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christine A. Loucks, PhD</td>
<td>Chair, Department of Economics; Professor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cloucks@boisestate.edu">cloucks@boisestate.edu</a></td>
<td>(208) 426-1468</td>
<td>Office: MBEB 3245</td>
<td>Economic Growth</td>
<td>Banking Regulation, Influence of Political Action Committees Upon U.S. House of Representatives, U.S. Senate, and Education</td>
<td>Member of Advisory Boards for Idaho Voices for Children, the Idaho Fiscal Policy Center, and Life’s Kitchen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michail Fragkias, PhD</td>
<td>Graduate Program Coordinator; Associate Professor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michailfragkias@boisestate.edu">michailfragkias@boisestate.edu</a></td>
<td>(208) 426-3308</td>
<td>Office: MBEB 3208</td>
<td>Microeconomic Theory II; Math Stats and Introduction to Advanced Econometrics; Sustainability and Economic Policy; Regional Economics; Graduate Capstone Course</td>
<td>Applied Economics Concerning Regional Economic Development, Land Use Change, Urban Spatial Structure Dynamics, and the Environment</td>
<td>Sustainability and refugee issues in Boise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Contact Information</td>
<td>Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>LaDawn R. Barrera</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ladawnbarrera@boisestate.edu">ladawnbarrera@boisestate.edu</a> (208) 426-3351 Office: MBEB 3246</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geoffrey A. Black, PhD</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gblack@boisestate.edu">gblack@boisestate.edu</a> (208) 426-1359 Office: MBEB 3252</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Graduate Classes: Public Finance</td>
<td>Areas of Expertise: Public Finance, Environmental and Natural Resource Economics</td>
<td>Community Involvement: Research Associate for Center for Advanced Energy Studies’ Energy Policy Institute</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelly Chen, PhD</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kellychen@boisestate.edu">kellychen@boisestate.edu</a> (208) 426-3346 Office: MBEB 3205</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Graduate Classes: Microeconomic Theory I; Advanced Econometrics; Managerial Economics and Strategy; Health Economics</td>
<td>Areas of Expertise: Applied Microeconomics Concerning the Labor Market, Health, Educational, and Welfare Policies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Member</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Email</td>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td>Graduate Classes</td>
<td>Areas of Expertise</td>
<td>Community Involvement</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeynep Hansen, PhD</td>
<td>Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Scholarship; Professor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ZeynepHansen@boisestate.edu">ZeynepHansen@boisestate.edu</a></td>
<td>(208) 426-3314</td>
<td>MBEB</td>
<td>Microeconomic Theory II; Health Economics</td>
<td>Health Policy, Strategic Biotechnology-Pharmaceutical Alliances, Agriculture Policy, and Education Economics</td>
<td>Faculty Research Fellow for National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), Development of the American Economy Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samia Islam, PhD</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:SamiaIslam@boisestate.edu">SamiaIslam@boisestate.edu</a></td>
<td>(208) 426-1042</td>
<td>MBEB 3204</td>
<td>Microeconomic Theory I; Urban Economics; Decisions, Choices and Happiness in Behavioral Economics</td>
<td>Urban Economics Concerning Entrepreneurship, Transportation Modeling, Traffic and Safety, and Economic Policy Analysis</td>
<td>Member of Several Boise City and Treasure Valley Urban Planning Communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott E. Lowe, PhD</td>
<td>Associate Dean of the Graduate College; Professor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ScottLowe@boisestate.edu">ScottLowe@boisestate.edu</a></td>
<td>(208) 426-5439</td>
<td>MBEB</td>
<td>Regulatory Impacts Upon Environmental and Socioeconomic Conditions</td>
<td>Economic Policy Analysis</td>
<td>Director of the Environmental Studies Program, Coordinator for the Sustainability Minor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Charlotte A. Twight, PhD, JD
Professor

ctwight@boisestate.edu
(208) 426-1335
Office: MBEB 3221

Graduate Classes: Economics of Public Policy
Areas of Expertise: Political Economics, Governmental Regulation of the United States Economy, Public Choice, Institutional Change, and Government Growth
II. General Advice

It is an understatement to say that graduate work is more intense than undergraduate work. Undergraduate economics courses are rigorous, but you probably only took a few economics courses a semester. In graduate school, you may be taking up to four economics courses a semester. Those courses will require more reading, homework, etc. and on more difficult subjects. Also, you may be in a different stage in your life than you were as an undergraduate. Many of you now have family responsibilities, jobs, or other commitments that take up more of your time than in your undergraduate years. Here are some tips:

- Don’t overextend yourself.
  - Nine credits is considered a full-time course load at the graduate level. We recommend that full-time students take no more than 12 credits a semester.
  - We recommend that full-time students with jobs and taking 12 credits a semester work no more than 20 hours a week.
  - We recommend that part-time students who are employed full-time take no more than six credits a semester.

- Don’t get behind. Go to class! Learn the material presented in class and go over your notes. Keep up with your assignments and work together with other students in a study group. Life (family emergencies, sickness, a crisis at work, etc.) will happen. If you get behind in class and an emergency comes up, you may not be able to catch up. If you are current (or even ahead) in your studies, you’ll be better able to handle outside disruptions. Remember that you are not alone – your colleagues are experiencing the same difficulties as you are. Utilize the help of your professors and TAs.

- When you are ready to search for a full-time job or your next academic endeavor, treat the process like an additional three credit course; it does take a lot of time and energy. Please plan accordingly.

- Keep in touch.
  - Pay particular attention to emails you receive from the Faculty of the Department of Economics, but in particular the Chair of the Department (Christine Loucks), the Graduate Program Coordinator (Michail Fragkias) and the Administrative Assistant (LaDawn Barrera). These contain important information and often require a timely response.

- Pay attention to the important policies and deadlines summarized in Part IV, below.

- If you are having trouble or falling behind, seek out the Graduate Program Coordinator and your professors for advice.
III. MSE and M.Ec. Curriculum

A. Graduate Degrees Offered

- Master of Economics (M.Ec.)
- Master of Science in Economics (MSE)

B. General Information

The Department of Economics offers two distinct graduate programs. The Master of Economics program requires the completion of a Capstone course as the culminating activity. The intended audience is students or others in the community seeking advancement in their career, and/or seeking careers in more quantitative and analytical fields.

The Master of Science in Economics program emphasizes research and requires completion of a thesis. The intended audience is students or others in the community seeking further education and research experience prior to pursuing a Ph.D. in Economics and related fields. Both programs provide students with advanced training in current microeconomic theory, quantitative economics, econometrics, and other fields of economics as well as rigorous research methods.

C. Application and Admission Requirements

Prospective students are encouraged to discuss their goals and interests with the graduate program coordinator. An applicant must satisfy the minimum admission requirements of the Graduate College (see Graduate Admission Regulations) and must fulfill the following requirements:

- Applicants must have a Bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university, and a major in Economics or a related field, with at least one semester of calculus and two semesters of probability and statistics courses successfully completed. The minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 is required for admission to graduate study.
- Submission of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test results.
  - Fast track admission which waives the GRE requirement is available for Boise State economics majors or minors who achieved a 3.5 GPA in their 300-400 level economics courses, and have a cumulative GPA of 3.3
- A current curriculum vitae that accurately reflects educational and professional experience and background.
- A letter of application describing background, career goals, academic interests and how the graduate program in Economics will help achieve these goals.
- A writing sample demonstrating the student’s academic and writing talents. This can include previous academic papers, research manuscripts, a document prepared for an employer, or a new sample written to satisfy this application requirement.
- Three letters of recommendation (at least two from academic faculty), addressing (i) the applicant’s strengths and weaknesses, (ii) with particular attention to student’s ability to succeed in a graduate environment, and (iii) the benefits the applicant may receive from graduate study in Economics.
- English proficiency is required. Students with English as a second language (ESL) must score 587/240/95 or better on the TOEFL exam or 6.5 on the IELTS exam. ESL students must also take and pass an English proficiency exam at Boise State before taking any graduate courses beyond their first semester.
Meeting the minimum admission standards does not guarantee acceptance into the program. Final acceptance is based upon the evaluation and recommendation of the Department of Economics (regular, provisional, conditional or denial) to the Dean of the Graduate College who will make the final admission decision and notify the applicant.

The Department of Economics will take no action on the application unless all of the above materials have been received by the enrollment deadline for the program. In addition, the admissions process is competitive and no admissions decisions will be made until after the enrollment deadline. Applicants who wish to enroll in the program should complete applications by February 15.

D. General Comments

- Both the MSE and M.Ec. require a minimum of 31 credit hours.
  - Students must complete 16 credit hours in graduate-level ECON courses that constitute the core requirements.
  - For M.Ec. students, 12 credit hours can be either undergraduate or graduate level ECON or interdisciplinary courses pending the approval of the Graduate Program Coordinator. Undergraduate courses may not exceed more than 3 credit hours of the curriculum and at least 3 credit hours must be economics electives.
  - For MSE students, 9 credit hours can be either undergraduate or graduate-level ECON courses or interdisciplinary courses pending the approval of the Graduate Program Coordinator. Undergraduate courses may not exceed more than 3 credit hours of the curriculum and at least 3 credit hours must be economics electives.

- Not all courses listed in the Graduate Catalogue are offered each semester or year. See Part III.F below for the upcoming MSE and M.Ec. course offerings and Part III.G (below) for the short description of the courses. The courses that we offer regularly are only offered once a year (e.g., every fall or every spring rather than in both the fall and the spring) so you’ll need to plan your schedule carefully in order to take the courses that you are most interested in.

- Because of the intensity of the graduate curriculum, full-time students should not take more than 12 credits a semester.

E. Degree Requirements and Checklists

The degree requirements and checklists outlined on the next pages are helpful in planning your curriculum. Additional copies are available at the Economics Home Base (MBEB Room # 3246). The checklists only list the courses that are expected to be regularly offered; they do not list all of the courses that qualify for credit. See Part III.F, below, for upcoming course offerings.
1. Master of Economics

Graduate Program Coordinator: Michail Fragkias
Micron Business and Economics Building, Room 3246
Telephone: (208) 426-3351
E-mail: econdept@boisestate.edu
http://cobe.boisestate.edu/graduate

Degree Requirements

The Master of Economics program requires the completion of a Capstone course as the culminating activity. It provides students with advanced training in current microeconomic theory, quantitative economics, econometrics, and other fields of economics as well as rigorous research methods. The Master of Economics requires a completion of minimum of 31 credits, including one course in math for economists, two core courses in microeconomic theory, two core courses in statistical methods and econometrics, four courses in electives as well as three credits of capstone course as the culminating activity. The program starts in late summer (August) with a 2-credit course in Mathematics for Economists.

Each student will have an initial meeting with the graduate coordinator to discuss the project he/she will complete in the Capstone Course. Meetings with the graduate coordinator will typically take place in the student’s second semester.

Maintenance of a cumulative 3.0 average is required for both continuation in and graduation from the program. All requirements for the degree must be completed within a period of seven years.
Master of Economics (M.Ec.) 2017/18 Checklist

Name ___________________________________________ Student # __________________ Date _________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number and Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Core Requirements</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 501 Mathematics for Economists (2 cr)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 511 Microeconomic Theory I (3 cr)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 512 Microeconomic Theory II (3 cr)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 521 Mathematical Statistics and Introduction to Advanced Econometrics (4 cr)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 522 Advanced Econometrics (4 cr)</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Elective Courses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Twelve credits in approved courses that represents a disciplinary or interdisciplinary focus area. Courses must be approved by the graduate program coordinator and cannot include more than 3 undergraduate credits. At least three credits must be economics electives.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Capstone Course</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 692 Capstone Course</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Master of Science in Economics

Graduate Program Coordinator: Michail Fragkias
Micron Business and Economics Building, Room 3246
Telephone: (208) 426-3351
E-mail: econdept@boisestate.edu
http://cobe.boisestate.edu/graduate

Degree Requirements

The Master of Science in Economics program provides students with advanced training in current microeconomic theory, quantitative economics, econometrics, and other fields of economics as well as rigorous research methods. The Master of Science in Economics requires a completion of minimum of 31 credits, including one course in math for economists, two core courses in microeconomic theory, two core courses in statistical methods and econometrics, three courses in electives as well as a six hours of thesis work as the culminating activity. The program starts in late summer (August) with a 2-credit course in Mathematics for Economists.

After a student completes a minimum of 9 credits of course work, he/she will work with the graduate coordinator or graduate supervisor to develop a topic for the proposed thesis. Each student is expected to have an initial meeting with the graduate coordinator to discuss his/her options; however, he/she can choose to work with any graduate faculty as his/her thesis supervisor. Meetings with the graduate coordinator and thesis supervisor will typically take place in the student’s second semester.

Maintenance of a cumulative 3.0 average is required for both continuation in and graduation from the program. All requirements for the degree must be completed within a period of seven years.
# Master of Science Economics (MSE) 2017/18 Checklist

**Name**
__________________________________

**Student #**
________________

**Date**
_______________

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## Master of Science in Economics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number and Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Core Requirements</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON 501 Mathematics for Economists (2 cr)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 511 Microeconomic Theory I (3 cr)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON 512 Microeconomic Theory II (3 cr)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON 521 Mathematical Statistics and Introduction to Advanced Econometrics (4 cr)</td>
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<td>ECON 522 Advanced Econometrics (4 cr)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Elective Courses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nine credits in approved courses that represents a disciplinary or interdisciplinary focus area. Courses must be approved by the graduate program coordinator and cannot include more than 3 undergraduate credits. At least three credits must be economics electives.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Culminating Activity</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON 593 Thesis</td>
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</table>

**Total** 31
F. Upcoming MSE and M.Ec. Course Offerings

Reminder: Not all the courses listed in the Graduate Catalog or the Checklists in Part III.E are offered each semester. The following are the courses that will be offered in upcoming semesters.

1. Fall 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Day and Time</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Instructor(s)</th>
<th># Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECON 511</td>
<td>Microeconomic Theory I</td>
<td>TuTh 12:00pm-1:15pm</td>
<td>MEBE 4003</td>
<td>Kelly Chen; Samia Islam</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 521</td>
<td>Mathematical Statistics and Introduction to Advanced Econometrics</td>
<td>MoWe 12:00pm-1:15pm Wed 1:30pm-2:30pm</td>
<td>MEBE 3247</td>
<td>Michail Fragkias</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 555</td>
<td>Decisions, Choices, and Happiness in Behavioral Economics</td>
<td>TuTh 1:30pm-2:45pm</td>
<td>MEBE 1210</td>
<td>Samia Islam</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 593</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1-6</td>
</tr>
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</table>

2. Spring 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Day and Time</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Instructor(s)</th>
<th># Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECON 510</td>
<td>Public Finance</td>
<td>MoWe 3:00pm - 4:15pm</td>
<td>MEBE 1210</td>
<td>Geoff Black</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 512</td>
<td>Microeconomic Theory II</td>
<td>TuTh 12:00pm – 01:15pm</td>
<td>MEBE 3247</td>
<td>Zeynep Hansen; Michail Fragkias</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 522</td>
<td>Advanced Econometrics</td>
<td>TuTh 3:00pm – 4:15pm Th 4:30pm – 5:45pm</td>
<td>MEBE 3247 &amp; RFH 208/210</td>
<td>Kelly Chen</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 532</td>
<td>Urban Economics</td>
<td>TuTh 1:30pm – 2:45pm</td>
<td>MEBE 1210</td>
<td>Samia Islam</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 574</td>
<td>Sustainability and Economic Policy</td>
<td>Th 4:30pm – 7:15pm</td>
<td>MEBE 1210</td>
<td>Michail Fragkias</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 593</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 692</td>
<td>Capstone Course</td>
<td>Fr 12:00pm – 2:45pm</td>
<td>MEBE 3247</td>
<td>Michail Fragkias</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Summer 2018
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Day and Time</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Instructor(s)</th>
<th># Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECON 501</td>
<td>Mathematics for Economists</td>
<td>MoTuWeThFr 11:30am – 2:15pm</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 593</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. **Fall 2018 (Tentative)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Day and Time</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Instructor(s)</th>
<th># Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECON 511</td>
<td>Microeconomic Theory I</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Kelly Chen / Samia Islam</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 521</td>
<td>Math Stats and Intro to Advanced Econometrics</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Michail Fragkias</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 540</td>
<td>Health Economics</td>
<td>Mo 6:00-8:45pm</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Kelly Chen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 555</td>
<td>Decisions, Choices, and Happiness in Behavioral Economics</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Samia Islam</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 571</td>
<td>Economic Growth</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Chris Loucks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 593</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. Course Descriptions from the Graduate Catalog for Upcoming Offerings

Core Courses:

**ECON 501 MATHEMATICS FOR ECONOMISTS** - (2-0-2) (Su)
Intensive course in essential mathematics for entering graduate students in the M.S. program in Economics. Topics covered include matrix algebra, functions, limits, differentiation, comparative statics, linear algebra, and constrained and unconstrained optimization. Application of these mathematical techniques in economic analysis is emphasized.

**ECON 511 MICROECONOMIC THEORY I** - (3-0-3) (F)
Study of decision theory, consumer choice and production models. The course emphasizes value and distribution theories, and introduces general equilibrium theory and welfare economics. PREREQ: ECON 501

**ECON 512 MICROECONOMIC THEORY II** - (3-0-3) (S)
In this second course of microeconomic theory, topics emphasized include: microeconomics of strategy; the economics of imperfect information and uncertainty, externalities and public goods, and imperfect competition, game theory, including the choice and voting models. PREREQ: ECON 511

**ECON 521 MATHEMATICAL STATISTICS AND INTRODUCTION TO ADVANCED ECONOMETRICS** - (4-1-4) (F)
This course covers the basic mathematical statistics topics necessary for a deep understanding of applied econometrics. Topics include random variables, probability theory, probability and density functions, sampling hypothesis testing, and point and interval estimation. Introduction to the basic concepts of statistics and OLS regression, and their application to the analysis of economic data. The theory of econometric estimation of single equation models. Computational research methods covers introduction to important statistical packages: STATA, R, and/or Python. PREREQ: PERM/INST

**ECON 522 ADVANCED ECONOMETRICS** - (4-1-4) (S)
Econometric techniques frequently used by economists working with cross-sectional and/or panel data. Broad topics include interpreting regression, maximum likelihood estimation, panel data, correlated errors and clustering, count models, duration models, choice models, weak and many instruments, quantile regressions, matching estimators, and regression discontinuity. Computational research methods includes using important statistical packages: STATA, R, and/or Python. PREREQ: ECON 521
Elective Courses:

**ECON 510 PUBLIC FINANCE** - (3-0-3) (F)
Examines the roles of government and market systems in modern economies using the tools of economic analysis to evaluate major public policy decisions. The theory and rationale of government spending, taxing, and indebtedness are examined, as well as the effects of government activity on resource allocation, income distribution, and economic efficiency. Draws on the tools of microeconomic theory to develop analytical tools such as cost-benefit analysis to examine public spending projects. PREREQ: PERM/INST.

**ECON 531 REGIONAL ECONOMICS** - (3-0-3) (F)
Application of economic analysis to regional problems of structure, growth, and policy. Location theory, various growth models, and specific techniques such as input-output analysis, base multipliers, and cost/benefit analysis are developed. PREREQ: PERM/INST

**ECON 532 URBAN ECONOMICS** - (3-0-3) (S)
Focus on the structure of the urban areas, locational patterns, housing, crime, pollution, poverty, financial, and transportation problems. Tools of economic analysis will be used to analyze the problems and existing and proposed policies. PREREQ: PERM/INST

**ECON 533 NATURAL RESOURCE ECONOMICS** - (3-0-3) (S)
Natural Resource Economics uses economic concepts and empirical evidence to address a broad range of natural resource policy and management issues. The economic concepts developed include public goods, social welfare, discounting, dynamic efficiency, and resource scarcity. The
applications include fossil fuels, metals, minerals, forest resources, fisheries, biodiversity, water, land, soil, and ecosystem services.

PREREQ: PERM/INST

**ECON 534 ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS** - (3-0-3) (S)

Environmental Economics addresses the role of the environment in the theory and practice of economics. The first section will focus on the ways in which markets fail to allocate resources efficiently, and will address policies that may be used to correct for these market failures. The second section will focus on non-market valuation and the empirical techniques that economists use to put values on environmental attributes, services and commodities. PREREQ: PERM/INST

**ECON 540 HEALTH ECONOMICS** - (3-0-3) (S)

Examines the economic issues associated with those individual and social decisions that influence the health of particular groups. Examines the production and delivery of health care and the economic and ethical aspects of health policy issues. Various economic approaches to the analysis of health policy are presented and evaluated. The focus is on the U.S. health care system. Comparisons will also be made to the health care systems of other nations. PREREQ: PERM/INST.

**ECON 555 DECISIONS, CHOICES AND HAPPINESS IN BEHAVIORAL ECONOMICS**

- (3-0-3) (F)

Discusses how psychological considerations can create "behavioral anomalies,” ways in which economists incorporate those considerations into their theories; and the implications for market outcomes and public policies. The role of intangibles such as locational /environmental amenities / employment status on happiness, the implications of social and personal motives (such as virtue ethics, altruism, status, procrastination, self-control, or image) are also considered. PREREQ: PERM/INST

**ECON 560 ECONOMICS OF PUBLIC POLICY** - (3-0-3) (F)

Contribution of economic analysis to the justification, design and implementation of economic policy, especially as it relates to private property, the market economy, and the benefits and costs associated with government intervention. PREREQ: PERM/INST

**ECON 565 MANAGERIAL ECONOMICS AND STRATEGY** - (3-0-3) (F)

Illustrates how to apply economic theory to business decision-making using actual examples and real data. It covers important empirical tools used by practicing managers in applied demand analysis such as linear and non-linear programming, sensitivity analysis, demand estimation and forecasting. Students learn to build mathematical models, solve constrained optimization problems, find and explore optimal solutions with spreadsheets. PREREQ: PERM/INST

**ECON 571 ECONOMIC GROWTH** - (3-0-3) (F)

Examines the question, “Why are some countries so rich while other countries are so poor?” Theoretical and empirical investigation considering factors which have been known to affect living standards such as population growth, physical capital and human capital accumulation, the state of technology, geography and the availability of natural resources, and culture and governmental policies. PREREQ: PERM/INST
ECON 574 SUSTAINABILITY AND ECONOMIC POLICY - (3-0-3) (S)
Presents concepts, theories, data and empirical findings critical for analyzing sustainability problems and developing solutions in communities, cities, countries and regions. Explores how economics relates to the three pillars of sustainability: economic, social and environmental, emphasizing tradeoffs and synergies across the pillars. Following topics are covered: the meaning and history of sustainable development and the link between sustainability and well-being; sustainability indicators and metrics; natural resource (green) accounting; the valuation of biodiversity and ecosystem services; climate change; urbanization and sustainability; and business, international finance and sustainability. PREREQ: PERM/INST

Culminating Activity Courses:

ECON 593 THESIS (6-0-6) (F/S). For M.S.E students only. Independent research or creative activity at the master’s level resulting in a thesis that must be defended at a final oral examination and archived in the university library. The thesis must be written in clear and effective English and presented in a format that conforms to the standards of the Graduate College. Pass/fail only.

ECON 692 CAPSTONE COURSE (3-0-3) (S). A final comprehensive assessment of the knowledge and skills of a master’s student in the major field of study. A culminating activity taken in the last semester of a master’s program. Either graded or pass/fail.

Other (University-wide) Courses:

ECON 590 PRACTICUM/INTERNSHIP (Variable Credit). To earn graduate credit you must have a 3.00 cumulative GPA and no more than 12 credits may be applied toward a graduate degree or second undergraduate degree. Some graduate programs, however, accept only 3 internship credits. Practicum/Internship cannot be repeated to improve a grade. Either graded or pass/fail.

ECON 596 INDEPENDENT STUDY (Variable Credit (F/S)). Advanced study of a specialized topic; design and completion of a project may be included in the study. The student works with a high degree of independence to meet well-defined goals under the supervision of a member of the graduate faculty. Requires submission of a completed Application for Graduate Independent Study prior to the deadline specified in the academic calendar. An independent study cannot be substituted for a course regularly offered at Boise State, nor can independent study credits be used to improve a grade in a course the student has already taken. Either graded or pass/fail.

ECON 598 SEMINAR (Variable Credit) (F/S). Small group meetings for the exchange of ideas, debate of issues, or presentation of research. Format, conduct, and purpose of seminars vary widely among disciplines. Either graded or pass/fail.
G. Graduate Elective Courses offered outside of Economics
M.Ec. students have the option of counting up to 9 non-ECON credit hours toward their degrees. MSE students have the option of counting up to 6 non-ECON credit hours toward their degrees. All of the electives must be taken on a graded basis (courses taken on a pass/fail basis are not allowed). Electives must be pre-approved by the Graduate Program Coordinator.

Remember to:
- Talk to the instructor of the course you intend to take for the specifics (coverage of prerequisites, etc.)
- Provide the syllabus of the course to the Graduate Program Coordinator and get his/her approval.

Undergraduate credit hours may not exceed more than 3 credit hours. Please check the current schedule of classes to determine which courses are being offered in any given semester.

The following constitutes an Approved List from across campus of non-economics elective courses (that is, the Department of Economics has communicated with Chairs of the respective Departments regarding their usefulness in our graduate programs). You may be able to identify other potential courses that could be used as a non-economics elective; if a course is not on this list, be sure to have it approved by the Graduate Program Coordinator before enrolling in the course.

Geosciences
GEOG 560 INTRODUCTION TO GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS
GEOG 561 REMOTE SENSING AND IMAGE PROCESSING
GEOG 562 GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ANALYSIS

Mathematics
MATH 361 PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS I
MATH 562 PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS
MATH 571 DATA ANALYSIS
MATH 572 COMPUTATIONAL STATISTICS

Accountancy/Marketing/Management
ACCT 514 ADVANCED MANAGERIAL ACCOUNTING
ACCT 516 FINANCIAL ANALYSIS AND VALUATION
ACCT 518 INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING
ACCT 540 TAXATION OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS
ACCT 570 MULTI-STATE TAXATION
MBA 540 MARKETING STRATEGY
MBA 543 MANAGING CORPORATE FINANCE

Health Sciences
MHLTHSCI 520 POPULATION HEALTH AND DELIVERY SYSTEMS
MHLTHSCI 529 MARKETING FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
MHLTHSCI 535 ETHICS AND HEALTH POLICY
MHLTHSCI 550 CURRENT ISSUES IN HEALTH POLICY

**Political Science**
POLS 528 ADVANCED INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

**Public Policy and Administration**
PUBADM 500 ADMINISTRATION IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR
PUBADM 501 PUBLIC POLICY PROCESS
PUBADM 504 PUBLIC BUDGETING AND FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION
PUBADM 509 PUBLIC POLICY ANALYSIS
PUBADM 513 ECONOMICS OF PUBLIC POLICY
PUBADM 540 CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN NATURAL RESOURCE AND
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION
PUBADM 541 ENVIRONMENTAL AND REGULATORY POLICY AND
ADMINISTRATION
PUBADM 543 PUBLIC LAND AND RESOURCE POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION
PUBADM 544 ENERGY POLICY IN THE WESTERN U.S.
PUBADM 545 U.S. ENERGY POLICY
PUBADM 546 CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION
PUBADM 547 WATER RESOURCES POLICY AND MANAGEMENT
IV. Important Policies and Deadlines

Please consult the Graduate Catalog for the full details of Masters degree requirements. The following section highlights some important issues that frequently arise. If you have questions, contact the Graduate Program Coordinator, Michail Fragkias at michailfragkias@boisestate.edu.

A. Important Graduate Policies

Graduate students are subject to the policies and requirements of the Graduate Catalog. All students should consult the Graduate Catalog for all policies that apply to the MSE and M.Ec programs. Included in these policies are the following important rules:

- In order to graduate, students must have an overall GPA of 3.0 or better. All courses taken while a graduate student—including undergraduate courses and courses that are not required to attain the graduate degree—count towards the 3.0 requirement.
- A course cannot count towards graduation if the student earns a grade of C- or lower. (For the single undergraduate course a grade of B or better is required.)
- All requirements for the degree must be started and completed within a single seven-year period. Thus, course credits will not count towards the degree after seven years. If you are running up against this deadline, contact the Graduate Program Coordinator.

B. Graduation Deadlines

The application process for graduation begins several months before graduation. Please note the deadlines explained below and plan accordingly. Applying for graduation is a two-step process:

1. Admission to Candidacy

Complete the Graduate College “Application for Admission to Candidacy” form. The form can be accessed here: https://graduatecollege.boisestate.edu/forms/
On the Graduate Program line, select Economics-MS or Economics-MEc.

***Note: Failure to submit the Admission to Candidacy form on time could result in your graduation being delayed until the next semester.***

To apply for Candidacy, you must be at least halfway through the program, which means you must have completed or be on track for completing 16 credits at the end of the semester of the application. That is, the sum of credits taken and in progress should be greater than 16.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application for Admission to Candidacy form deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>For graduate degrees to be awarded in</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
May 2018  |  Fifteen (15) days prior to the Graduate College deadline |  October 6, 2017  
August 2018  |  Fifteen (15) days prior to the Graduate College deadline |  February 18, 2018  

2. Apply for Graduation

The application will be available online through Peoplesoft in myBoiseState in your student account once your Candidacy form has been approved. If you fail to meet the deadline (see below), you can still apply for graduation, but instead of the $25 diploma fee you will be charged $50.

3. Graduation Deadlines

Boise State has three graduation dates each year: May, August and December. Although there are three graduation dates, there are only two commencement ceremonies held each year: one in May and one in December. If you graduate in August, you may participate (“walk”) in the ceremonies held the following December (you cannot walk in the May ceremony).¹

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For degrees to be awarded in</th>
<th>Last day to apply for graduation deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 2017</td>
<td>August 25, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2018</td>
<td>January 12, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 2018</td>
<td>June 1, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2018</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Commencement Ceremony Dates:
Winter 2017 – Saturday, December 16, 2017
Spring 2018 – Saturday, May 5, 2018
Winter 2018 – TBA

Note: Be sure that your address is up to date in myBoiseState, since that is the address the Registrar will use in mailing your diploma.

¹ Per Boise State University Policy # 4130: “All students who have completed requirements for graduation since the previous ceremony will be invited to participate, and their names will be included in the printed program.”
C. Other Important Deadlines

All students should consult the Academic Calendars on the Registrar’s website at http://registrar.boisestate.edu/boise-state-academic-calendars/ for important deadlines. For convenience, a few important deadlines for the Fall 2017 semester are provided here:

**Fall 2017 Deadlines:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fee Payment Deadline</td>
<td>Aug 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start Date</td>
<td>Aug 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to add without a Permission Number</td>
<td>Aug 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drop Fee begins</td>
<td>Aug 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to add and last day to drop without a “W” (and get a refund)</td>
<td>Sept 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to add graduate dissertation, thesis, project, or portfolio credit</td>
<td>Sept 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day for final oral dissertation, thesis, or project defense for graduate degrees to be awarded in December 2017</td>
<td>Oct 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to drop with a “W” or completely withdraw – No Refund</td>
<td>Oct 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to submit advisor-approved version of dissertation or thesis with signed Final Reading Approval and Access Agreement for a Thesis or Dissertation to the Graduate College for degrees to be awarded in December 2017.</td>
<td>Nov 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Date of Course Instruction</td>
<td>Dec 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to submit final version of dissertation or thesis to the Graduate College for graduate degrees to be awarded in December 2017</td>
<td>Dec 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades Due</td>
<td>Dec 19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D. Exit Interviews

Every graduating MSE and M.Ec. student is required to complete an exit interview with the Chair of the Department of Economics. The Graduate Program Coordinator will contact you prior to graduation to set up this interview. Among other things, the exit interview lets us get your feedback on the quality of our graduate programs and how we might improve them in the future.
V. Library Information and Databases

As part of your course work, you will be asked to research primary and secondary sources to complete assignments, research papers and presentations. It is important that you use the library-provided materials (noted below) to do so (rather than simply using a Google search, Wikipedia, or questionable online information).

Boise State’s library (Albertsons Library) provides access to a variety of online and print resources that you will be using in your courses. Our library staff is excellent and very responsive to student needs. The library liaison for the Department of Economics is Heather Grevatt. Please contact her if you are having any issues finding or accessing the information you need. She can be reached at heathergrevatt@boisestate.edu. Library hours vary, but during the semester the normal hours are:

**Monday-Friday, 7:00am-midnight**
**Saturdays & Sundays, 9:00am-midnight**

The library is open 24 hours a day during Dead Week (the last week of the semester) and Finals Week.

For Reference Desk houses, Special Collections hours, special hours during the Summer, holidays, etc. see [http://library.boisestate.edu/about.hours.php#sthash.BhsqSRCR.dpbs](http://library.boisestate.edu/about.hours.php#sthash.BhsqSRCR.dpbs)

We are fortunate to subscribe to every major economics research database used in practice today. These include:
- EconLit
- JSTOR
- CQ Researcher

Economics journals (both academic and practitioner) are available through the following databases:
- ABI/Inform
- Business Source Premier
- ProQuest Statistical Insight
- Urban Studies Abstracts

When you must use such databases for a course, your professor will give you an overview of how they can be used most efficiently. We strongly urge you to take advantage of these robust (and expensive!) databases that you will be using someday in practice.
To access any of the above databases:

- Go to [http://library.boisestate.edu/](http://library.boisestate.edu/)
- Click on “Articles & Databases”
- Use the A-Z function to find the database you are looking for
- Once you find a database, click on it. If on campus, you should get right in; if you are off campus you will be asked to enter your myBoiseState ID and password.

If you are simply looking for a specific journal, article, or book, use the search box at [http://library.boisestate.edu/](http://library.boisestate.edu/) or in any of the tabs provided therein. The pages looks like this:

If the library has the item you are looking for, it will direct you to it online or give you the call number for the physical item in the library. If the library does not have what you are looking for, there will be instructions for how to obtain the item via interlibrary loan (ILL).
A handy guide for navigating the library resources available to economics students can be found at [http://guides.boisestate.edu/economics](http://guides.boisestate.edu/economics). See the screen shot below. This page gives you direct access to many of the research databases you'll be using. In addition, the tabs across the top provide access to more materials as well as links to important economics websites.

As explained below in Part XII.D, below, many study/team rooms are available in the Micron College of Business and Economics Building. In addition, graduate students may reserve study rooms in the library. See [http://boisestate.libcal.com/booking/staffstudyrooms](http://boisestate.libcal.com/booking/staffstudyrooms)
VI. Financial Information

A. Graduate Assistantships

The Economics Department offers research and teaching assistantships to outstanding applicants. Each graduate assistant will receive a full-fee waiver and be provided with shared office space with computers. All fully submitted applications by the **February 15** deadline will be automatically considered for assistantships. Continuing students should inform the Graduate Coordinator in writing if they wish to be considered for funding.

- Teaching assistants (TAs) work in classes with department professors. The courses that utilize TAs will be selected based on their enrollments and may include lower and/or upper division courses.
- Research assistants (RAs) work directly with professors on research projects

B. Graduate Fellowships

Two $10,000 John J. and Ethel C. Chapman Graduate Economics Fellowships will be awarded annually. To apply a student must:

- have a GPA of 3.5
- be a full-time graduate student (enrolled in 9 graduate credits per semester unless otherwise determined under Boise State University policy)

Chapman Fellowships may be renewed if recommended by the Department of Economics.

This information may also be found at [https://cobe.boisestate.edu/economics/assistantships-and-fellowships/](https://cobe.boisestate.edu/economics/assistantships-and-fellowships/).

C. Scholarships

**GEM Scholarships for Non-Residents of Idaho:** Graduate students who are not residents of Idaho are eligible for a GEM Scholarship, which waives non-resident tuition for full-time out-of-state and international graduate students that meet certain requirements. **You must complete an application to be considered for a GEM Scholarship.** Details are available at [http://graduatecollege.boisestate.edu/fundinggraduateschool/gem-scholarship/](http://graduatecollege.boisestate.edu/fundinggraduateschool/gem-scholarship/). Residency information is available at [http://registrar.boisestate.edu/general-information-and-policies/idaho-residency/](http://registrar.boisestate.edu/general-information-and-policies/idaho-residency/).

**Other Scholarships:** Other need-based and merit-based scholarship opportunities are available to graduate students. To maximize your chances of receiving a scholarship for the academic year, you should complete your FAFSA (if applying for need-based scholarships) and apply by **March 15** for scholarships to begin in the fall semester. **Scholarships are only available to full-time students (enrolled in nine graduate credits or more).** Students interested in scholarships should apply by the March 15 deadline
Boise State’s Financial Aid Office:  
http://financialaid.boisestate.edu/scholarships/boise-state-scholarship-application/

VII. Post-graduation employment / Ph.D. programs

A. General Comments

If you have not already secured post-graduation employment or if you are planning to advance to a Ph.D. program, please note the following:

- **Don’t wait until graduation approaches to act.** Both job searches and Ph.D. program applications require a significant amount of time and you should start thinking about it soon after you start this graduate program.

- **A job search takes its toll both in terms of time and emotional energy.** You should plan to attend several networking events, clearly articulate your career goals, prepare your resume and cover-letter, practice interviewing skills, meet strict application deadlines, interview, attend firm social events, go on second-interviews and constantly consider your options and strategies. And you must do all this while keeping up with your school work and personal obligations. Be sure you plan your schedule accordingly.

- **Preparing for applications to Ph.D. programs in Economics is a multistep process.** Advice can be found on various guides that are publicly available on the web, as well as the websites of each program. See for example:
  
  - [http://econphd.econwiki.com/guide.htm](http://econphd.econwiki.com/guide.htm)
  
1. Things to Do Now If You Will Be Seeking a Job

If you have not already done so, we recommend that you do the following soon — and certainly BEFORE recruiting begins:

- Speak with one or more economics faculty members about your career goals. The more we know about the type of position you are looking for, the more we can help direct you to opportunities and provide timely advice. Also, keep those faculty members informed of your progress as the job search continues.
- Update your resume.
- Draft a general cover letter that you will then customize for each employer.
- Familiarize yourselves with online job posting services. Handshake is Boise State’s online job posting service. For information on using Handshake see https://career.boisestate.edu/welcome-to-broncojobs-student-and-alumni/
- Clean up your social media accounts. Assume that prospective employers will be checking your online profiles.
  - Create or update your professional profile on LinkedIn. COBE offers seminars throughout the year on how to best use LinkedIn.
  - Remove or secure anything that might be embarrassing or cast you in a bad light from your Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc. accounts. If you have to think about whether something is embarrassing, it probably is.
- Make sure you have appropriate attire (that fits!) on hand for interviews.
  - Employers will expect you to wear business attire (business suits).
  - It is best to be conservative in your dress; wearing informal or overly-fashionable attire will make you stand out—and not in a good way.
  - If you are not sure what to buy, don’t guess. You should consult with sales associates at one of the major clothing stores. Explain that you are shopping for an interview suit in a conservative field. The associates should be able to find you an appropriate outfit that meets your budget.
  - Remember you can’t expect to shop for interview clothes the day before an interview. Often, suits require alterations that can take a few days to a couple of weeks.
  - Your interview clothing will be expensive (perhaps running to a few hundred dollars), but it is well worth it as an important investment in your career.
- Make an appointment with COBE’s Career Services Office and the Boise State Career Center. They can review your resume and cover letter, give you interview tips and direct you to resources (mock interviews, etc.) that are available. We highly recommend you take advantage of these convenient resources early and often.

Our contact at COBE’s Career Services Office is Laura Chiuppi:
2. Interviewing Tips

Economics job interviews are normally directed at learning more about you and whether you would be a good fit for a company or government agency. The interviewers are determining whether you would be pleasant to work with and whether you would be successful in the role you are applying for.

**It is likely that the interviewers will ask you technical questions in regards to economics, in particular regarding your quantitative skills.**

They will also ask you about yourself, what your strengths and weaknesses are, what type of projects you like to work on, what courses you like, etc. Be ready to answer these sorts of questions. When discussing your weaknesses, be honest but explain how you learned to manage or overcome your weaknesses. Use **specific examples** from your experience that illustrate the points you are making.

Anything that is on your resume is fair game for a question. For example, if you say that you have “leadership skills” on your resume, be sure to be able to back it up with a specific story from your past where you have demonstrated leadership skills.
The interviewer may ask why you want to work at his or her firm or agency. Be sure you have researched the firm ahead of time, reviewed its website, etc. and have an answer ready.

It is also critical that you **ask articulate, well-thought out questions** that could not be answered by reference to the website of the firm/agency, are not trite (e.g., “what kind of training do you have?”), do not paint you as high-maintenance or lazy (e.g., “how much overtime will I have to work?”), or are simply inappropriate (e.g., “how much money do you make?”). Asking unique, thoughtful questions shows that you are prepared and serious about working for a firm, a government agency or a non-governmental organization.

In preparing for your interview, come up with a list of three things you want the interviewer to know about you by the end of the interview. You’ll need to communicate those things via your answers to the interviewer’s questions, the general discussion during the interview, or the questions you ask the interviewer.

**We highly recommend that you meet with the COBE Career Services Office, the Boise State Career Center, and an economics faculty member prior to going to interviews. If you go in “cold,” without getting practice or advice first, things may not go well.** Also, don’t use your first interview as a “practice run.” The first firm you interview with may well be the right firm for you—if you interview well.

### 3. Best Practices for Thank-You Notes

After each interview, you should prepare handwritten thank-you notes to everyone you interviewed with. Ideally, you should do this as soon as the interview is over. The notes should be brief but thoughtful. Generally three sentences are enough. In each note:

- Thank the person for meeting you on Date X.
- Mention that you liked talking to them about Topic Y. Topic Y will be some particular matter that the interviewer emphasized or spent a lot of time discussing with you. This line will be unique for each person you met with and will show that you were paying attention. Do not send the same thank-you note to every person with whom you met.
- Say (if true) that you enjoyed your visit at the firm, remain very interested in the position and look forward to hearing from them.

You can email your thank-you notes, mail hand written notes or even hand deliver them (to a receptionist) if you have interviewed in town!

### 4. Jobs Within Boise/The Treasure Valley

If you are interested in working for a national or regional firm outside of Boise, it is important that you plan your search strategically. We highly recommend you speak with the Graduate Program Coordinator and other faculty members to help you come up with the best way to connect with firm locations in other cities.
B. Firms That Regularly Recruit from Boise State

Students have many other career options besides working as an economist (e.g. data analyst). These employers tend to post jobs and recruit on an as-needed basis. Sometimes these employers interview on campus, but often they have you interview at their offices. Below are some examples of major employers in the Treasure Valley that offer a wide range of opportunities. This list is by no means exhaustive and there are many smaller companies that have openings from time to time.

- **Corporate:** Corporations with major economist and data analyst functions include:
  - Albertsons
  - Boise Cascade
  - Hewlett-Packard
  - Idaho Power
  - Intermountain Gas
  - Micron Technology
  - MWI Veterinary Supply
  - Scentsy
  - Simplot
  - Saint Alphonsus
  - St. Luke’s

- **Government:**
  - Idaho State Tax Commission
  - Ada County
  - City of Boise
  - Federal Government (IRS, FBI, etc.) (must be willing to move; few jobs are in Boise)

- **Other major analytics employers:**
  - Clearwater Analytics—Based in Boise, does investment accounting for institutional investors. Has hired several of our graduates.

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2 The exception is the federal government (FBI, IRS, etc.) which has its own unique (and lengthy) recruiting process. See [https://www.usajobs.gov/](https://www.usajobs.gov/)
VIII. Economics Student Organizations

The Department of Economics has two active student organizations – the Economics Association and Omicron Delta Epsilon. These organizations provide opportunities for networking, service and personal and professional development. We encourage you to become active in one or both of these organizations. These organizations are open to both undergraduate and graduate students.

A. Economics Association

We highly recommend that you join the Boise State Economics Association. This organization offers students the following:

- Information on schools, internships, scholarships and careers pertaining to the field of economics.
- A forum for people who talk and think like Economists to converse about current issues, economic theory and research ideas.
- A network of people that share similar academic and career goals.

The group hosts monthly presentations, Pizzanomics, that bring students into contact with professors and outside speakers for food and discussion in an informal setting. The Economics Association also annually hosts speakers from other universities at public lectures.

B. Omicron Delta Epsilon – Boise State Chapter

Another invaluable resource available to graduate students is Omicron Delta Epsilon, an international honor society established solely for individuals studying economics. Boise State has a local chapter, ‘Beta’, established in 1976. Students may apply for membership. Candidates for membership must have finished one semester as a full-time student and maintain a GPA of at least 3.0.

Benefits of Becoming a Member

- Membership confers scholarly achievement in economics
- Opportunity to publish promising work in official journal, The American Economist
- Increased involvement with departmental faculty
- Access to ODE sponsored conventions taking place regionally, nationally, or internationally
- Ability to compete for the Frank Taussig and Irving Fisher Awards as well as Outstanding Student Leader Award
• Free access to the online version of *The American Economist*

For more information, please visit Omicron Delta Epsilon’s website http://www.omicrondeltaepsilon.org/index.html.

C. American Economic Association

The American Economic Association (AEA) promotes the interests of the economics community and is a good source for networking. Learn more about the AEA on the organization’s website, https://www.aeaweb.org/.

IX. CBE Certification (forthcoming)

The Department of Economics is excited to introduce a partnership with the National Association for Business Economics (NABE) Certified Business Economist (CBE) Program. This credential enhances students’ ability to utilize theoretical concepts in practical application through data analytics and applied economics.

In order to become a CBE, students must meet the following criteria:

- Complete a comprehensive examination
- Be a member of NABE with good standing
- Must complete at least a four-year degree
- Comply with NABE’s curriculum requirements
- Complete at least 30 hours of continued education every two years and submit a renewal fee
X. Information on the Micron Business and Economics Building

A. General Information

- Please contact Gail Puccetti (gailpuccetti@boisestate.edu), Building Manager, if you have any concerns regarding the building.

- **Building Hours:**
  M-Th 6:45 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.
  Fri. 6:45 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

- Although the building is unlocked during the above hours, the North and South Wings on the 2nd and 3rd floors (containing faculty offices) are only unlocked M-F 8:00am-5:00pm. Faculty can meet with you outside of those hours by appointment, but the faculty member must let you in.

- Each room in the building has a 4 digit number.
  - The first number notes the floor of the building the room is on.
  - The second number notes the wing of the building the room is in:
    - 0 = the main part/center of the building
    - 1 = the South Wing (towards the Depot)
    - 2 = the North Wing (towards downtown)
    - 3 = the Skaggs Hall of Learning, Imagination Lab and Rooms in that section of the building
  - Examples:
    - Room 3102 = 3rd floor, South Wing
    - Room 1301 = Skaggs Hall of Learning

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3 These are the expected building hours for the Fall semester. COBE is currently considering modifying these hours. It is not clear at this time whether the building will be open to students on weekends. Stay tuned for further details.
• Room 2241 = 2nd floor, North Wing

• Economics Classrooms: Many graduate economics courses are located in:
  o Room 4003
  o Room 3247
  o Room 1210
  ▪ Consult your class schedule for specific room assignments

• Where to find Economics Faculty and Staff:
  o The department “home base” is on the 3rd floor, North Wing. Here you will find Department Administrative Assistant LaDawn Barrera and Department Chair Chris Loucks.
  o The Economics Graduate Program Director, Michail Fragkias, is located in Room 3208.
  o All of the economics faculty offices are located in the MBEB.

B. Building Map

A detailed map of each floor of the MBEB building can be found here: https://cobe.boisestate.edu/wp-content/blogs.dir/1/files/2016/11/MBEB-Maps.pdf

C. Safety Reminders

• Each classroom has an emergency checklist printed in colored paper on the podium at the front of the room.

• Be sure that you opt in to the BroncoAlert Emergency Alert Notification System via MyBoiseState to receive timely campus emergency notifications. For more information, see https://news.boisestate.edu/bronco-alert/

• Campus Security is available 24/7 at 208-426-6911 or in person at the substation located within Capitol Village at 2245 University Drive (right across from the Micron Business and Economics Building).
  o Campus security provides:
    ▪ Free escort service (24/7)
    ▪ Free vehicle unlock and jump start service (24/7)
    ▪ Bike registration (see http://security.boisestate.edu/register-your-bike/)
    ▪ A free mobile safety app to let others know where you are and to connect directly to campus security (see https://security.boisestate.edu/rave-guardian/)
  
  o More info on Campus Security is available at http://security.boisestate.edu/

  o Addition info is provided below and on the next page.
OPT-IN

- BroncoALERT is an Opt-in system; update your information with the following steps:
  - Go to My Boise State
    https://my.boisestate.edu
  - Click on "STUDENT SIGN IN"
  - Enter your Boise State username and password and click on "Log In"
  - Click on "Student Center"
  - Click on the "HOME" icon in the upper right hand corner
  - Click on "Options to BroncoALERT" and update your information

Note: Text messaging is the quickest way to receive an alert; add or text message contact number!

Important Terms to Know:

Watch: Forecast issued well in advance to alert the public of the possibility of a particular weather related hazard (e.g., severe winter storm, flooding). The occurrence, location and timing may still be uncertain.

Warning: Forecast issued when weather hazard is "imminent" or already occurring. A Warning is used for conditions posing threats to life or property.

Evacuate: To immediately leave a hazard location (i.e., building, area of campus, etc.) due to an immediate threat or life-threatening hazard.

Shelter in Place: To get and stay indoors when a situation occurs that may be a hazard to health or a life-threatening situation. Stay inside, lock doors/ windows, shut off fans and air conditioners. Remain in place until told it is safe to leave.

Be Alert

- Be aware of what is going on around campus and report any suspicious or unusual activity to Campus Security & Police Services at (208) 426-9511
- If you wish to remain anonymous, submit a "Silent Witness" report on the Security & Police Services website: https://secureforms.boisestate.edu/security/

Be Informed

- Know what hazards can occur in the Treasure Valley and what you should do if they occur and where to go
- Find out more about local hazards at the Ada City-County Emergency Management website: www.acems.org
- Know how to be notified of an emergency
  - Update your contact information in my Boise State by using the BroncoALERT Opt-in
  - Check the Boise State homepage and social media accounts during an emergency incident

Be Prepared

- Develop an emergency communication plan with family & friends
- Develop an Emergency Supply Kit (see next column)
- Program your phone with these two numbers:
  - Campus Dispatch (208) 426-9511
  - Program a family member or close friend into your cell phone using ICE (In Case of Emergency)
- Learn CPR and first aid. It might just save a life, including your own.

Emergency Response Plans
- Contact Information and websites
- Preparedness Tips
- Contact 426-3638 or relief@boisestate.edu

Boise State C.A.R.E. Team

If you have concern for a student or staff's behavior, submit a report to the Boise State CARE Team. CARE stands for Campus Assessment, Resource, and Education. Living, learning, and working at Boise State can be very stressful and students and staff will face challenges. As a result, some individuals may exhibit behavior that is:
- Concerning
- Disruptive
- Threatening towards themselves or others

If you are concerned about someone’s behavior on campus, go to www.care.boisestate.edu and file a CARE report. The CARE website also has much more information about persons of concern.

Note: If there is an immediate threat to any person or campus property, contact 9-1-1

Active Shooter

Make a decision, trust your instincts, to take action to protect yourself to survive the situation. You generally will have three options:
- Get Out: can you safely escape?
- Hide Out: is there a good place to hide?
- Take Out: Will you engage the shooter?

Note: Boise State has additional checklists and training materials available for Active Shooter at www.emergencymanagement.boisestate.edu/active-shooter-resources/
D. Reserving Team Rooms

Team rooms, located throughout the building, are inviting spaces for students to work and collaborate on projects, study for exams and learn from each other. They hold 4-6 students, have 40” LCD displays and a write-on wall.

Do your part to help reflect accurate room availability by reserving a room each time you meet. The red and green touchscreen lights are helpful indicators for students if all are maintained.

Team room policies and sign-up procedures are explained here: http://cobe.boisestate.edu/students/team-rooms/

E. Renting Lockers

The lockers located throughout the building are available for rent. They provide a convenient place to store your books and other belongings. Rents are set and collected by a designated student group. For more info, see http://cobe.boisestate.edu/students/lockers/
XI. College of Business and Economics (COBE) and the Department of Economics Mission Statements

A. COBE Mission

Our dream is to be a collaborative, engaged and dynamic community of learners. We inspire our students and colleagues to achieve their full potential by creating and sharing relevant knowledge, skills and experiences for the benefit of local and global communities.

We value:

Relevance

We address important business and societal issues by being effective, innovative and risk-tolerant. Our effectiveness is based on rigorous teaching and research and a commitment to lifelong learning and community engagement.

Respect

We strive to be an inclusive, collegial community that values all forms of diversity. We are committed to integrity and ethical behavior in all that we do.

Responsibility

We foster an environment that empowers students, staff and faculty. We are dedicated to accountability, transparency and fairness.

[Image: OUR DREAM banner]
B. Department of Economics’ Mission

Our Mission: The Department of Economics at Boise State University is known for its active commitment to students’ intellectual development, its research accomplishments, and its important contributions to local, regional, and national issues and policy analysis.

Our Motto: ΑΙΕΝ ΑΠΙΣΤΕΥΕΙΝ (Ever to Excel). The phrase is found in the sixth rhapsody (book) of Homer’s Iliad, an ancient Greek epic poem.

XII. Accreditation

The College of Business and Economics (COBE) at Boise State University is one of the few business schools in the world that has achieved accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) for our business school and our economics program. COBE has maintained accreditation since 1979. We are among the less than five percent of business schools worldwide to earn AACSB accreditation.

AACSB-accredited schools are considered the best business schools in the world. Our undergraduate and master’s degree programs have passed rigorous standards for quality. AACSB-accredited schools have better programs, better faculty, better students with higher overall GPAs, more international students, more employers that recruit from them and graduates that receive better salaries.

To be accredited we have to meet a strict accreditation standard that assesses our ability to perform in critical areas, such as teaching, research, curricula development and student learning.
XIII. General Information about Boise State University

This section might be of interest to students who did not complete their undergraduate degrees at Boise State.

A. Mission

Boise State University is a public, metropolitan research university providing leadership in academics, research and civic engagement. The university offers an array of undergraduate degrees and experiences that foster student success, lifelong learning, community engagement, innovation and creativity. Research, creative activity and graduate programs, including select doctoral degrees, advance new knowledge and benefit the community, the state and the nation. The university is an integral part of its metropolitan environment and is engaged in its economic vitality, policy issues, professional and continuing education programming and cultural enrichment.

B. History

Boise Junior College was founded in 1932, the height of the Great Depression, by Bishop Middleton S. Barnwell. In its first year, the college had 70 students and fourteen faculty members. Boise Junior College was governed by the Episcopalian Church until 1934. The school became Boise College in 1965, when it began offering four-year baccalaureate degrees and became Boise State College in 1969. Boise State College then gained university status in 1974, and became Boise State University. Boise State is now the largest university in Idaho, with over 22,000 students from all 50 states and 65 different countries.

C. Location

Boise, the “City of Trees,” is Idaho’s state capital and the third largest metropolitan area in the Northwest United States. A city of great variety, Boise boasts numerous recreational, cultural and business opportunities. Just a short distance from the Boise State campus, students can enjoy an array of outdoor activities, including hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, river rafting and skiing. Boise also offers cultural events, such as the Idaho Shakespeare Festival, performances by the Boise Philharmonic and Ballet Idaho, and the Gene Harris Jazz Festival. Also, a footbridge adjoins the campus to Julia Davis Park, where the Boise Art Museum, Idaho State Historical Museum and Zoo Boise are located. The Boise economy is based on high technology, agricultural products, tourism, government agencies and manufacturing.

D. Symbol

The B logo represents the university’s location in the city of Boise and the Bronco nickname. Both of the official blue and orange school colors are represented in the mark. The Garamond and Gotham Black typography bring a modern clarity to the identification and a consistent

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4 Portions of this section are adapted from the Boise State University Student Handbook.
presentation among all the colleges, departments and units. The forward-moving B demonstrates our personality traits of determination, strength, character and community.

E. Mascot

The mascot was selected by a group of students in 1932. They chose the Bronco because wild horses could be found near Boise, many students rode horses at the time, and because of the prevalence of farming and ranching in the Boise area. Coaches, administration and students approved the choice, and the Bronco became the official mascot. The Bronco is now named Buster. Buster Bronco placed third in the 2007 Sports Illustrated Power Mascot Ranking and was selected for the seventh annual Capital One All American mascot team in 2008.

F. Colors

Boise State’s school colors were also selected in 1932. The students decided on orange and blue because they wanted colors that were different from the colors of their rivals in the region. Students proudly wear the orange and blue to show their Boise State spirit.

G. Fight Song

Fight Broncos, celebrate the orange and blue
Boise, we'll stand and cheer for you
Fight for distinction & our alma mater
Bravely defending B-S-U!
Fight on courageously for Boise State
Success and honor make her great
Boise's proud tradition-
Head's up competition-
Glory for B - S - U
Go! Orange!
Go! big! blue!
Fight! Fight! B-S-U!

For music, see http://www.broncosports.com/ot/fight-song.html

H. Other Important Resources/Contacts

1. Counseling Services

Counseling is available at:
Counseling Services
http://healthservices.boisestate.edu/services/counseling/
Norco Building
1529 Belmont Street.
(208) 426-1459
Suicide Prevention Hotlines:
National: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
Idaho: 1-800-564-2120

2. Disability Services

Educational Access Center (formerly the Disability Resource Center)
https://eac.boisestate.edu/
Lincoln Garage, 1st Floor
(208) 426-1583

3. Health Services

University Health Services
http://healthservices.boisestate.edu
Norco Building
1529 Belmont Street.
(208) 426-1459

4. Legal Services

The Associated Students of Boise State University (ASBSU) provides free attorney consultations with a local private lawyer for most legal problems you may have. This service is available to all fee paying students of Boise State. For details and to schedule an appointment, see http://deanofstudents.boisestate.edu/asbsu-legal-services/

Office of the Dean of Students
Norco Building, Suite 116

5. Veterans Services

Veterans Services Center
http://veterans.boisestate.edu/
Lincoln Garage, 1st Floor
(208) 426-3744

I. Student Athletic Tickets and Movie Tickets

For policies on student tickets to athletic events, visit http://www.broncosports.com/tickets/bosu-student-ticket-info.html
For more ticket information, call the Info Desk, (208) 426-4636.

For discounts on movie tickets and other entertainment venues, visit the Information Desk in the Student Union or visit https://go.boisestate.edu/boise-state-tickets/

J. Campus Recreation
Full-time, fee-paying students do not need to pay an additional fee to use the Student Recreation Center. Others may purchase memberships. For more information, see http://rec.boisestate.edu/.

K. Campus Maps


- Interactive Campus Map: http://maps.boisestate.edu/

L. Statement of Shared Values

Boise State University is committed to personal and social development, educational excellence and civic engagement. Membership in the campus community is a privilege and requires its members to conduct themselves ethically with integrity and civility. Campus community members enjoy the same rights and freedoms that all U.S. citizens enjoy, including personal responsibility for one’s own conduct, behavior and speech.

In a culture of intellectual inquiry and debate, where the search for knowledge and discovery flourish, campus community members are expected to demonstrate civility, abide by norms of decorum and adhere to the principles of civil discourse. “Being civil means being constantly aware of others and weaving restraint, respect and consideration into the very fabric of this awareness,” (Forni, 2002, p. 9).

Higher education has the duty to educate students to be responsible citizens. Boise State strives to provide a culture of civility and success where all feel safe and free from discrimination, harassment, threats or intimidation.

Boise State University upholds the following values as the foundation for a civil and nurturing environment. Campus community members are expected to adhere to these common values.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Excellence</th>
<th>engage in our own learning and participate fully in the academic community’s pursuit of knowledge.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caring</td>
<td>show concern for the welfare of others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizenship</td>
<td>uphold civic virtues and duties that prescribe how we ought to behave in a self-governing community by obeying laws and policies, volunteering in the community and staying informed on issues.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Fairness** – expect equality, impartiality, openness and due process by demonstrating a balanced standard of justice without reference to individual bias. |
| **Respect** – treat people with dignity regardless of who they are and what they believe. A respectful person is attentive, listens well, treats others with consideration and doesn’t resort to intimidation, coercion or violence to persuade. |
| **Responsibility** – take charge of our choices and actions by showing accountability and not shifting blame or taking improper credit. We will pursue excellence with diligence, perseverance and continued improvement. |
| **Trustworthiness** – demonstrate honesty in our communication and conduct while managing ourselves with integrity and reliability. |