USC Dornsife’s Economics Department is a vibrant collection of world-class faculty and students that is well-known for its leadership in the fields of econometrics and economic development. The unique analytical strengths of USC Dornsife’s economics graduate student body allow the faculty to offer a rigorous and comprehensive program unlike that of any other United States college or university.

**Connect with Us**

**ECONOMICS GRADUATE PROGRAMS ADVISOR**
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**Gain the skills to analyze and interpret the evolving modern world. Use data to solve difficult real-world problems. Learn to translate cutting-edge research and communicate to a wider audience.**
THE MASTER’S IN ECONOMICS
USC’s 18-month Master of Science degree in economics builds upon a core curriculum in microeconomics, macroeconomics, statistics and econometrics.

Elective offerings in topics such as economic development, economic theory, health economics, industrial organization, international economics, labor economics, environmental and urban economics, research and communication, and big data allow you to customize the program to fit your career goals.

To allow for even more individual freedom, our students may choose to pursue one or more faculty-developed tracks within the following fields:

• Antitrust Economics
• Market Design
• Applied Analytics
• Behavioral and Experimental Economics
• Financial Economics
• Economic Development

These academic tracks, each with their own required set of courses, allow our students to further differentiate their skills to employers in the industries they wish to enter.

The Economics Department also has close relationships with other departments across campus — particularly with the USC Marshall School of Business and the USC Price School of Public Policy. These partnerships add to the range of elective courses available to our students and provide networking and social opportunities across disciplines.

The Master’s in Economics at USC is a STEM designated program, which allows international students on F-1 visas to apply for a 24-month extension of their optional practical training (OPT).

EXTRACURRICULAR AND SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT
The Economics Graduate Student Association (EGSA) provides a relaxed and informal forum for students and faculty to discuss various topics of mutual interest such as career planning and current topics in economic policy.

Across campus, there are ample opportunities for social engagement, from sports to special-interest clubs and student associations. In addition, the Trojan Family includes one of the world’s strongest alumni networks.

For those looking to explore more of what Los Angeles has to offer, the USC campus, located in the heart of L.A.’s downtown arts and education corridor, is a short L.A. Metro ride from attractions such as the Staples Center, Chinatown, the technology-rich Campus at Playa Vista, and the beach. See a virtual tour of the USC campus at visit.usc.edu.

PLACEMENT
Graduates of USC Dornsife’s Master’s Program in Economics are extremely competitive in the job market due to the program’s dual focus on technical and communication skills. The department provides one-on-one career counseling, professional development workshops, and networking opportunities with industry thought leaders to expose students to current industry trends and provide opportunities to learn firsthand from leading practitioners.

Our master’s alumni currently hold positions at the World Bank, the U.S. Federal Reserve, Caesars Palace, Cornerstone Research, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Cloudreach, Wells Fargo, CIT Group, and many others—including international hedge funds and research think tanks throughout the U.S. and Asia. Alumni from our master’s program have also been accepted into prestigious Ph.D. programs at universities across the U.S.

For some exceptional master’s students who are interested in pursuing a doctoral education and/or careers within academia, there are opportunities to work in the Behavioral and Experimental Economics Lab at USC while enrolled.

Applications
All applicants must apply through the USC online application system located at gradadm.usc.edu/onlineapp/submit.

THE ONLINE APPLICATION REQUIREDS:
1. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE. This is typically two pages in length, double-spaced, about your interest in economics.

2. GRE SCORES. We accept GRE scores that are no more than five years old. Our ETS code is 4852.

3. TRANSCRIPTS. USC must receive sealed and official transcripts from all universities you have attended. Transcripts must be sent directly to USC Graduate Admissions, not to the Department of Economics. International applicants must send both original language and English language transcripts.

4. THREE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION. It is recommended to have at least two of the letters from academic references.

5. ENGLISH PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS. Students must receive a composite score of at least 6.5 on the IELTS, with 6.0 or above on each section, or at least 90 on the TOEFL, with 20 or above in each section.

If you have questions about the application, please email Alexander Karnazes at karnazes@usc.edu or visit our FAQ at dornsife.usc.edu/econ/admfaq/