



MASTER IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

THE
GRADUATE
INSTITUTE
GENEVA

INSTITUT DE HAUTES
ÉTUDES INTERNATIONALES
ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT
GRADUATE INSTITUTE
OF INTERNATIONAL AND
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva (Switzerland)

A Pathway to a Career in International Economics

The Master in International Economics is a small, selective programme focused on preparing students for jobs in international organisations, governments, NGOs and think tanks as well as the private sector. Our programme is also well-suited to students who want pursue a PhD (either at the Graduate Institute or in another university); about one-sixth of our master students choose this option.

The programme combines a rigorous training in the advanced empirical and analytical tools that are required for careers in international economics with a policy orientation. It provides students with the necessary work-skills, and the institutional and historical background they will need to apply these tools to real world problems.

This applied approach, teamed with our close connection to international organisations in Geneva (where many students do internships) and across the world explains the remarkable success of our students over the years. Graduates have secured jobs in top-level national and international institutions (including the World Bank, IMF and OECD, WTO, WIPO, ILO and other UN agencies, central banks and economic ministries), policy institutions such the WEF, NGOs and think tanks, as well as consultancies, multinationals, and banks.

“ Besides the rigorous training in environmental economics and policy, my professors further nourished my interest through close, regular exchange. Their support allowed me to intern with UN Environment in Geneva, where I gained my first professional experience within the field working on the Green Economy and which subsequently opened the doors to my career. ”

DAVID RYFISCH, Master in International Economics 2013
Team Lead, International Climate Policy, Germanwatch

The professors are known worldwide in their respective areas and offer first-hand experience in using international economics to address the world's many problems. Professors teach using hands-on, problem-solving approaches. In addition to lifelong academics, the faculty includes practitioners such as the Chief Economist of the World Trade Organisation, and faculty members who have spent part of their career working in policy institutions such as the World Bank, the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund, the European Commission and the US Federal Reserve. In addition to the core economics courses, the department offers an applied course taught by department alumni holding senior positions in international organisations. This course provides our students with a unique opportunity to better understand how economics is used in policymaking, and to get to know personally senior staff at organisations such as the IMF, the World Bank and the OECD.



Yi Huang, Associate Professor of International Economics

A Supportive, Collaborative Learning Environment

The high professor-student ratio, small class sizes and diverse student body create a collegial, stimulating and friendly atmosphere.

“ There is an environment of collaboration where you can develop skills together with your classmates. There is solidarity and friendship. ”

JULIETA CONTRERAS
Master in International Economics 2020

A critical part of the programme’s training stems from constant interactions with bright, open and diverse minds from all over the world. Interdisciplinarity is a core principle of the Graduate Institute, so students will have opportunities to interact with students from all departments, including international law, international history, international relations, social anthropology and international development.

Located physically at the centre of Geneva’s numerous international organisations, the Graduate Institute is a global hub for policy-relevant research in international relations in general, and international economics in particular. The Institute is also a place where international actors convene to address global matters through talks, debates and other events, which are accessible by the public.

The Graduate Institute has also a close link with the London-based Centre for Economic Research (CEPR), the premier network of economists in Europe. The CEPR’s President, one of its Vice-Presidents and the Editor-in-Chief of VoxEU (CEPR’s policy portal) are all professors at the Graduate Institute. These ties also mean students can benefit from joint events organised by these two institutions.

Beyond academics, living in Geneva exposes our students to a diverse, cosmopolitan environment, where you cannot help but broaden your horizons while picking up some French. The Graduate Institute is bilingual (English and French), but all economics courses are taught in English.

“ Students, professors and researchers have very diverse backgrounds. They come from different countries, have different research interests, and often take a multidisciplinary approach. Diversity is an essential element of a truly transformative educational experience. I was lucky to be part of this community! ”

PEDRO NASO
PhD in Development Economics 2020
Leonid Hurwicz Prize Laureate 2020
Head of the Department of Research,
One Acre Fund, Burundi

The Teaching Programme

Foundation courses Compulsory = 36 ECTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Microeconomics I Microeconomics II: The Economics of Information and Uncertainty→ Foundations of Macroeconomic Policy International Macroeconomics→ Econometrics I Econometrics II: Micro-Econometrics and Time Series
Specialization = 12 ECTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ International Finance and Macroeconomics International Finance Financial Integration and Crises→ International Trade International Trade Theory and Policy Applied Trade Analysis→ Development Economics Managing Capital Flows One course out of i) Impact Evaluation ii) Development Economics
Electives = 42 ECTS including 12 to 24 ECTS credits from other departments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Anthropology and Sociology– International History– International Law– International Relations/ Political Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Demystifying DSGE Models→ Finance and Trade→ Industrial Organization→ Economic History→ Topics in Resource Economics→ Competition Law and Economics→ Course given by Alumni on Economic Policy in Developing and Emerging Countries→ Python and Matlab Workshops→ Global Virtual Workshop on Fintech and Digital Economy→ Big Data, Fintech and Digital Finance→ A number of additional courses are also offered in partnership with the University of Geneva and the University of Lausanne
	+ → Thesis 30 ECTS = Total: 120 ECTS

The master programme is organised into three tracks – International Finance, Development and International Trade. Regardless of the track, in the first three semesters, students must take the six core classes (two semesters of microeconomics, macroeconomics, and econometrics). A math refresher course (affectionately known as the “math bootcamp”) is taken before the beginning of the first semester. The track-specific courses are taken from the second semester onwards. In addition, students select electives offered by the department as well as some courses offered by other departments (law, history, political science, anthropology and sociology) and partner institutions (e.g. the University of Geneva or Lausanne). The master’s thesis is written during the fourth semester. During the third semester, students have the option of participating in an exchange at one of our partner institutions.

Fast Track Access to the PhD Programme

Students can apply for the “fast track” access to the PhD programme. Students need to complete the course work of the master (90 credits) within three semesters and need to take one PhD course in the third semester. The application is reviewed at the end of the second semester. Admitted students are enrolled in the PhD programme from the third semester onwards.

Application and Financial Support

Our rigorous admission process selects two to three dozen candidates who are highly diverse, talented and greatly motivated to pursue careers in international economics. While many successful candidates have undergraduate degrees in economics, we also consider students with different backgrounds as long as they have solid analytical and quantitative skills, good grades and a supportive letter of recommendation. The GRE (school code: 2258; department code: 1901), is not required but recommended for applicants for whom evidence of quantitative skills is otherwise lacking.

Although we unfortunately cannot finance all master students, the Institute offers a significant number of scholarships. You can apply for financial support for your first year when applying to the Institute.

Admission is organised at the Institute level. Interested students are kindly asked to follow the General Admission Procedure to the Institute’s programmes.



Reasons to Choose our Master in International Economics

- **An unrivalled concentration of distinguished professors** in International and Development Economics with extensive policy experience
- **A balanced curriculum** combining cutting-edge training in theory and empirics with an emphasis on policy applications and professional practice
- **A broad approach** blending a focus on economics with a broader view drawing on the Institute's unique multidisciplinary offerings
- **In Geneva's hub of international organisations, within a worldwide network**, and with opportunities for internships and exchange programmes
- **A supportive, collaborative learning environment**, with small classes and easy interaction between students and faculty
- **Competitive tuition fees** and a wide-range of funding options (scholarships, on-campus employment)
- **A pathway to a career in international economics.** Our graduates secure jobs in top-level national and international institutions policy institutions, NGOs and think tanks, as well as the private sector

The Economics Department looks for applicants of exceptional academic merit, but also seeks individuals who are enthusiastic about economics and want to use their training to make the world a better place.

APPLICATIONS FOR 2021–2022 ARE NOW OPEN.



GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

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