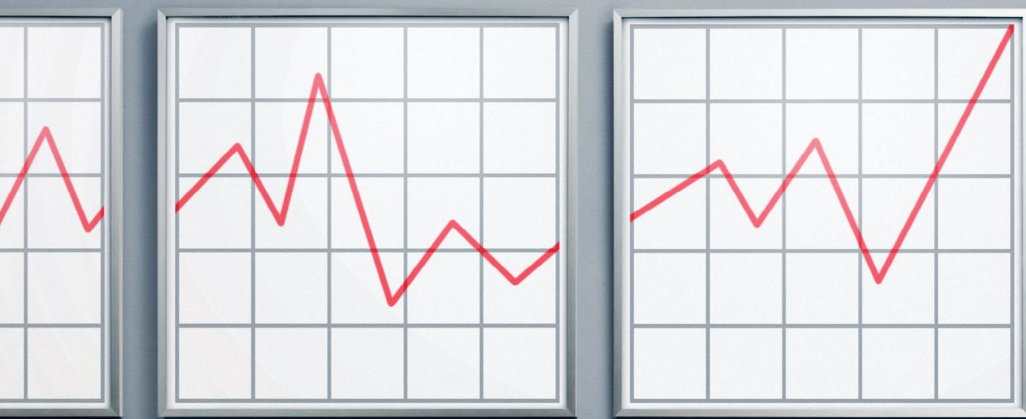


SMU PhD IN ECONOMICS

A leading school for economics research in Asia





OVERVIEW & PROGRAMME GOALS

The PhD in Economics programme offered by Singapore Management University (SMU) trains you to do rigorous research and analysis in economics. Graduates from our programme often go on to be professors in universities where they work to extend and to transmit knowledge of our economies. Many graduates also go on to work in industry, the public sector, and in international organisations where they apply their economics knowledge and research capabilities to improve the economic condition of their firm, their industry, their country, or the world in general.

SMU's Economics PhD is a highly selective and carefully planned programme delivered by a team of internationally recognised professors who are actively engaged in research at the frontiers of economics knowledge, and who are dedicated to teaching and training the next generation of economics researchers and thinkers, teachers and policy makers. Our programme provides the rigorous training you will require to operate at the forefront of economics research, starting with intensive foundation courses in your first year, field courses in your second year to give you a wide exposure to different fields and different faculty, and then finally, in-depth study into your chosen area of research. There are also very active seminars and research workshops in which you can immerse yourself in research at the highest level and interact with top researchers from around the world.

SMU's School of Economics is recognised internationally as a leading centre for economics research. In Tilburg University's 'Top 100 Economics Schools Research Ranking,' based on publications in leading journals between 2009 and 2012, it was ranked 1st in Asia and 57th overall. It is ranked within the top 10 globally in econometrics.

While training you to be a top economics researcher is the programme's paramount objective, we also have several ancillary programmes to help you develop more fully, including instructor and presentation training, and support programmes and guidance for those entering the job market. We also offer financial support for students to present their work at international conferences. Ultimately, our goal is to produce graduates who will go on to clinch good positions in academia, government and policy institutions, or industry, and who will make important contributions there.

We invite you to find out more about us and the programme we offer, and should you decide that you would like to pursue a PhD in Economics, we invite you to apply for our programme, to join us as we together explore the fascinating discipline of economics.



Bryce Hool
Professor of Economics
Dean, School of Economics



Anthony Tay
Associate Professor of Economics
Programme Director, PhD in Economics



Bao Tan Huynh



My five years in the PhD in Economics programme was a wonderful experience. I have seen myself grow tremendously over the years, both on a professional and personal level. SMU is a place of high-quality research, yet it also exudes a nice and warm family-like atmosphere. The environment is well-suited for a dynamic student who is embarking on his or her postgraduate studies, and for him or her to carve out a name for him or herself in research.

The faculty members are supportive and encouraging. Their doors are always open, and they always have time for students. Their expertise and experiences are freely available for us to tap into. For us students, we take our work seriously, yet we still have moments of fun and relaxation – a balanced approach to cope with the various demands in research. We push and support one another because we want everyone to excel. Ideas and experiences are shared freely among ourselves. I had doubt and apprehension before I started the programme, but looking back I find that I have enjoyed my learning and research journey in SMU. I am glad that I made the choice of doing my postgraduate studies at SMU.



The five years at SMU were full of challenges. I worked very hard and felt a sense of fulfillment every day. I attended academic conferences both in Singapore and abroad. This provided me with precious opportunities to learn about latest developments in research. I had the best advisors in the world. What I learnt from them was more than just research. They made me love what I was doing and helped me set out on a new academic journey.

There was never a dull moment at SMU. I miss all of my friends and teachers. I miss my five years of studying at SMU.



Xiaohu Wang



Tao Zeng



In SMU's Economics PhD programme, we are trained to conduct rigorous research and analysis in economics, exposed to a wide range of areas of economic studies and cutting edge materials, which I believe, provided me with a launching pad for my future success in academia.

One of the aspects I find attractive about the programme is the family-like atmosphere. SMU has distinguished faculty members who are very generous with their time and expertise. I could always find a caring mentor to guide me whenever I needed help. The senior students and my classmates were also friendly, making it easy to learn from, and interact with, each other.





Programme Description

The PhD in Economics programme is structured to lead you from classroom learning to research and paper writing, with many targets throughout for students to meet. Many of our students graduate with an academic publication in a top journal and our placement record is strong.

YEAR 1

Students spend their first year completing the following foundation courses.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Microeconomics I | Macroeconomics II |
| Microeconomics II | Econometrics I |
| Macroeconomics I | Econometrics II |

At the end of Year 1, students must sit for, and pass the PhD Qualifying Examinations in Microeconomics, Macroeconomics and Econometrics before advancing in the programme.

YEAR 2

In the second year, students take:

- International Trade or International Macroeconomics Elective**
- Applied Econometrics (Empirical Research Project)**
- 8 Advanced Research Topics (ART) Courses**

The International Trade and International Macroeconomics are each 12-week courses.

The Applied Econometrics course covers Applied Microeconometrics and Applied Macroeconometrics. It is graded on the basis of a submitted empirical paper.

Each ART is a six-week course. The set of ART courses that might be offered includes:

- Macroeconomic Models with Financial Frictions**
- Modern Economic Growth**
- Industrial Organisation**
- Empirical Industrial Organisation**
- Labour Economics**
- Urban Economics**
- Nonparametric Econometrics**
- Bayesian Macroeconometrics**
- Advanced Topics in Time Series Econometrics**
- Financial Econometrics**
- Spatial Econometrics**
- Panel Data Econometrics**
- High-Frequency Econometrics**
- Political Economy**
- Public Economics**
- Decision Theory**
- Information Economics**
- Mechanism Design**
- Environmental Economics**

Only a subset of the ARTs will be offered in any given year, depending on faculty availability.

YEAR 3

Students in their 3rd year are expected to:

- Confirm a supervisor and committee, and pass the oral defence of PhD Dissertation Proposal**
- Complete a 3rd year paper**
- Present at a School of Economics (SOE) Research Workshop**

All students from the 3rd year onwards are expected to attend research workshops and the SOE Seminar Series.

The 3rd year paper must be an original piece of research, which would typically form the basis of at least one chapter of the student's dissertation. While the paper may require substantial additional work and polishing before being ready for submission to a journal, the paper should be strong enough to be taken as a complete first draft or working paper.

A prize is awarded to the student with the best 3rd year paper, and this student will be nominated for the SMU Presidential Doctoral Fellowship.



YEARS 4 and 5

- Oral Defence of Completed PhD Dissertation**
- Presentation at SOE Seminar Series**

At different points in the programme, students may be required to attend certain ancillary programmes, including the Institutional Review Board training, Graduate Development Programme (instructor training) and an English communication skills programme.

Students are also given financial assistance to attend and present their work at international research conferences, and we have a strong support structure for students entering the academic market, including presentation training and interview preparation. Most students enter the job market in their 5th year.



Admission and Application

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

At least a good Bachelor's degree.

A Master's degree is useful but not required.

Good GRE or GMAT results.

Good TOEFL or IELTS scores.

For applicants whose medium of instruction at the Bachelor's/ Master's level was not English.

Submission of the following documents:

Identity Card/Passport

Latest Curriculum Vitae with a recent photograph

Degree Certificates and Transcripts

Personal and Research Statements

Recommendation Letters

Writing Samples/Indicators of Research Potential

All shortlisted applicants will be interviewed. Our admission decision will be based on an assessment of your entire application package.

The PhD in Economics programme is technically rigorous and mathematically demanding. A strong mathematical background is essential just to get through the 1st year's core courses. An ideal background would include multivariable calculus (typically covered over two courses of calculus at the undergraduate level), real analysis, intermediate level linear algebra, and a strong foundation in probability and statistics.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

The PhD in Economics is a full-time programme. The University's application window is listed below.

Intake	Opening Date for Application	Closing Date for Application
August	1 November (of prior year)	31 January (of intake year)

Details of programme fees and application procedure can also be found at <http://smu.sg/phdecons>



Shurojit Chatterji

Professor of Economics
Singapore Management University

Shurojit Chatterji is an economic theorist whose research interests include the study of dynamics in the presence of learning behaviour, equilibrium theory, mechanism design and the economics of climate change.

Shurojit's research has appeared in journals including, *Journal of Economic Theory*, *Games and Economic Behaviour*, *Journal of Mathematical Economics*, *Economic Theory*, *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, and *Econometrica*.



Liangjun Su

Professor of Economics
Singapore Management University

Liangjun Su's main research interests include econometric theory, nonparametric econometrics, panel data models, financial econometrics and spatial econometrics. He has published over 30 papers in top international journals in economics and statistics and edited two books, as listed below.

- *The Oxford Handbook of Applied Nonparametric and Semiparametric Econometrics and Statistics*, edited with Jeffrey Racine and Aman Ullah, New York: Oxford University Press, January 2014
- *Advanced Mathematical Statistics*, written in English and translated into Chinese by Liangjun's students, Peking University Press, September 2007

A winner of the Econometric Theory Multa Scripsit award in 2014, he is currently an associate editor for *Journal of Econometrics* and *Econometric Reviews*, and a co-editor for *Econometric Theory*.



Jun Yu

Professor of Economics and Finance
Singapore Management University

Jun Yu's research interests are in financial econometrics, empirical asset pricing and econometric theory. His recent work includes the econometric identification of asset bubbles and estimation of bubble origination dates. He has published more than 40 articles in journals including Review of Financial Studies, International Economic Review, Journal of Econometrics, Econometric Theory, and Journal of Business and Economic Statistics.

Jun has served on the editorial boards of several journals, including Econometric Theory, Journal of Financial Econometrics and Econometric Reviews. He has edited special issues for Journal of Econometrics and Econometric Theory. He is a fellow of the Journal of Econometrics and the Society of Financial Econometrics.



Fali Huang

Associate Professor of Economics
Singapore Management University

Fali Huang's research interests centre on how society invests in people and institutions to pursue long-run economic growth. Her research falls along three related themes: economic and political development, social capital and economic governance, and human capital formation and education.

Specifically, Fali analyses how the political democratisation process interacts with economic democratisation where the predominant source of wealth changes from land to physical capital and finally to human capital; why the relative usage of relational and legal contracts differs across societies and over time; how education changes in terms of who are educated and what is taught, and how it interacts with international trade patterns.

Her work has been published in journals including, International Economic Review, Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization, Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series A – Statistics in Society, American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings, among others.



Christine Ho

Assistant Professor of Economics
Singapore Management University

Christine Ho specialises in public and demographic economics, with interests in family economics and the economics of ageing.

In a recent paper published in the Review of Economics of the Household, Christine studied how the needs of grandchild care relate to intergenerational transfers and grandparents' labour supply behaviour. Her current research includes the evaluation of welfare-to-work reforms within family networks and the optimal design of disability insurance and childcare subsidy schemes.



Financial Assistance Schemes

SMU awards two types of scholarship on a competitive basis. We assess applicants for different award schemes at the time of admission based on qualification and suitability for these schemes.

SMU SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship covers registration and subsidised tuition fees. This scheme also provides successful recipients with monthly living stipends.* The scholarship is renewed yearly, conditioned on good academic performance, for a maximum duration of four years. Beyond the scholarship duration, students who have been on the scholarship may receive continued support through research and teaching assistantships or industry grants.

SMU PRESIDENTIAL DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP

The SMU Presidential Doctoral Fellowship* is awarded to exceptionally qualified students who are offered candidatures into SMU's PhD programmes as well as to existing PhD students who are outstanding

in their academic performance. The Fellowship is a one-year award that is renewed annually, for up to four years.

* The stipend rates are published on SMU's postgraduate research programmes' site at www.smu.edu.sg/pgr and are subject to changes.



A Unique University in Vibrant Singapore



SMU has been designed to provide a different model of university education in Singapore.

A STRONG AND INNOVATIVE RESEARCH CULTURE

Internationally recognised for its world-class research and distinguished teaching conducted by faculty members who joined us from top universities.

Faculty members collaborating in cross-disciplinary work to generate impactful and real-world relevant ideas, over and above research in their own disciplines.

Faculty members establishing research centres and institutes to conduct problem-driven research and influence industry practice across a wide range of topics.

A DIFFERENT LEARNING APPROACH

Students shaping their own syllabuses.

Faculty members encouraging an interactive learning environment through inquiry, participation and teamwork.

Seminar-style teaching in small classes for optimal student-instructor interaction.

STATE-OF-THE-ART INFRASTRUCTURE

- Small MBA-style seminar rooms.
- Research facilities including proprietary and published databases.
- SMU's library (for access to many publications and other necessary materials).
- Professional skills development programmes.

Being in the heart of the city, students will have easy access to industry partners who provide research data and validation platforms.

Each School has dedicated personnel to take care of students' administrative needs. Furthermore, many SMU research centres and institutes provide post-doctoral fellowships and/or research assistantships that add value to students' research experience.



School of Economics
Singapore Management University
90 Stamford Road
Singapore 178903



<http://smu.sg/phdecons>



(65) 6828 0239 / (65) 6828 0829



soephd@smu.edu.sg



(65) 6828 0833