THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Department of Economics,
UWA Business School

Economics Honours & M.Ec by Coursework and Dissertation

Application and Entry Requirements Information

For many students, writing a dissertation in economics is the best part of their university experience. It is an opportunity to focus, in depth, on a topic and literature that interests you while developing skills in econometrics and data analytics, time management, problem solving, communication (writing and oral) and other useful skills.

At UWA students may write a dissertation in economics either as part of the:

- Bachelor of Economics (Honours) B.Ec(Hons) [Course Code BH013]
- Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) B.Com(Hons) [Course Code BH002]
- Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours) B.Phil(Hons) [Course Code BH005]
- Bachelor of Economics and Master of Economics (CBM degree) [Course Code CM002]
- Master of Economics [Course Code 42670]

Points to consider before you apply:

- Deferral - apply only for the year you want to start. Deferral is not available.
- Part-time study - is available but you must complete the course in two years. Student visa holders are required to study full time.
- Commencement – the dissertation component of either the B.Ec(Hons), B.Com(Hons) or M.Ec (CM002) is only available for a Semester 1 commencement.
- Closing date and late applications – applications to either BH013 or BH002 must be submitted by **30 November 2026**. Late applications will not be accepted.

Current UWA students are encouraged to submit their application as early as possible. There is no need to wait until Semester 2, 2026 results have been released before applying, as the Admissions Office will receive the final academic results directly and include them as part of the assessment process.

Entry requirements:

The following table summarises the entry requirements for each UWA course where students may write a dissertation in economics.

Selection criteria:

B.Com(Hons) [BH002]	B.Ec(Hons) [BH013]	M.Ec [42670]	B.Phil [BH005]
To be considered for admission to this course students must have a Bachelor degree with a major in economics and a UWA WAM of at least 75% across ECON3302 (Applied Microeconomics), ECON3303 (Applied Macroeconomics) and ECON3371 (Applied Econometric Methods and Data Analysis).	To be considered for admission to this course students in the B.Ec(Economics major) should have the equivalent of a UWA weighted average mark of at least 75% in the Level 3 core ECON units in the either major of the B.Ec.	Students wishing to undertake the M.Ec by coursework and dissertation (via the 'Research Specialisation' must achieve a UWA weighted average mark of at least 75% in Level 3 core units in the B.Ec or a WAM of 75 in the first 24 points of coursework which must include ECON4402 (Microeconomic Theory) and ECON4413 (Applied Advanced Econometrics).	Entry requirements as per the B.Phil. No formal application required, but you need to email the BPhil Coordinator: Dino Spagnoli dino.spagnoli@uwa.edu.au and Honours in Economics Coordinator: Girish Bahal girish.bahal@uwa.edu.au .

Note: if you marginally miss the selection criteria, either in terms of required WAM or in terms of not completing a unit, please get in touch with the Honours and Masters (Research) coordinator, Girish Bahal girish.bahal@uwa.edu.au to discuss your case.

1. Offer of an opportunity to write a dissertation in economics is subject to supervision availability (B.Phil(Hons) student excepted). With the exception of B.Phil(Hons) students, applicants are, ranked according to their selection WAM and offered places from the top of the list (rank 1) until the Department has filled its available places (rank n). The total number of places available (n) will vary according to the number of staff available to supervise.
2. Non-UWA applicants: applicants who hold a three-year bachelor degree from another university are welcome to apply. Your grades will be assessed on a case-by-case basis if they are not provided on the same scale as UWA grades. Up to 5% of places on the economics honours (B.Ec(Hons) + B.Com(Hons) may be made available to non-UWA economics course graduates.

How to apply for 2027 entry to BH002 or BH013:

To apply for honours follow the steps given below:

- Ensure that you meet or will meet the entry requirements.
- Current students and graduates from UWA are to apply on Student Connect.
- Non-UWA applicants should apply via the UWA Lodging Your Application page.

- Non-UWA applicants must provide all economics results by the deadline. Failure to do so will result in the application being deemed ineligible.
- Deferred exams and delayed external results will result in an application being incomplete.
- **Please ensure you submit your application by 30 November 2026.**

Note: *Supervisor preferences are nominated after offers are issued.*

How to apply to complete the M.Ec by coursework and dissertation in 2027 (i.e., to enrol in the M.Ec Research Specialisation).

- Ensure that you meet or will meet the entry requirements for the M.Ec Research Specialisation.
- Submit your application to Economics Honours coordinator by **1 December 2026.**

Note: *Supervisor preferences are nominated after offers are issued.*

Choosing a supervisor:

All students who receive an offer to study Economics Honours or the M.Ec Research Specialisation will be asked to complete a supervisor preference form. This includes B.Phil and CBM students. The form will ask you to express your preferences regarding supervision by each available academic in the department.

How do I identify a potential supervisor?

Students are advised to:

- read some literature about conducting research and research in general, if this not already covered in units studied to date;
- familiarise themselves with the research interests of academic staff within the department. Note: Information about the research expertise of academic staff may be found on each staff member's 'UWA Profile and Research Repository' homepages;
- if possible, talk with current and former honours and postgraduate students in the department about their experiences of supervision.

Contacting supervisor

As part of the process of finding a supervisor you may wish to contact potential supervisors about their research interests and possible research topics. You may reach out to them via email and they may provide you with further information – perhaps through an individual meeting or possibly a group meeting. Alternatively, staff may respond via email.

Talking to a potential supervisor is not compulsory. N.B., if you do meet with a potential supervisor do not seek to 'interview' them!

Note, not all staff are available for to supervise in a given year. The supervisor preference form will provide email details for staff with capacity to supervise in 2027. It will be available for distribution after 1 December 2026.

How are supervisors assigned?

You will return your 'supervisor preference form' to the department by the date specified on the form. The department will then assign you a supervisor based on your preferences and the preferences of supervisors. Where there are ties priority will be given to the student with the strongest academic record in economics. Note, competition for supervisors can be intense depending on their research interests and capacity to take on students. You should, therefore, seek to preference more than one supervisor.

One to two weeks before semester commences, the department will inform you who your supervisor is. Please note that this assignment will be final and that no further change of supervisor will occur once you have been assigned to an academic.