



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

University of Cambridge

Open Day

ECONOMICS

Economics at Cambridge

Economics

Economics analyses allocation of scarce resources.

*“Economics is a science of thinking in terms of models,
joined to the art of choosing models
which are relevant to the contemporary world”*

John Maynard Keynes (1938)

Economics Tripos at Cambridge

- Well-rounded, rigorous education in Economics

Providing students tools and insights needed to analyse complex economic phenomena and understand economic and financial developments.

Developing analytical and problem-solving skills, highly valued in business, finance and public sector.

Preparing for graduate study in Economics.

Prerequisites Economics Tripos

- Strong quantitative skills and interest in applying mathematical and statistical tools to economic problems
 - A-level or IB HL Math required
 - Further Math very useful (esp. Pure and Statistics)
- Intellectual curiosity and wide-ranging interest to rigorously and critically analyse economic developments
 - A-level or IB HL Economics desirable (if not offered, Geography or Business Studies instead)
 - Proficiency in both model- and essay-based subjects desirable (e.g. Physics and History)
- Strong overall academic record
 - Typical successful applicant got at least 6 A* at GCSE and high A (>90%) for AS Math, and doing Further Math.

Admissions and Offers

- Competition for places is strong, with around 7 applicants per place.
- Admissions done by Colleges, involving
 - 1) Two-hour admissions assessment (2 Nov 2016), incl. problem solving & advanced math multiple choice test and extended essay responding to text excerpt.
 - 2) Interview in Cambridge (early Dec).
- Typical offer conditional on achieving A*A*A for 'academic' A-level subjects, with A* for Math; for IB, 40-42 points with 776 at HL, incl 7 for Math.

Economics Tripos at Cambridge

- Three-year BA Honours course in Economics, divided into Part I, Part IIA and Part IIB, with written exams at end of each year (no resits).
- Compulsory elements
 - Microeconomics and Macroeconomics (in each year, with broad syllabus)
 - Quantitative Methods (Mathematics & Statistics) and Econometrics
 - Political & Social Aspects of Economics and Economic History
 - Dissertation (in Part IIB)
- Wide range of optional courses in Part IIA and IIB
- Some possibilities for switching to other subjects, incl.
 - Human/Social/Political Sciences, History after Part I
 - Management Studies after Part IIA (subject to quota)

Part I of Economics Tripos

Common first-year with five compulsory papers

1. Microeconomics
2. Macroeconomics
3. Quantitative Methods (Math and Statistics)
4. Political and Social Aspects of Economics
5. British Economic History

Part IIA of Economics Tripos

Four papers in second year, including three compulsory papers

- Microeconomics
- Macroeconomics
- Theory and Practice of Econometrics

and one option chosen from

- Mathematics & Statistics for Economists
- Labour Economics
- International Trade & Economic Development
- History & Philosophy of Economics
- Politics
- Sociology
- International Relations

Part IIB of Economics Tripos

Final year consists of five elements, including three compulsory components

- Microeconomics
- Macroeconomics
- Dissertation (on economic topic chosen by student)

and two options chosen from

- Economic Theory and Analysis
- Development Economics
- Banking and Finance
- Public Economics
- Industry
- Econometrics
- Economic History
- Political Economics
- Selected papers from Politics/Sociology

Teaching in Economics Tripos

Academic year consist of three 8-week terms – intensive!

Faculty of Economics provides

- lectures (around 40 hours per paper)
- examinations (3-hour written exam for each paper)

Colleges organise

- small-group ‘supervisions’ (typically 10 hours per paper)
- tutorial support, housing and extracurricular activities
- admissions

Lecturers provide supervision assignments to facilitate coordination with Colleges.

Careers After Economics Tripos

Wide range of career opportunities:

- ❖ Business and finance, including
 - Asset management
 - Investment banking
 - Management consultancy
- ❖ Public sector, including
 - Bank of England
 - Government Economic Service
 - International organisations (e.g. IMF, World Bank)

Many economic careers require Master's degree,
for which Economics Tripos provides excellent preparation.