The Department of Economics offers current SMU undergraduate students the opportunity to take graduate courses towards an M.A. degree in Applied Economics.

Why do a 4+1?

Earn 2 degrees in only 5 years
By taking graduate courses in your senior year, you can accelerate completion of a 2-year Master's degree in one additional year.

Save money on tuition
Graduate courses taken in your final undergraduate year will fall under the undergraduate tuition rate, which also allows the use of federal financial aid.

Enter the workforce with a significant advantage
Having a master's degree creates access to a wider range of job opportunities and higher starting pay than with a bachelor's alone. Connections made with program alumni increase your professional network.
Interested SMU undergraduate economics majors should consult with their Undergraduate Advisor for approval before the end of the Spring semester of their Sophomore year (or after completing 60 credits hours, including transfer and test credits). Approved candidates should work closely with the Undergraduate and Graduate Advisors to plan the appropriate curriculum path.

Students need certain prerequisites to be eligible for the program. The Undergraduate Advisor will help you decide if this is a good option for you.

Where do I start?

Students who are enrolled in the Economics B.A. or B.S. program and are approved 4+1 candidates must apply to the M.A. program in their senior year. If admitted, then they are eligible to take courses in their final year.

Please note that students cannot take more than 30 graduate credits in this final year.

Once you complete the requirements for your Bachelor's degree, you're ready to move on to your Master's, which has already started!

Questions? Contact us!

Dr. Kathy Hayes
Director of Undergraduate Studies
214-768-4827, Umphrey Lee 301J
khayes@smu.edu

Alyssa Munk
Undergraduate Advisor
214-768-2704, Umphrey Lee 301D
amunk@smu.edu

Dr. Bo Chen
Director of Master's Studies
214-768-2715, Umphrey Lee 301G
bochen@smu.edu

Lacey Breaux
Graduate Advisor
214-768-2694, Umphrey Lee 301AA
lbreaux@smu.edu