

4+1 Accelerated Master's Degree

SMU Department of Economics

SMU®



Topics

- Why 4+1?
- Program Overview
- Eligibility
- How to Get Started
- Applying to the Master's Program
- Key Contacts

Why 4+1?



- Earn two degrees (an undergraduate degree and a M.A. in Applied Economics) in five years
- Save tuition money. Graduate courses taken as an undergraduate, will fall under the undergraduate tuition rate, which allows the use of federal financial aid.
- More job opportunities
- Higher starting salary
- Grow your professional network

Program Overview

- You will take three graduate ECO courses (9 hours) as an undergraduate.
- These graduate hours will be taken in place of three of your undergraduate ECO courses (i.e. the 9 graduate hours will count towards both your undergraduate degree and your master's degree).
- You will carefully review the [Course Selection Guide](#) to ensure that you take the proper courses.
- After you graduate, you will then complete the “+1” (master’s only) portion of the program (i.e. taking at least 7 additional graduate courses).

Eligibility

- Your 4+1 eligibility will not be formally checked until it is time to enroll in 6000-level courses. You may view the [6000-level permission form](#) for a preview of those requirements.
- However, students initially expressing interest should be at or near a 3.0 ECO GPA as well as a 3.0 overall GPA.
- If it does not look attainable to reach both 3.0 GPAs by the semester in which 6000 level courses will be taken, you may be told that the program is not a good fit for you.



How to Get Started

1. Review the program materials.
2. Express initial interest by emailing the undergraduate advisor. It is best to begin planning your schedule for the program prior to the end of your sophomore year or completion of 60 credits.
3. The undergraduate advisor can answer general questions about the program, help you understand your progress, and provide basic course guidance.
4. For detailed help selecting courses, review the [Course Selection Guide](#). Contact the interim Director of Undergraduate Studies, Dr. Ozerturk, at ozerturk@smu.edu if you have questions.
5. Before any semester in which you register for graduate course(s), you will need to submit the online [6000-level course form](#) for permission to enroll.

Will I Still Have to Apply for the Master's Program?

- Yes. Even though you'll be considered a 4+1 student and taking graduate courses, you will not be formally admitted to the Master's program until you apply.
- You will, however, be provided guidance along the way about your progress towards admission into the Master's program when you apply to take graduate courses as a 4+1 student.
- You cannot apply to the M.A. program until your final undergraduate semester.
- If admitted, then you will be eligible to complete the last year of the program (i.e. the +1 portion).



Key Contacts

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