DOCTORAL PROGRAM IN ECONOMICS

The University of Melbourne’s Department of Economics and the Melbourne Institute together uphold their position as the premier economics research unit in Australia. Our academics are routinely called upon to provide expert opinions to business and government in Australia and around the world. Here, under the supervision of world-class researchers, our PhD students produce the highest calibre of research, in preparation for their placements in top institutions and organisations around the world.

This five-year doctoral program in economics is the leading PhD program in the region and sits among the world’s top graduate research programs. This program is jointly offered by the Department of Economics and Australia’s pre-eminent economic and social policy research institution, the Melbourne Institute. As such, the diversity and depth of available research advisors and research topics in theoretical and applied economics in Australia is unparalleled in the region. Our students have access to state-of-the-art experimental labs, funding support for national and international conference travel and access to all major research databases.

Each year’s intake consists of up to 15 domestic and international students, providing a solid cohort learning experience. This program is designed for students with prior training in economics or a related discipline with a strong analytical/mathematical component, who wish to acquire the advanced skills needed to practice as a professional economist in the public or private sectors. Some of our more recent placements are at the University of Pittsburgh (US), Nuffield College, at the University of Oxford (UK) and Monash University (Australia).

Scholarships

- All successful applicants are awarded an annual AUD $30,000 stipend and waived tuition fees for 5 years.
- Top-up funding of AUD $10,000 available for research, experiments and conferences during the research phase of the program.
**Specialisations**

The program offers a broad range of specialisations, with PhD supervision offered by academics from both the Department of Economics and the Melbourne Institute on topics such as:

- Behavioural economics
- Development economics
- Econometric theory
- Economic design
- Economics of education
- Economics of innovation
- Environmental economics
- Experimental economics
- Financial economics
- Health economics
- Industrial economics
- International economics
- Labour economics
- Longitudinal survey research
- Macroeconomics and forecasting
- Microeconomic theory
- Monetary economics
- Social policy research and analysis.

**Admissions**

Your application must include relevant supporting documents (previous academic transcripts, evidence of English language requirements, GRE score sheets), a 100-word research proposal as part of your CV and two academic referee reports.

Refer to [https://study.unimelb.edu.au/find/courses/graduate/doc](https://study.unimelb.edu.au/find/courses/graduate/doc) toral-program-in-economics/entry-requirements/ for minimum requirements.

Applications close on 30 September each year and entry to the program is for February (Semester 1) only.

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**Melbourne at a glance**

- **Population:** 5 million people
- **World’s Most Liveable City 2011–2017**
- **More cafes and restaurants per number of people than any other city in the world**
- **World-class shopping**
- **State capital of Victoria**
- **Easy to get around with a reliable public transport system**

**Living and studying in Melbourne**

The University of Melbourne is located close to the heart of the city. Melbourne has been named the world’s most liveable city seven years in a row, boasting culturally diverse communities, one of the world’s best health care systems, a thriving arts scene and is the sporting capital of Australia. Highlights include Australian Open Tennis, Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix and Australian Football League (AFL). Other major festivals include Melbourne International Comedy Festival, Melbourne International Film Festival, and Melbourne Writers Festival.

The Parkville campus is only a short stroll from famed cobblestone lanes, culinary delights, arts and culture, and world-class shopping.

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**My PhD journey:** “After my graduate studies in Italy I decided to move to Melbourne attracted by the rhythm of the city. I had the opportunity to benefit from the support of my supervisors and the entire Department. The myriad of seminars and workshops offered allow me to enrich my research skills, to enhance my presentation and writing skills, and to create connection with experts from the private and public sectors. The funding and travel opportunities support the promotion of my research internationally.”

_Silvia Griselda_  
Doctor of Philosophy (Accounting) candidate  
University of Melbourne

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**My PhD journey:** “The program is the best of its kind in Australia. The two years of coursework provide an opportunity for us to develop our research interest and get to know the faculty members. At the start of the third year, I was in a position to produce meaningful research. What I appreciated most was how much everyone in the Department cares about the PhD program and constantly seeks to improve it. PhD students receive a tremendous amount of support and have direct access to world-class researchers.”

_David Delacretaz_  
Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
University of Oxford