

PhD Program in Economics Call for Applicants



The PhD is the jewel in the crown of academic achievement, and only the brightest and most dedicated students pursue this degree.

About Deakin

Deakin Business School is an internationally accredited business school in the top 1% of business schools globally. We are one of only 150 schools worldwide to hold both AACSB and EQUIS accreditation.

Deakin University is internationally ranked and recognised around the world. We are proud to be in the top 2% of universities across all three of the major international university ranking systems (the Academic Ranking of World Universities, Times Higher Education World University Rankings and QS World University Rankings), assessed from 17,000 universities worldwide.

About the Department

The Department of Economics comprises over 30 academic staff specializing in research on development economics, macroeconomic and microeconomic theory, applied economics, and trade. It is ranked among the top nine in Australia and third in Victoria according to the Australian government rankings (ERA 2018). Research produced by department members appear in leading journals such as *AEJ: Macroeconomics*, *Econometrica*, *Journal of Economic Theory*, *Review of Economics and Statistics* and *The Economic Journal*. As part of the Business School's commitment to the recruitment of world-class researchers, the department has hired academics who hold PhD degrees from renowned universities, e.g., Emory University, London School of Economics, Ohio State University, University of Rochester, and University of Texas at Austin. The department has also hired Professorial Research Fellows who further strengthen the departments supervisory and research capability, including Professor Ahmed Mushfiq Mobarak (Yale University), Professor Utku Unver (Boston College), and Professor Marco Mariotti (Queen Mary University of London).

About our PhD Program

The PhD in Economics is designed to provide students with a rigorous academic grounding in their area of specialization and the skills required to undertake original research that contribute significantly to knowledge. Students will complete six coursework units, designed to provide advanced training in economic theory and econometrics. Students will progress to work on their doctoral thesis under the guidance of PhD supervisors who are experts in the area of their doctoral thesis. Students are expected to complete their PhD in 3 to 4 years. The program is designed to produce future academic leaders, with students receiving generous grants to support their research and significant assistance to prepare them for the academic job market at the end of their candidature.

Yale Visit Opportunity

Professor Ahmed Mushfiq Mobarak from Yale University is a Professorial Research Fellow at Deakin and is a world leader in the field of development economics and randomized control trials. Students enrolled in our PhD program will have the opportunity to apply to visit Yale University for a period of 9 to 12 months, where they will be part of Professor Mobarak's working group of PhD students. They will also have the opportunity to attend seminars and classes at Yale. To apply, PhD students must have excelled in the first year of our program and must be working on a topic in development economics. This opportunity is offered on a competitive basis and subject to visa requirements. Successful applicants will receive additional funding which will offset a portion of the costs associated with traveling to and living in the USA.

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Applications

Applications are now open for the February 2024 intake. Deadline for submissions is 16 October 2023. Applicants are encouraged to contact the HDR Director in the Department of Economics to lodge their expression of interest (EOI). Please include the following with your EOI applications:

- i.* Faculty EOI form which can be found [here](#).
- ii.* A 5 minute video presentation addressing why you are applying for a PhD, what you want to achieve during your time at Deakin, and summarizing your understanding of a particular academic literature that you are interested in
- iii.* GMAT/GRE score – It is not compulsory to submit your GMAT/GRE scores with your application, but it is advisable to do so.
- iv.* Cc bl-phd@deakin.edu.au

More information about the application process can be found at: <https://blogs.deakin.edu.au/business-and-law-phd/>

Scholarships

Deakin scholarships are available and provide a living allowance (domestic and international students) and fee waivers (international students only; the fees of domestic students are covered by the Australian Government). The stipend rate is \$33,500 p.a. (2023 rate). Scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic merit and alignment with University and Faculty strategic goals, and there is strong competition for these scholarships. Applicants are benchmarked against the characteristics of an ideal candidate (see below) when assessed for scholarship eligibility.

Desired Profile of PhD Students

Candidates with the following attributes are invited to apply for admission into the PhD program in economics:

1. Completed research degree (honours or masters) with an 80% grade;
2. Intellectually curious;
3. Strong academic background in Economics, Mathematics or Statistics while also demonstrating potential to complete PhD-level courses in Economics to a high standard;
4. Strong referee letters that are able to rank the candidate relative to their peers and also relative to previous cohorts;
5. Ability to clearly articulate contributions and gaps in one's own research work as well as the research work embodied in key papers in the academic literature within one's field of interest;
6. Strong GRE or GMAT scores are valuable but not mandatory.

For all enquiries, please email: bl-phd@deakin.edu.au