

Graduate Program Learning Objectives

At the time of graduation, candidates must have completed one or more activities for each of the five learning objectives. Examples of appropriate activities are listed for each learning objective.

I. Access existing knowledge

I-1 Locate published research in various outlets, e.g. books, journals, and government documents;

I-2 Locate information on particular topics and issues in economics;

I-3 Search out economic data and information about their meaning and construction;

I-4 Develop tools appropriate for acquiring economic knowledge.

II. Master current economic thought and its policy implications

II-1 State succinctly alternative economic perspectives and their policy implications for an economic issues

II-2 Write a two-page summary of a refereed journal article for class presentation.

III. Critically evaluate scholarly research in economics and allied fields

III-1 Read and interpret economic analyses, including mathematical models, reported in refereed economics journals;

III-2 Read and interpret quantitative analyses, including modern advances in quantitative methods, reported in refereed economics journal articles;

III-3 Write a two-page referee report on a journal article for class presentation.

IV. Articulate a research agenda

IV-1 Identify an economic problem that requires further investigation;

IV-2 Identify a shortcoming in theoretical aspects of a published research paper;

IV-3 Identify a weakness in empirical methodology of a published research paper.

V. Create/advance knowledge in economics

V-1 Modify an existing economic theory or empirical method to examine a problem;

V-2 Critically investigate an economic problem using new theoretical or empirical advances in the field;

V-3 Complete a research project (thesis/capstone) which describes/demonstrates your investigation;