

Programme Specification 2025-26

ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN ECONOMICS

Awarding body	University of Cambridge
Teaching institution	Faculty of Economics
Accreditation details	None
Name of final award	Diploma
Programme title	Economics
UCAS code	None
HECoS code(s)	100450 (economics)
Relevant QAA benchmark statement(s)	None
Qualifications framework level	FHEQ Level 6
Date specification produced	April 2021

Educational aims of the programme

The aim of the Advanced Diploma in Economics is to provide students who already have good degrees in other disciplines with the appropriate knowledge and understanding of the core principles and techniques of economic analysis at a level comparable with that of an undergraduate degree. It provides students with a foundation to apply for a Master's degree in economics.

Programme outcomes

On completion of the Advanced Diploma, students should have acquired an understanding of the core principles and techniques of analysis in microeconomics, macroeconomics and econometrics and be equipped to proceed to a master's degree in economics.

Programme structure

Teaching for the Advanced Diploma is by a combination of lectures in economic theory, macroeconomics, and econometrics for second year undergraduates, supplemented by intensive teaching classes exclusively for Advanced Diploma students. Rapid progress in understanding economic theory and econometrics is ensured by requiring strong mathematical skills on entry. The programme begins in September with a one-week course to prepare students in the fundamentals of each of the three subjects: microeconomics, macroeconomics, and econometrics. Interactive learning and informal feedback are provided through weekly classes for which students prepare short essays and exercises. A number of these courses will be regarded as obligatory, since they cover core material for the Diploma syllabus; but students are also encouraged to attend other lectures in areas in which they have a particular interest. Student progress is monitored by grading a selection of essays and exercises and the results reported to the Director of Studies.

Modes of Assessment

Examinations will take place in either January and/or May and June. Assessment will be in the form of a combination of exams, projects and coursework as specified on the annual form and conduct.

A high performance in the Advanced Diploma may be awarded a distinction.

Management of Teaching Quality and Standards

The University ensures high quality of teaching and learning in the following ways:

- Scrutiny of the External Examiners Reports for all teaching programmes
- Encouraging student engagement at both the local level, through involvement in Faculty and Departmental Committees, and at a central level by participation in nationally-benchmarked surveys
- Participation in the biennial Education Monitoring and Review Process to explore provision, share good practice and suggest constructive courses of action
- Mentoring, appraisal, and peer review of staff, and encouraging staff participation in personal development programmes

Postgraduate Employability and Career destinations

With a bachelor's degree in another subject and the Advanced Diploma in Economics, a number of students seek careers that are very similar to students who have a bachelor's degree in economics, e.g. accountancy, actuarial work, management consultancy or careers in financial services such as investment banking. Other students who achieve the required performance in the Advanced Diploma continue with master's degree training to achieve a master's degree in economics or closely related discipline (such as finance).

Admissions requirements

Applicants from UK universities are expected to have a good 2.i (av. 68/69) bachelor's degree, while overseas applicants are expected to have a GPA of 3.6 or more, or its equivalent. Applicants from non-UK universities are asked to take a GRE (Graduate Records Examination) test. On average there are 20 students beginning the course each year, all of whom are full-time.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this programme specification. At the time of publication, the programme specification has been approved by the relevant Faculty Board (or equivalent). Programme specifications are reviewed annually, however, during the course of the academical year, any approved changes to the programme will be communicated to enrolled students through email notification or publication in the *Reporter*. The relevant faculty or department will endeavour to update the programme specification accordingly, and prior to the start of the next academical year.

Further information about specifications and an archive of programme specifications for all awards of the University is available online at: <https://www.camdata.admin.cam.ac.uk/>