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Economics Collection Development Policy

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Economics Collection Development Policy

University Libraries, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Suping Lu, October 2009

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I. GENERAL ACADEMIC PROGRAM INFORMATION

The economics collection supports the teaching, learning, research, needs for economic information, and other related service activities of the entire university community. Its primary users are faculty, staff, and students of the Economics Department in the College of Business Administration (CBA). Its essential focus is support for the undergraduate and graduate curricula for economics. The collection is supplemented through interlibrary loan services whenever special curriculum and research needs of economics faculty and students arise. Although the collection is not developed for the general public and community users, they may benefit from the collection for their information needs. The main focus of the collection are works classified in Library of Congress call numbers HB (Economic theory and demography), HC (Economic history and conditions), and HD (Economic development), however, curriculum and research needs of economics are substantially supported by works classified in statistics, finance, and other business related areas.

Economics Department

The origin of the Department of Economics can be traced back to a required course in political economy when the University of Nebraska was first established in 1869. In 1899, the Department of Political Economy and Sociology was formed. The department was restructured in 1906 to become the Department of Political Science and Sociology and the Department of Political Economy and Commerce. In May 1913, the School of Commerce was initiated as a part of the College of Arts and Sciences. As the only department in the school, the Department of Political Economy and Commerce was renamed the Department of Economics and Commerce. In 1919, when the School of Commerce was transformed and upgraded to the College of Business Administration, the Department of Economics and Commerce remained as the lone department in the college until 1925 when it was split into the Department of Economics and the Department of Business Organization and Management.

In the course of over one hundred years, economics has evolved and developed into a strong academic program that is committed to providing quality undergraduate and graduate education, offering B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees. The department offers courses in following areas of concentration: general economics and theory, comparative international and regional development, econometrics, economic education, economic history, industrial organization and regulation, institutional economics, international trade and finance, labor economics, monetary economics, public finance, and quantitative economics, to train students for a wide variety of careers in business, government, teaching and others. The department participates with other CBA departments in the graduate program that offers M.B.A. In addition, the department cooperates with the College of Law to offer a four-year J.D./M.A. program. As a participating department, economics offers courses in such interdisciplinary programs as African American and African studies, Asian studies, European studies, international studies, and Latino and Latin American studies. There is close coordination between the M.S. program in the Agricultural

Economics Department and the MA program in the Economics Department. Close working relationships exist between the Economics Department, the Center for Economic Education, the Bureau of Business Research, and Nebraska Council on Economic Education. Economics faculty members serve as director of the Bureau of Business Research, and president of Nebraska Council on Economic Education.

There are 18 full-time faculty members in the Economics Department, with 11 full professors, four associate professors, two assistant professors and one assistant professor of practice. The faculty members have a wide variety of research interests: agriculture policy, applied econometrics, commercial policy, economics education, ecological economics, economic forecasting, exchange rate models, federal, state and local tax policy, industrial organization, international finance, international trade, labor economics, macroeconomic variables, macroeconomics time-series, market evolution, markets and dynamics, monetary policy regimes, political business cycles, post-war macroeconomic policy, public policy analysis, urban and regional economics, urban land development, welfare economics, and women and economics.

Each academic year, there are about 110 undergraduate students enrolled as economics majors. Currently, seven students enrolled in master's program and 21 students, including ABD, working towards Ph.D. In 2007-2008 academic year, 22 B.A. in economics were awarded. Of the 22, 14 got the degree through the College of Business Administration, seven through the College of Arts and Sciences, and one through J.D. Edwards Program. In addition, there were seven students who got B.A. in economics as their second bachelor through CBA, and nine got the degree as the second bachelor through the College of Arts and Sciences. In the same academic year, the Economics Department awarded six master's and three Ph.D. degrees.

B.A. in Economics

The economics major requires 30 credit hours in economics, including five core courses: ECON211 (Principles of Macroeconomics), ECON212 (Principles of Microeconomics), ECON215 (Statistics), ECON311 (Intermediate Macroeconomics), ECON312 (Intermediate Microeconomics). For the remaining 15 credit hours, 6 hours are to be at the 300 or 400 level, and 9 hours must be at the 400 level. It is recommended that a student focus on one or two areas of concentration.

M.A. in Economics

The department offers graduate study in the following areas of specification: comparative international and regional development, econometrics, economic education, economic history, economic theory, industrial organization and regulation, institutional economics, international trade and finance, labor economics, monetary economics, and public finance.

M.A. Option I with Thesis

This option requires 30 credit hours of course work, plus 6 to 9 credit hours for thesis, including required core courses: ECON873 or ECON973 (Econometrics), ECON874 or ECON974 (Macroeconomics), and ECON817 or ECON957 (Econometrics), in addition to at least 9 credit hours in the major area of concentration, and 9 hours at the 800 or 900 level. An oral defense of the thesis is required.

M.A. Option II Applied Economics (without thesis)

This option requires 36 credit hours of course work, including required core courses: ECON873, ECON874, and ECON817, in addition to at least 9 credit hours in the major area of concentration, 9 hours in a minor area of concentration outside of economics, 12 hours at the 800 or 900 level, and 18 hours must be in economics.

M.A. Option III leading to Ph.D. (without thesis)

This option, which is designed for those who plan to continue scholarly work in a chosen area beyond the master's level, requires 36 credit hours, including required core courses: ECON973, ECON974, and ECON957, in addition to at least 9 credit hours in the major area of concentration, 18 hours at the 800 or 900 level, and 18 hours must be in economics.

Ph.D. in Economics

It requires 90 credit hours, including core courses: ECON815, Statistics 880 or 882, ECON 973 and 983 (Microeconomics I and II), ECON974 and 984 (Macroeconomics I and II), ECON957 and 958 (Econometrics I and II); passing a qualifying examination in Advanced Economic Theory by the end of the third semester; choosing two areas of concentration (taking at least 6 credit hours of course work at the 900 level in each of the areas); passing comprehensive written and oral examinations covering the two chosen areas of concentration; and a minimum of 12 hours for dissertation research.

J.D. / M.A. Program

The joint J.D. in Law and M.A. in Economics is a four-year program administered jointly by the College of Law and the Economics Department. A student must be formally admitted by both the College of Law and the Economics Department to enter the program. The students will complete requirements in the following sequence: the first year 21 (option I) or 24 (option II) credit hours of economics course work; second year 36 credit hours of law course work; third year 0 (option I) or 3 (option II) credit hours of economics course work and M.A. is awarded; 12 credit hours of law course work and in the third year 9 credit hours are required in joint Economics-Law courses; the fourth year 30 credit hours of law course work, and J.D. is awarded.

Library Collection

For decades, the University Libraries has committed to acquiring and collecting a wide range of resources to support the economics academic programs. The materials in the library collection cover the areas of agricultural economics, comparative international and regional development, econometrics, economic and financial crisis, economic conditions, economic development, economic education, economic geography, economic history, economic policy, economic recession, economic theory, feminist economics, industrial organization and regulation, institutional economics, international economics, international trade and finance, labor economics, macroeconomics, microeconomics, monetary economics, political economy, public finance, and quantitative economics, and urban economics.

The guides of some of the above-mentioned areas can be found in other collection development policies, such as Statistics, History, Geography, Political Science, Law, Education, and Mathematics.

The University Libraries is one of the regional centers of the U.S. federal document depository, and has a fairly complete set of U.S. federal government documents from executive, legislative, and judicial branches, which provide an abundant and invaluable resource for the economics academic programs. The library collection also has United Nations, European Union, Organization of American States, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and Nebraska State documents.

II. GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE

No geographical exclusion is made, in view of the Department's wide-ranging research interests and specific emphases on comparative international economics, finance and trade, as well as economic development globally. However, to some extent, North America, South America, Europe, and East Asia are preferred geographical areas. Materials on any geographical coverage are collected at the request of faculty.

III. CHRONOLOGICAL COVERAGE

Emphasis is on the current period, though it is also important to collect materials with historical analysis and perspectives on such topics as economic history, economic theory, and economic development. Materials of any chronological periods are acquired at faculty request.

IV. IMPRINT DATE

Emphasis is on recently published materials. Materials in HB and HC are mostly collected at research level, and in HD, HE, HF, HG, and HJ are collected selectively either at research or study level. Materials of earlier editions or published earlier are acquired at faculty request.

V. FORMAT

Most materials are acquired in the form of monographs, reference works, and periodicals. Most materials are in print format, while an increasing percentage of periodicals are in electronic format, and a small number of e-books are in the collection. Up-to-date reference materials such as dictionaries, indexes, encyclopedias, directories, and handbooks are collected.

Proceedings, symposia, and dissertations are collected selectively. The acquisition of documents from the U.S. federal government and State of Nebraska, United Nations, European Union, Organization of American States, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) satisfactorily supports the needs of economics. Quite a few of the documents, in particular, the U.S. federal documents and OECD reports can be accessed electronically.

VI. LANGUAGES

English is the preferred language of publication for all materials. Non-English materials are collected selectively, usually at faculty request. Translations are preferred to non-English materials.

VII. ELECTRONIC DATABASES

The University Libraries has acquired a number of electronic databases, including some full-text ones, in economics and related areas: EconLit, SourceOECD, Business Source Premier, Mergent Online, Lexis/Nexis, and Reference USA. In addition, Academic Search Premier, Project Muse, and JSTOR, all of which are interdisciplinary databases, contain a substantial amount of

economics related full-text material. These databases greatly enhance the research capability and provide convenient and timely access to various resources.

VIII. CLASSIFICATION AND INTENSITY LISTING

HA 29-4737 Statistics. Theory and method of social Sciences. Statistical data RESEARCH

HB (entire) Economic theory and demography RESEARCH

HC 10-79 Economic history. General & special RESEARCH

HC 92 Economic geography of the oceans BASIC

HC 94-1085 Economic history by region or country RESEARCH

HD 72-88 Economic development. Development economics. Economic growth RESEARCH

HD 101-1395.5 Land use. Land tenure. Land reform STUDY

HD 1401-2200 Agricultural economics (In conj. w/CYT) RESEARCH

HD 2709-3575 Corporations. Corporate organization. Corporate governance. Cooperative societies RESEARCH

HD 9000-9999 Special industries & trades STUDY

HE 1-300 Transportation and commerce STUDY

HE 305-311 Urban transportation STUDY

HE 323-327 Transportation geography. Trade routes BASIC

HE 380.8-5725 Water transportation. Railroads. Automotive transportation STUDY

HE 7601-9755 Telecommunication industry. Telegraph BASIC

HE 9761-9900 Air transportation. Airlines STUDY

HF 1-56 Commerce. Periodicals. Directories. Yearbooks. Information services. International trade organization. Congresses RESEARCH

HF 351-499 Commerce. History STUDY

HF 1001-1008 Commerce. Dictionaries. Encyclopedias. Terminology. General works STUDY

HF 1014-1191 Balance of trade. Commodities. Business and commercial education RESEARCH

HF 1351-2701 International economic relations. Tariff RESEARCH

HF 3000-4055 General commerce, by region or country STUDY

HF 5001- 5389.3 Business Directories. Handbooks. Vocational guidance. Career development
RESEARCH

HG 179 Personal finance BASIC

HJ 210-1620 Public finance. History. General works by region or country RESEARCH

HJ 2005-3192 Budget. Income & Expenditure. Revenue. Taxation. Internal revenue
RESEARCH