

4.1.4 MCom (Economics)

Admission requirements

- An honours degree with Economics as major and an average mark of at least 60%.
- A Mathematics mark in the National Senior Certificate (Grade 12) of at least 60% or you must have passed a university-accredited mathematics module approved by the Department of Economics.
- All applicants for the Full Thesis option (879) must undergo selection. To be considered for selection, you must have obtained at least 70% for your honours research assignment.

Further requirements for the Coursework and Assignment or Thesis option (889):

At least 60% as your achievement mark in the intensive Statistics course that precedes the formal programme.

Selection

The number of students selected can be influenced by, for example, staff capacity and the availability of resources within the Department, as well as academic merit and University transformation objectives. As staff capacity and resources can fluctuate from year to year, the number of students selected can also differ from year to year.

Should the number of applicants that meet the admission requirements exceed the available capacity of the Department, the criteria in the admission requirements will be used to rank the applicants in order of suitability, and to finalise the list of selected applicants.

Application procedure and closing date

Apply at www.sun.ac.za/pgstudies. For South African applicants, the closing date is **31 October** of the year before your intended studies, and for international applicants, it is **30 September**.

Duration, offering type and starting date of programme

Duration:

- *Coursework and Assignment or Thesis option (889):*
 - One year, full-time.
 - You must complete the programme within three years. If not, you will have to repeat the compulsory modules.
- *Full Thesis option (879):* At least one year and a maximum of three years.

Starting date:

- *Coursework and Assignment or Thesis option (889):*
You must complete a three-week intensive Statistics course before the formal programme begins. This intensive course starts early January.
- *Full Thesis option (879):* You may start in either the first or the second semester. Please contact Prof Ada Jansen at Tel: 021 808 2737 or E-mail: ada@sun.ac.za.

Programme's mode of delivery

Fully contact (face-to-face).

Enquiries

To find out more about admission, selection and registration procedures, module options and credit requirements, please contact the programme administrator:

Programme administrator: Ms Carina Smit

Tel: 021 808 2998

E-mail: carina@sun.ac.za

Website: www.ekon.sun.ac.za

Enquiries will be referred to the correct contact person.

For enquiries about the academic content of the programme, please contact the programme leader:

Programme leader: Prof Dieter von Fintel
 Department of Economics
 Tel: 021 808 2242
 E-mail: dieter2@sun.ac.za

Programme structure

This programme allows you to choose between two main options:

- **Coursework and Assignment or Thesis option** (Economics 889):
 - This option requires full-time class attendance.
 - You can choose between a research assignment of 60 credits or a thesis of 90 credits. The balance of credits (120 or 90) must come from modules as determined by the Department of Economics (see the tables under "Programme content" below).
 - You may obtain a maximum of 20 credits from a related field of study that has been approved by the Department.
- **Full Thesis option** (Economics 879):
 - You must complete a full thesis of 180 credits.

Programme content

Programme module

You must earn a total of at least 180 credits for one of the options in this programme.

Code	Module	Credits	Module Name	Semester
12084	889	180	Economics (Coursework and Assignment or Thesis)	Both
12084	879	180	Economics (Full Thesis)	Both

A list of compulsory and elective modules follows.

Compulsory modules for the Coursework and Assignment or Thesis option (889)

Please note:

Mathematical Methods for Economics 771 is only compulsory if you did not pass a similar module as part of an honours programme. This will extend the programme with six months.

The reason for the extension is that you must first do an intensive three-week Mathematics course before you start Mathematical Methods for Economics 771. This intensive Mathematics course runs concurrently with the intensive three-week Statistics course that feeds into Econometrics 871. In other words, you will only be able to do the Statistics course and Econometrics 871 in the following year.

Code	Module	Credits	Module Name	Semester
10430	871	20	Econometrics	1
10595	871	20	Macroeconomics	1
10760	771	14	Mathematical Methods for Economics	1
10605	871	20	Microeconomics	2
11216	871	60	Research Assignment: Economics <i>or</i>	Both
11235	872	90	Thesis: Economics	Both

Elective modules for the Coursework and Assignment or Thesis option (889)

- If you are doing the Assignment option:
 - *without* Mathematical Methods for Economics 771, choose at least 60 credits.
 - *with* Mathematical Methods for Economics 771, choose at least 50 credits.
- If you are doing the Thesis option:
 - *without* Mathematical Methods for Economics 771, choose at least 30 credits.
 - *with* Mathematical Methods for Economics 771, choose at least 20 credits.

Please note: Not all of the following modules are necessarily offered every year. Please contact the Department of Economics to find out which modules will be presented in a specific year.

Code	Module	Credits	Module Name	Semester
11267	872	20	Advanced Cross-section Econometrics**	2
10515	871	10	Advanced Development Economics	1
13989	871	20	Advanced Macroeconomic Policy	2
12528	872	20	Advanced Time Series Econometrics**	2
11146	871	10	Applied Macroeconomics III	1 or 2
10747	871	10	Applied Microeconomics III	1 or 2
14377	874	10	Behavioural Economics	2
14380	871	10	Data Science for Economics and Finance	1
10635	872	10	Development Economics	1
14446	874	10	Digital Economics	1
10436	871	10	Economic History	1
14379	871	10	Economics of Discrimination***	1
10432	871	10	Economics of Education I	2
10433	871	10	Economics of Education II	2
14025	871	10	Economics of Technological Change***	2
59617	871	10	Environmental Economics***	1
12949	871	10	Financial Econometrics*	2
14447	874	10	Fintech and Cryptocurrencies	1
13469	871	10	Health Economics***	2
11263	871	10	Industrial Organisation	2
64041	871	10	Institutional Economics***	1
10554	871	10	International Finance	2
51861	871	10	Labour Economics***	2
64033	871	10	Monetary Economics	2
11143	871	10	Public Economics	1

* You need 60% for the Time Series component of Econometrics 871(20) to be admitted to this module. Financial Economics 771(10) or any second-year module in Finance or Investment Management is strongly recommended.

** You need 60% for Econometrics 871(20) to be admitted to this module.

*** As a rule, these modules are only presented every second year. You must contact the Department of Economics to find out which modules will be presented in a specific year.

Compulsory modules for the Full Thesis option (879)

Code	Module	Credits	Module Name	Semester
11235	828	180	Thesis: Economics	Both

Disclaimer:

The content above comes from the 2023 Economic Management Sciences Calendar (Yearbook). Make sure to consult the full [Economic Management Sciences Calendar](#) to see this extract in context and to check if there have been any changes. Take special note of additional information in the Calendar under section ***1. General Information for all Postgraduate Programmes.***