



WHY MS-ECONOMICS AT IBA?

The MS Economics program at IBA offers rigorous training in economic theory, quantitative methods, and applied research, equipping students with the analytical skills required to address complex economic challenges. Aligned with international academic standards, the program emphasizes policy planning, economic forecasting, and data-driven decision-making. It is tailored to prepare graduates for diverse career paths in academia, research institutions, government agencies, development organizations, and the private sector. With flexible evening and weekend classes, the program is ideal for both full-time students and working professionals seeking to advance their expertise in economics.

- 30 credit hours, Evening and weekend classes
- 2 years completion time
- Focus on sustainable & inclusive development
- Supervised thesis under experienced PhD faculty
- Work with think tanks & global agencies
- Blend of classical theories with modern research

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS & SOCIAL SCIENCES



IBA is located in Karachi — the financial hub of Pakistan — and is one of the country's most prestigious higher education institutions.

Its School of Economics and Social Sciences (SESS) is a dynamic academic hub that brings together two departments, two research centers, and three specialized labs. The school hosts over 1,000 students with a balanced male-to-female ratio (48:52), fostering diversity and inclusivity. With 45+ PhD faculty members, SESS emphasizes academic rigor, research excellence, and global engagement. Students benefit from international exchange opportunities, research grants, and vibrant campus life. SESS maintains global connections with a 1,200+ strong alumni network across the US, UK, Germany, Turkey, Canada, and beyond—many of whom have pursued graduate studies on prestigious scholarships like Fulbright, Erasmus, DAAD, and Chevening.



COURSE STRUCTURE

The MS Economics program offers a diverse range of electives covering applied economics, financial markets, development economics, and econometrics. Students can explore areas such as policy analysis, public finance, international trade, behavioral economics, and data-driven forecasting. These electives allow students to specialize based on their academic interests and professional goals, preparing them for careers in research, policy advisory, government, and corporate sectors.

SEMESTER 1

- Advanced Microeconomics
- Advanced Macroeconomics
- Econometrics I
- Elective I

- Econometrics II
- Research Methodology
- Development Economics
- Elective II

SEMESTER 2

*Students have the option to take 1 additional elective course and an MS research project (ECO698) in place of MS thesis. The grade on the MS thesis and MS research project would be pass/fail and will not be counted in the CGPA.

ELECTIVE COURSES

The MS Economics program offers a diverse set of electives in applied economics, policy analysis, and quantitative methods. Students can choose from courses such as Financial Economics, International Trade, Health Economics, Environmental Economics, and Economic Forecasting. Advanced electives like Game Theory, Time Series Modelling, and Social Impact Evaluation enable students to tailor their learning to career paths in research, policymaking, and industry.

SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS & FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Installment Plan: The students can apply for 2-3 installments per semester. However, the installments must be paid within the same semester.

Qarz e Hasna: The IBA facilitates its students in securing an interest-free loan (Qarz e Hasna) to pay their tuition fee during their study period.

Need-based Financial Assistance: The IBA encourages aspiring students from diverse social backgrounds to enroll and study at the IBA.

Research & Teaching Assistantships (RA/TA): IBA offers part-time, paid opportunities for students to work as Research Assistants (RAs) or Teaching Assistants (TAs) as part of its financial assistance and academic enrichment initiatives.



ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT

INTERDISCIPLINARY LEARNING & CRITICAL THINKING

SESS programs emphasize interdisciplinary learning through research, discussion-based seminars, and coursework that integrates perspectives from economics, politics, sociology, psychology, and urban studies. Students engage in intellectually rigorous analysis of real-world issues, developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills essential for research and policy roles.

RESEARCH LABS & FIELD EXPOSURE

Students benefit from hands-on research experience through access to specialized labs such as the Social Inequality Lab, Karachi Urban Lab, and Population Research Center. Fieldwork, research projects, and collaborations with international institutions provide real-world exposure and methodological training.

SCHOLARSHIP & SOCIAL RELEVANCE

With a focus on ethical inquiry and social responsibility, SESS encourages students to pursue research that addresses pressing societal issues. The curriculum promotes thoughtful engagement with development, inequality, and public policy through an inclusive and justice-oriented lens.



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of the MS Economics program are prepared for impactful roles across research, policymaking, and corporate sectors including:

- Economic Analyst (public & private sector)
- Economist (IMF, UN, World Bank, etc.)
- Data & Forecasting Analyst
- Policy Advisor
- Lecturer or Academic Researcher
- Economic Consultant

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applicants must have at least 16 years of education (BS/BBA/BE or equivalent), with at least 4 years from an HEC-recognized university, and a minimum CGPA of 2.5 (out of 4.0) or 60% marks in the last degree.

All international certificate/degree holders must provide an equivalency certificate from IBCC/HEC. . Candidates with work experience are preferred.

APTITUDE TEST EXEMPTION

Minimum score of 600 on the GMAT, or a GRE score of 160 in quantitative and 150 in verbal.



<https://economics.iba.edu.pk/graduate.php>

FOR MORE INFORMATION



Main Campus
University Enclave, University Road,
Karachi - 75270 Pakistan
Phone : +92-(21) 3810-4700

City Campus
Plot # 68 & 88 Garden / Kayani
Shaheed Road, Karachi - 74400 Pakistan
Phone : +92-(21) 3810-4701

www.iba.edu.pk

+92 21 111 422 422

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SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

MS – ECONOMICS

ANALYZE • PREDICT • INFLUENCE

GRADUATE PROGRAM