

MASTER OF ENERGY ECONOMICS (MEECON) DEGREE

Program Learning Outcomes for the MEEcon Degree

Upon completing the MEEcon degree, students will be able to:

1. Understand and apply basic economic, scientific, political, and statistical principles useful for analyzing and understanding energy markets.
2. Apply quantitative skills, including econometric models and statistical software, to better utilize data to critique, analyze, and report results of industry-related issues and inform strategic decisions.
3. Be better able to communicate insights arising from the economics perspective on issues affecting the energy sector.

Requirements for the MEEcon Degree

The MEEcon degree is a non-thesis master's degree. For general university requirements, please see [Non-Thesis Master's Degrees \(https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-non-thesis-masters-degrees/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-non-thesis-masters-degrees/). For additional requirements, regulations, and procedures for all graduate programs, please see [All Graduate Students \(https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/). Students pursuing the MEEcon degree must complete:

- A minimum of 44 credit hours to satisfy degree requirements.
- A minimum of 44 credit hours of graduate-level study (graduate semester credit hours, coursework at the 500-level or above).
- A minimum of 24 graduate semester credit hours must be taken at Rice University.
- A minimum of 24 graduate semester credit hours must be taken in standard or traditional courses (with a course type of lecture, seminar, laboratory, lecture/laboratory).
- A minimum residency enrollment of 2 semesters of full-time graduate study at Rice University.
- A maximum of 2 courses (6 graduate semester credit hours) from transfer credit. For additional departmental guidelines regarding transfer credit, see the [Policies](#) (p. 2) tab.
- A practicum or internship.
- A minimum overall GPA of 2.67 or higher in all Rice coursework.
- A minimum program GPA of 2.67 or higher in all Rice coursework that satisfies requirements for the non-thesis master's degree.

The courses listed below satisfy the requirements for this degree program. In certain instances, courses not on this official list may be substituted upon approval of the program's academic advisor, or where applicable, the department or program's Director of Graduate Studies. Course substitutions must be formally applied and entered into Degree Works by the department or program's [Official Certifier \(https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/degreeworks/officialcertifier/\)](https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/degreeworks/officialcertifier/). Additionally, these must be approved by the Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral

Studies. Students and their academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.

Summary

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Total Credit Hours Required for the MEEcon Degree		44

Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
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Core Requirements ¹

ECON 601	ENERGY ECONOMICS I	4
ECON 602	MICROECONOMICS OF THE ENERGY SECTOR	4
ECON 603	APPLIED ECONOMETRICS FOR ENERGY MARKETS	4
ECON 604	ENERGY ECONOMICS II	4
ECON 606	CORPORATE FINANCE FOR THE ENERGY SECTOR	4
ECON 610	ENERGY AND THE MACROECONOMY	4
ECON 699	PRACTICUM ²	4

Elective Requirements

Select 4 courses as electives from departmental (ECON) course offerings selected from any course between ECON 605 and ECON 622 (except ECON 606 and ECON 610, which are required) ³	16
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Total Credit Hours	44
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Footnotes and Additional Information

- ¹ During the summer before the student's first fall semester, two online "camps" (one in *Statistics* and one in *Mathematics*, hosted by the Economics department and Rice Online Learning) must be successfully completed as required prerequisites to the MEEcon degree program's Core Requirements.
- ² A practicum or internship is required for completion of the MEEcon professional master's degree. It can be taken in either the Spring or Summer Session. The practicum will provide students with practical experience relative to the degree. Students will work on projects developed by an industry advisory group. The research will be presented to participating industry advisors at the completion of the degree program. The projects will provide prospective employers with an opportunity to evaluate new talent effectively. As an alternative to the practicum, students may complete an internship with an approved special project with an employer. The internship is meant to last a minimum of 7 weeks and should be directly related to the student's core area of study in the MEEcon degree program. Spring internships start on the first day of Spring classes.
- ³ See Proposed Plan-of-Study below. Students may complete 1-2 electives in Session II and 2-3 electives Session III.

Proposed Plan-of-Study

The MEEcon degree program is completed in 12 months and is organized in four sessions. Sessions I and II correspond to the Fall and Spring semesters, respectively, and follow the standard Rice [Academic Calendar \(https://registrar.rice.edu/calendars/\)](https://registrar.rice.edu/calendars/). Sessions III and IV are two consecutive 7-week long sessions that take place during the subsequent summer semester. All courses (including required courses and electives) are graduate-level courses, numbered 500-level and above.

Course	Title	Credit Hours
Session I (Fall Semester)		
ECON 601	ENERGY ECONOMICS I	4
ECON 602	MICROECONOMICS OF THE ENERGY SECTOR	4
ECON 603	APPLIED ECONOMETRICS FOR ENERGY MARKETS	4
ECON 606	CORPORATE FINANCE FOR THE ENERGY SECTOR	4
Credit Hours		16
Session II (Spring Semester)		
ECON 604	ENERGY ECONOMICS II	4
ECON 610	ENERGY AND THE MACROECONOMY	4
ECON 699	PRACTICUM ^{1,2}	4
Elective one	Elective one ³	4
Elective two	Elective two ³	4
Credit Hours		16
Session III (Summer I)		
Elective three	Elective three ³	4
Elective four	Elective four ³	4
Credit Hours		8
Session IV (Summer II)		
ECON 699	PRACTICUM ^{1,2}	4
Credit Hours		4
Total Credit Hours		44

Footnotes and Additional Information

- ¹ A practicum or internship is required for completion of the MEEcon professional master's degree. It can be taken in either Session II (Spring Semester) or Session IV (Summer II). The practicum will provide students with practical experience relative to the degree. Students will work on projects developed by an industry advisory group. The research will be presented to participating industry advisors at the completion of the degree program. The projects will provide prospective employers with an opportunity to evaluate new talent effectively. As an alternative to the practicum, students may complete an internship with an approved special project with an employer. The internship is meant to last a minimum of 7 weeks and should be directly related to the student's core area of study in the MEEcon degree program. Spring internships start on the first day of Spring classes.
- ² Students may select ECON 699 during one session - either Session II (Spring Semester) or Session IV (Summer II). Because the course is worth 4 credit hours and is only taken once, the total credit hours needed to complete the MEEcon degree is 44 hours.
- ³ Students must complete a total of 4 courses as electives from departmental (ECON) course offerings selected from any course between ECON 605 and ECON 622 (except ECON 606 and ECON 610, which are required). Students may complete either 1-2 electives in Session II, or 2-3 electives in Session III.

Policies for the MEEcon Degree

Department of Economics Graduate Program Handbook

The General Announcements (GA) is the official Rice curriculum. As an additional resource for students, the Department of

Economics publishes a graduate program handbook, which can be found here: https://gradhandbooks.rice.edu/2023_24/Economics_MEECON_Graduate_Handbook.pdf

Admission

Information on admission to the MEEcon program is available on the *Admissions* tab of the *Economics website* (<https://economics.rice.edu/graduate-program/meecon/admissions/>). For general university requirements, see *Graduate Degrees* (<https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-opportunities/degrees/>) and *Admission to Graduate Study* (<https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/admission/>).

Transfer Credit

For Rice University's policy regarding transfer credit, see *Transfer Credit* (<https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/#transfer>). Some departments and programs have additional restrictions on transfer credit. Students are encouraged to meet with their academic program's advisor when considering transfer credit possibilities.

Program Transfer Credit Guidelines

Students pursuing the MEEcon degree should be aware of the following program-specific transfer credit guidelines:

- No more than 2 courses (6 credit hours) of transfer credit from U.S. or international universities of similar standing as Rice may apply towards the degree.
- Requests for transfer credit will be considered by the program director on an individual case-by-case basis.

Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Economics website: <https://economics.rice.edu/>

Opportunities for the MEEcon Degree

Byron Pope Award

The Byron Pope Award is given to the student who best exemplifies the benefits provided by participation in the Masters in Energy Economics Program.

MEEcon Award for Scholarly Excellence

This award is for superior demonstrated academic excellence in the Master of Energy Economics program courses. This award is supported by a gift from BP.

Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Economics website: <https://economics.rice.edu/>