The graduate program in economics at Rice equips students with the theoretical and empirical skills essential to enter research careers in academia, business and government. The small size of the program — approximately 40 graduate students working with 18 full-time faculty — promotes close faculty–student interaction and collaboration as well as close working relationships among students.

THE PROGRAM
The economics graduate program is designed for students wishing to pursue the Ph.D. degree. An M.A. degree is awarded only to students who complete all the requirements for the Ph.D. except the dissertation. Graduate students may choose among fields in the following areas: Econometrics, Economic Theory, Energy Economics, Health Economics, Industrial Organization and Regulation, International Trade and Finance, Labor Economics, Macroeconomics/Monetary Theory and Public Finance.

Recent graduates have accepted positions at Epco, Inc., EDF Trading, Georgia Institute of Technology, Florida International University, the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, GDF SUEZ North American, Capital One, NetSpend Corporation, Direct Energy Upstream and Trading, University of Maryland, Freddie Mac, the U.S. Congress, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Center for Economic Studies at the Bureau of the Census, the Department of Justice, Oberlin College, Indiana University, the University of Wyoming, the University of Texas (Arlington), Miami University (Ohio), Harvard University School of Public Health, the University of Florida, the University of Mississippi, Tulane University, Abt Associates, Coopers and Lybrand, Ernst & Young, PriceWaterHouse Coopers and Exxon.

Foreign placements have included positions at Barclays, BG Group, Korea Institute of Public Finance (KIPF), Zirve University (Turkey), Singapore Management University, Victoria University, University of Montreal, ITAM (Mexico), American University (Beirut), the Korean Research Institute, the Samsung Research Institute, Hanyang University (Korea), the University of St. Andrews (Scotland), Centro de Investigacion y Docencia Economica (Mexico), Energy Regulatory Commission (Mexico), Banco de Mexico and the University of Adelaide (Australia).

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS
Candidates for the Ph.D. degree usually spend from two to two and a-half years in full-time course work and at least one year writing the dissertation; four to five years is a reasonable goal for completing the program. For the Ph.D., students must:

1. Complete an approved program of at least 18 courses (including approved courses in other departments), no more than four of which are research workshops.

2. Perform satisfactorily on the written general examinations in microeconomics, macroeconomics and econometrics.
3. Demonstrate proficiency in a major field by taking the relevant courses in that field and performing satisfactorily on the field examination.


5. Complete and defend orally a doctoral dissertation setting forth in publishable form the results of original research.

FACULTY/CURRENT RESEARCH

Currently, the department consists of 18 professors — 15 full professors, 1 associate professor and 2 assistant professors. In the long term, it is expected that the department will grow to more than 25 faculty members.


**John Bryant.** Henry S. Fox, Sr., Professor of Economics and Professor of Management. Ph.D. (1975) Carnegie Mellon University. Dr. Bryant’s fields of interest are asymmetric information, strategic uncertainty, coordination, and banking and monetary theory, and he currently is working on the extension and application of Bryant’s “Stag Hunt” Coordination Game.

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*Bryant’s “Stag Hunt” Game*


**Mahmoud El-Gamal.** Professor of Economics and Statistics and Chair of Islamic Economics, Finance and Management. Ph.D. (1988) Northwestern University. Dr. El-Gamal’s fields are econometrics, experimental economics, learning, Middle East economics, Islamic economics, finance and management. His current research areas include analyzing the relationships of financial and energy price time series, and the relationship between religious beliefs and practices on the one hand and economic policies and performance on the other. A full curriculum vitae and list of publications are available at www.ruf.rice.edu/~elgamal/files/newvita.pdf.

**Malcolm Gillis** was president of Rice University, 1993–2004. He currently is University Professor at Rice University, and he also holds the Ervin K. Zingler Chair in Economics. He spent the first 25 years of his professional life teaching economics and bringing economic analysis to bear on important issues of public policy in nearly 20 countries, from the United States and Canada to Ecuador, Colombia, Ghana and Indonesia. From 1996 to 2004, his career was devoted primarily, but not exclusively, to university leadership. He continued, nevertheless, to publish in his scholarly specialties. His research and teaching fall into two broad categories: fiscal economics and environmental policy. He has published more than 70 articles for journals and books. Individually or jointly, he has written or edited eight books, including a widely acclaimed 1988 publication, Public Policies and the Misuse of Forest Resources, Tax Reform in Developing Countries, and co-authored the leading textbook in the field, Economics of Development (5th edition, 2002), now available in five languages. Before coming to Rice, he was dean of the faculty of arts and sciences at Duke University (1991–93) and dean of graduate school and vice provost for academic affairs at Duke (1986–1991). From 1979 to 1984, he served as co-editor of Quarterly Journal of Economics, the oldest professional journal of economics in the English language. He
has earned many academic and service awards, including the Alumni Award Gold Medal from the Association of Rice Alumni (2004) and the NASA Distinguished Service Medal (2004). He has served on the executive committee of the Association of American Universities (1994–95, 2002–04), the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas (1998–2004), and the governing or advisory boards of many other academic associations and government agencies. For-profit board memberships include, among others, AECOM, SCI and EDS. Nonprofit board memberships include International University Bremen, TAN TAO University in Vietnam and Pyongyang University for Science and Technology. For two years, he was vice chair of the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas. He served as board chairman of the Vietnam Education Foundation (2005–08). He was chairman of the board for BioHouston (2006–09). Dr. Gillis’s full curriculum vitae is available at www.ruf.rice.edu/~econ/faculty/gillis.html.


Vivian Ho. Professor, Ph.D. (1992) Stanford University. Dr. Ho also holds the Baker Institute Chair in Health Economics at Rice University and is a Professor in the Department of Medicine at the Baylor College of Medicine. Her field of interest is health economics. Dr. Ho has published articles in a range of economics and clinical journals including the RAND Journal of Economics, the American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings, the Journal of Health Economics, the Journal of the American Medical Association, the Archives of Internal Medicine, and the American Heart Journal. Dr. Ho's research examines the impact of economic incentives and government regulations on the quality of health care. She is currently researching payment incentives that encourage physicians to deliver cost-effective care, the determinants of specialist supply for cancer surgery, and the impact of health care reform in the U.S. Dr. Ho's research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and the American Cancer Society. She has served on the Board of Scientific Counselors for the National Center for Health Statistics, the NIH Health Services, Outcomes and Delivery study section, and as a founding board member of the American Society for Health Economists.

Ted Loch-Temzelides. Professor. Ph.D. (1995) University of Minnesota. Dr. Loch-Temzelides studies the effects of innovation in renewable and fossil energy production on economic growth and on energy independence. His work discusses which energy supply strategies are likely to be most effective for sustainable macroeconomic growth. He also investigates the design of efficient environmental policies and that of European Union policies related to Energy, Banking, and Financial Markets. His work has received funding from the National Science Foundation and has been published in some of the leading economics journals, including Econometrica, the Journal of Political Economy, the American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings, and the Journal of Monetary Economics. He has regularly served as a referee for academic journals and is on the editorial board of the journal Economic Theory. He has taught undergraduate and Ph.D. courses at the University of Minnesota, the Tippie College of Business at The University of Iowa, the University of Pittsburgh, the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, Rice University, and the European University Institute. He has worked for the Federal Reserve and has held consulting appointments at the European Central Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the Central Bank of Portugal. His current research concentrates on the intersection between macroeconomics, energy, and financial economics. Dr. Loch-Temzelides also serves as a Baker Institute Energy Forum Rice scholar, and the Master of Martel College at Rice University.


Isabelle Perrigne. Professor, PhD (1991) University of Toulouse and Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales. Dr. Perrigne’s reseach is in empirical industrial organization, in particular in the areas of auctions, insurance and nonlinear pricing. She has been the recipient of
several grants from the National Science Foundation. She has published extensively in Econometrica, Review of Economic Studies, American Economic Review, Rand Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, and Journal of Econometrics among others where some of her papers have been selected as leading articles or received prizes. Dr Perrigne has also served twice as a panel member for the National Science Foundation.


George R. Zodrow. Allyn R. and Gladys M. Cline Chair of Economics, Professor. Ph.D. (1980) Princeton University. Dr. Zodrow specializes in tax policy and is editor of the National Tax Journal; he also holds positions as Rice Scholar, Tax Policy and Expenditure Policy Program, Baker Institute for Public Policy, and International Research Fellow, Centre for Business Taxation, Oxford University. Dr. Zodrow is the recipient of the 2009 Steven D. Gold Award, presented by the National Tax Association for contributions to state and local fiscal policy. His recent publications
ADMISSION

Highly motivated individuals with a strong desire to pursue the Ph.D. degree are encouraged to apply to the graduate program. Outstanding students who have earned undergraduate degrees in economics or other fields will be seriously considered for admission. The program admits 6 to 10 students each year from an applicant pool of roughly 160.

Students must start the graduate program in the fall semester. The admitted student is given a 30-day deadline from the date of the offer letter to provide an official transcript to the department. If the current degree has not yet been conferred, this transcript should be followed by another final transcript showing conferral of the degree before the student will be allowed to register for the second semester at Rice.

Admission and financial aid decisions are based on the following criteria:
1. Scores on the Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) on the verbal, quantitative, and analytical sections.
2. Transcripts from all colleges and universities attended. The department will consider students with GPAs of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale.
3. Three letters of recommendation from professors or other advisors.
4. International students whose native language is not English must take the TOEFL exam and must score above 600 on the paper-based test or above 90 on the Internet-based test.
5. Additional admission requirements listed below.

Applicants should take the GRE and TOEFL exams by November so that the results are available by the deadline. To make arrangements to take these exams, write to:

Graduate Record Examinations
P.O. Box 6000
Princeton, NJ 08541-6000

or

TOEFL/TSE Publications
P.O. Box 6157
Princeton, NJ 08541-6157

The deadline for requesting admission with financial aid is January 15.
The deadline for requesting admission without financial aid is April 1.

Additional admission requirements
Students must have taken the equivalent of at least two semesters of calculus and one semester of linear algebra before entering the graduate program. Applicants who have not taken these courses at the time they submit their applications must outline their plans to satisfy these requirements. Taking additional courses in calculus beyond the second-year level as well as a course in real analysis is strongly recommended.

FACILITY

The Department of Economics is housed in Baker Hall, the home of the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy, which is dedicated to advancing the theory and practice of public policy in an innovative, integrative and nonpartisan manner. Graduate students are provided office space in Baker Hall during their first four years of study.

RESEARCH CENTERS AND OTHER INSTITUTES

Graduate students are welcomed as collaborators in the research agenda of the Baker Institute for Public Policy. Economics department faculty and graduate students are currently participating in research projects examining issues in energy, health and U.S. tax reform.

A key component of the program is four weekly seminars in econometrics, empirical microeconomics, macroeconomics, and microeconomics. The empirical microeconomics is jointly sponsored with the University of Houston, which has an econom-
ABOUT RICE AND HOUSTON

Rice is a leading American research university—small, private and highly selective—distinguished by a collaborative, interdisciplinary culture and a global perspective. Only a few miles from downtown Houston, it occupies an architecturally distinctive, 285-acre campus shaded by nearly 4,000 trees. State-of-the-art facilities and laboratories, internationally renowned centers and institutes and one of the country’s largest endowments support an ideal learning and living environment.

The university attracts a diverse group of highly talented students and faculty with outstanding graduate and professional programs in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, engineering, architecture, music and business. With just 2,374 graduate students and 3,708 undergraduates, it offers an unusual opportunity to forge close relationships with eminent faculty scholars and researchers and the option to tailor graduate programs to specific interests.

Houston offers all the expected educational, cultural and commercial advantages of a large urban center, and more. It’s home of the Texas Medical Center, the largest concentration of medical schools, hospitals and research facilities in the world, as well as several other universities. Rice has cooperative programs with the University of Houston, Baylor College of Medicine, the University of Texas Health Science Center and Texas Southern University. Houston is one of the few U.S. cities with resident companies in all four major performing arts—drama, ballet, opera and symphony. It also boasts a museum district featuring exhibits of national and international prominence.

As urban as it is, Houston also is a surprisingly green city. Houstonians enjoy the outdoors in more than 300 municipal parks and 120 open spaces, and many frequent the beach at Galveston Island, only a 45-minute drive away. Other short trips include Austin, the state’s capital, and historic San Antonio, both of which are a little more than three hours away.

CAMPUS VISIT

We encourage you to visit Rice at any time for a firsthand look at the department and the beautiful, tree-lined campus near the heart of historic Houston. If you apply and are admitted, you are more than welcome to visit the department. During your time here, we can schedule you to not only visit with faculty, but usually you’ll be hosted by current graduate students from whom you can learn more about graduate life and lifestyles in Houston. In the meantime, feel free to contact any of the graduate students listed on our website with any questions you may have: http://economics.rice.edu/Content.aspx?id=58

HOW TO APPLY

Consult our website at: economics.rice.edu.
Please submit your completed application along with the $85 application fee by January 15 if financial aid is requested or by April 1 if no financial aid is requested.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Graduate fellowships or scholarships are provided to most Ph.D. students. Rice University fellowships range up to $56,610 including tuition (tuition is $38,260 for the academic year 2013–14.) Scholarships provide for full or partial tuition waivers. The deadline for requesting admission with financial aid is January 15.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION . . .

Rice University homepage: www.rice.edu/
Rice University Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies homepage:
graduate.rice.edu
Graduate Student Association homepage:
gsa.rice.edu
City of Houston homepage:
www.houstontx.gov
Houston information from the Houston Chronicle:
www.chron.com
Houston information from the Greater Houston Partnership:
www.houston.org
Houston information from Citysearch:
houston.citysearch.com