

MASTER OF APPLIED ECONOMICS



Pokhara University
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Pokhara University

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The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (FHSS) is one of the four faculties of Pokhara University (a non-profit public institution established by the Government of Nepal, formulating Pokhara University Act 1997). The faculty has been offering academic programmes since the inception of the University. Currently, the faculty has several academic programmes at Bachelor, Master, Master of Philosophy, and Doctor of Philosophy levels.

Vision

The vision of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences is to lead contemporary academia in the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Mission

The mission of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences is to advance, promote and propel humanities and social sciences in theory and practice through the highest quality teaching, research, innovation, publications, training, community and public services, and intellectual leadership.

Goal

The goal of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences is to produce a professional, academics, researchers, and entrepreneurs with scientific knowledge, intellectual insight, technical know-how, and practical skill (KITS) for independent thought, critical analysis, self-awareness, and professional and academic proficiency based on disciplinary clarity, multidisciplinary distinction

and interdisciplinary comprehensiveness.

Objectives

- **The teaching objectives** of the Faculty are to provide learning opportunities in contemporary and frontier fields of humanities and social sciences, enhance the quality of education and teaching, and to develop new courses and educational opportunities in the area of humanities and social sciences.
- **The research, innovation and publication objectives** of the Faculty are to increase and strengthen research activities in all schools/ colleges, programmes and units under the faculty; enhance research and publication capabilities of all faculty members, research scientists, and students.
- **The training and continuing education objectives** of the Faculty are to train academics, professionals and entrepreneurs to meet the working challenges in, and continuously lead in the fields of humanities and social sciences.
- **The outreach objectives** (also known as community and public service objectives) of the Faculty are to increase the visibility of the Faculty's activities with social responsibility, and focus more research projects on community betterment.
- **The consultancy objectives** of the Faculty are to provide expertise, technical, professional and policy advice services in the fields of humanities and social sciences.

Programmes Offered by FHSS

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

- Doctor of Philosophy in Humanities (Research only track)
- Doctor of Philosophy in Social Science (Research only track)
- Doctor of Philosophy in Development Studies (Coursework-Research track)

MPhil Level

- Master of Philosophy in English (MPhil in English)

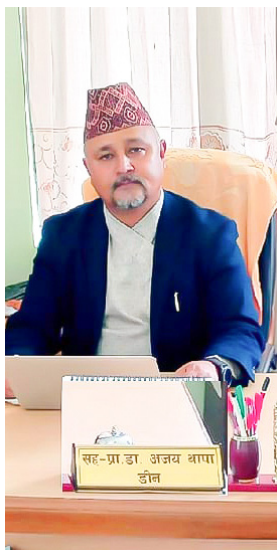
Master Level

- Master in Population, Gender, and Development (MPGD)
- Master of Development Studies (MDEVS)
- Master of Applied Economics (MAE)
- Master of Arts in English (MA in English)

Bachelor of Level

- Bachelor of Development Studies (BDEVS)
- Bachelor of English and Communication Studies (BECS)
- Bachelor of Entrepreneurship Development (BED)
- Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Laws (BALLB)

Message from the Dean



Very warm greetings and welcome to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Pokhara University!

The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (FHSS) is one of the four faculties of Pokhara University. The faculty is dedicated to excellence in teaching, learning, and research in the field of humanities and social sciences with a focus on sustainable development and social engineering. FHSS aims to produce world-class academicians, policy analysts, development professionals, and social engineers equipped with scientific knowledge, intellectual insight, technical expertise, practical skills, as well as multidisciplinary distinction and interdisciplinary comprehensiveness required to meet the needs of the 21st century.

It provides learning opportunities in the contemporary and frontier fields of social sciences, fostering critical thinking, creative expression, innovation, and intellectual curiosity by developing new courses, increasing and strengthening research activities, organizing national/international conferences, seminars and symposiums, publishing refereed journals along with providing technical, professional and consultancy services to government and non-government organizations within the nation and around the globe.

The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences is currently offering Bachelor of Development Studies (BDEVs), Bachelor of English and Communication Studies (BECS), Bachelor of Entrepreneurship Development (BED), Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Laws (BALLB), Master in Population, Gender and Development (MPGD), Master of Development Studies (MDEVs), Master of Applied Economics (MAE), Master of Arts in English (MA in English), Master of Philosophy in English (MPhil in English), and Doctor of Philosophy in Humanities (Research only track), Doctor of Philosophy in Social Science (Research only track), Doctor of Philosophy in Development Studies (Coursework-Research track).

We are proud to be part of our graduates' achievements in the national and international arena. As the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, I am committed to developing the faculty as a 'center of academic excellence' with modern curricula to meet the national and global needs, research endeavors, professional training, faculty development, and national and international collaborations, and many more.

I would cordially invite you to collaborate with us and become a part of the faculty's glory.

Assoc. Prof. Ajay Thapa, PhD
Dean
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Pokhara University



Master of Applied Economics

Program Objectives

The Master of Applied Economics (MAE) program helps students build effective analytical, quantitative, and policy skills to tackle today's economic issues at both national and global levels. As technology, globalization, and development issues rapidly change economies, there is a growing demand for professionals who can apply economic theory and data to solve real problems. This program blends theory with practical experience, focusing on research-based decision-making, policy analysis, economic forecasting, and development planning. Graduates are ready to work in government, international organizations, private companies, financial institutions, research groups, and universities. The MAE program aims to:

- Help students gain advanced knowledge in microeconomics, macroeconomics, and development economics.

- Strengthen students' quantitative and econometric skills for analysis and forecasting.
- Give graduates the skills to create, analyze, and assess public policies and development programs.
- Encourage critical thinking and data-driven decision-making when addressing economic and social issues.
- Build the research skills needed to conduct independent economic and policy studies.
- Prepare professionals to take part in economic development projects.
- Strengthen the logical and communication skills needed for leadership roles in public, private, and international organizations.

Curricular Structure

The program follows the semester system of the academic calendar. The program and the courses are thus designed accordingly. A

course is assigned in a particular semester, which generally runs for 16 weeks of the schedule. Each course is assigned a certain number of credit hours depending generally upon its lecture, tutorial, and practical work hours in a week. In theory, subjects generally require 16 hours for one credit, thus one lecture per week is assigned to one credit hour as a general rule; that is, a three-credit course generally has 48 class hours. However, a larger number of class hours can be organized in a week, depending on the availability of the professors or experts. Depending on the nature of the course, classes can also be organized on a modular basis. For laboratory, fieldwork, practicum, and practical courses, each credit can carry up to 48 hours of scheduled time, as specified in the course design. A faculty member is assigned to teach each of the courses. If the course is taught by more than one faculty member, then one of the members is designated as the course coordinator of that particular course.

The curriculum comprises the following five components:

Core Courses: These courses enable students to understand the principles, theories, models, concepts, and contemporary discourse in applied economics. The core courses comprise 18 credits.

Research and Analytical Courses: These courses are offered with the aim of developing sound skills of students in using different diagnostic, analytical and forecasting tools and techniques, and enhancing the research work and practical skills of the students in the field of applied economics. The research and analytical courses comprise 24 credits.

Specialized Courses: The curriculum offers four themes for specialization. Students can

choose one of the themes for specialization. Each specialization area comprises of 12 credit hour courses. The area of specialization provides students with an opportunity for in-depth and focused knowledge, which requires students to consolidate their comprehension in their field of study. The specializations are developed on the basis of focused themes of applied economics. The minimum number of students required to choose a specialization theme is 10.

Elective Courses: The curriculum offers 10 elective courses covering a wide range of applied economics. Students can choose any two elective subjects. The elective courses comprise 6 credits. The minimum number of students required to choose a specialization theme is 10.

Program Features

The MAE program has blended professional and academic features. The program is a career-oriented program, market-driven concentration, data-driven curriculum, focused on strengthening the critical thinking, research, and analytical skills of the students. The program is delivered using a range of pedagogies that include on-campus learning through classroom discussions, seminars, presentations, group work, case analysis, laboratory tests, and guest lecture series, and off-campus learning through field studies and workshops, project works, online instructions, internet conferencing, and so on.

Entry Requirements and Admission Procedures

Eligibility

The candidate, pursuing admission in the MAE program, shall have a bachelor's degree in any

area of studies from Pokhara University, or any other university recognized by Pokhara University, or an academic degree that is certified equivalent to a Bachelor's degree of Pokhara University, and is eligible to apply to the MAE program.

Admission Procedures

A notice inviting applications for admission is publicly announced by the University or the concerned school/college(s). Application forms and information brochures are provided, on request, after the payment of the prescribed fee, or as provisioned by the application-calling institution (school/college). The concerned school/college scrutinizes the application. The eligible candidates are informed to take the entrance test and appear for an interview. The date and time for the entrance test and interview are informed to the applicants by the school/college(s).

A merit list shall be derived from the combined results of the entrance test and interview of the candidate; and the applicants, who pass the admission tests, shall be admitted to the MAE program of Pokhara University based on the merit list. Selected applicants shall pay the full required first instalment of fees to be admitted into the program.

The candidates who are given provisional admission under special conditions are required to submit all necessary documents by the last date of course registration for the semester. Otherwise, the admission will be terminated.

International Students' Admission Guidelines of the University will be followed for the international students willing to join the MAE program at Pokhara University.

Course Registration

Students are required to register courses at the beginning of each semester. Since course registration is a very important procedural part of the credit system, all students must present themselves at the Program Office of the School/College.

Addition and Withdrawal from Courses

A student would have the option to add or drop from the courses. This can, however, be done only during the first two weeks of the semester. A student wishing to withdraw from a course should apply on the prescribed form within two weeks of the starting date of the semester. A full-time student generally takes all prescribed courses in a semester.

Attendance Requirements

The students must attend every prescribed mode of course delivery, such as lectures, tutorials, practical classes, laboratory work, field work, and colloquiums. However, to accommodate late registration, sickness, and other such contingencies, the attendance requirements will be a minimum of 80 per cent of the classes held.

Normal and Maximum Duration of Study

The MAE program is a two-year program, constituting four normal semesters. Thus, the normal duration for completing the course is two years. The student, however, is allowed a normal duration plus two years to complete the coursework. One additional year is allowed for research work if such an extension is required for completing the already started research work. Such an extension is recommended by the dissertation supervisor with sufficient

justification, and approval is granted by the concerned authority. If a student is unable to complete the coursework within four years from the time of admission and dissertation work within five years from the time of admission, the University registration is annulled.

Evaluation System of coursework

A student's academic performance in a course is evaluated in two phases as:

Internally by the concerned faculty member during course delivery and using various means of evaluation: The internal evaluation may consist of various formats such as in-class problem-solving; journal article reviews; book reviews; thematic or topical clippings from newspapers, their analysis and presentation; written examinations; presentations of reflection notes; surveys and reports; case studies; project work; quizzes, and the like. A student will receive a NOT QUALIFIED (NQ) status in the internal evaluation if their performance falls below the minimum requirement. Such students will not be allowed to appear in the semester-end examination for that course, and the course should be reregistered, with all requirements for attendance and internal evaluation fulfilled.

Externally by the Office of the Controller of Examinations through semester-end examinations.

A sixty percent weight is given to the internal evaluation and a forty percent weight to the external evaluation (Semester-end examination). A student must qualify in both evaluations separately to get a pass grade in a particular course. The final grade awarded to a student in a course is based on his/her consolidated performance in both internal

and external evaluations. The pass mark for both the internal evaluation and external evaluation (Semester-end examination) in each course will be a minimum Grade of C or the Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0.

At the end of the program, a student must secure a minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 3.0 for graduation.

Repeating a Course

A course may be taken only once to maintain the minimum required grade. Since passing all courses individually is a requirement, the student must retake the failing course when offered and must successfully complete the course. A student will be allowed to retake a maximum of two courses to achieve a minimum CGPA of 3.0 for successfully completing the MAE program. The grade earned on the retake examination of a course will substitute the earlier grade earned by the student in that particular course. A student can retake a course only when it is offered by the college/university.

Credit Transfer, Withdrawal, and Withhold

A maximum of 25 per cent of the total credits of courses completed by a student in an equivalent program of a recognized university/institution may be transferred/waived for credit by the Dean on the recommendation of the School Director/College Principal. However, for such transfer of credit, a student must have received a grade 'B' or better in that particular course. Courses taken more than two years earlier from the date of application will not be accepted for transfer of credit.

Credit transfers will also be allowed from different programs of Pokhara University. In such cases, all credits earned by students in

compatible courses with a minimum grade 'B' may be transferred to the new program.

A partial withdrawal from courses registered in a semester will not be considered. The student may apply for withdrawal from the entire semester only on medical grounds. However, any student exchange, or a student who has been enrolled in any other program in a foreign university, with the approval of Pokhara University for a joint degree or additional degree may be allowed to withhold from the program. These provisions shall not be allowed to extend the maximum duration of the program as specified in section 9.

Unfair Means

Students are strictly forbidden from adopting unfair means in class assignments, tests, report-writing, and final examinations. The following would be considered as the adoption of unfair means during examination:

Communicating with fellow students to obtain help.

Copying from another student's script/report/paper.

Copying from disk, mobile, palm of hand, or other incriminating documents and equipment.

Possession of any incriminating documents, whether used or not.

Any approach in direct or indirect form to influence the teacher concerning grade.

Unruly behavior that disrupts the academic environment.

If the instructor detects a student using unfair means, the student may be given an 'F' grade at the discretion of the Examination Board. Adoption of unfair means may result in the dismissal of the student from

the program and expulsion of the student from the study program and, as such, from Pokhara University.

Grading System

Pokhara University follows a four-point letter grade system. The letter grades awarded to students will be as follows:

Letter Grade	Grade Point	Description
A	4.0	Excellent
A-	3.7	
B+	3.3	Good
B	3.0	Fair
B-	2.7	
C+	2.3	
C	2.0	Pass in individual course
I	-	Incomplete
F	0.0	Fail

If a student cannot finish all the assigned work for the course, he/she will be given an incomplete grade 'I'. If all the required assignments are not completed within the following semester, the grade of 'I' will automatically be converted into 'F'.

The performance of a student is evaluated in terms of two indices: (a) Semester Grade Point Average (SGPA), which is the grade point average of the particular semester, and (b) Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA), which is the grade point average of all the semesters.

$$SGPA = \frac{\text{Total honor points earned in a semester}}{\text{Total number of credits registered in a semester}}$$

$$CGPA = \frac{\text{Total honor points earned}}{\text{Total number of credits completed}}$$

Where,

Honor point = Grade point earned in a subject x
Number of credits assigned to that subject.

Distinction and Dean's List

A student who obtains a CGPA of 3.75 or better will receive the MAE degree with Distinction. To qualify for Dean's list, a student must have a CGPA of 3.80 or better.

Degree Requirements

To graduate from the MAE program, a student

- shall complete a minimum of 60 credit courses as specified in the curricular structure section;
- shall have a 'C' or better grade in each of the courses taken by a student;
- shall complete all requirements of the program as specified in the curricular structure section within the time period specified in the normal and maximum duration of the study section; and
- shall obtain a final CGPA of 3.0 or better on the University's 4.0 grade scale.

Dismissal from the Program

A student is normally expected to obtain a SGPA of 3.0 in each semester of the MAE program. If a student's performance falls short of maintaining this CGPA continuously

over the semesters, he/she may be advised to leave the program or dismissed from the program.

Rules and Regulations Examinations:

The Regulations of Examinations: Semester System shall be applied in the matters of governing students' registration at Pokhara University, its programs, and individual courses, final examinations, results, transcripts, and certification. In case of conflicting provisions of this curriculum with the Pokhara University Rules of Examinations, the latter will be retained. However, provisions of this curriculum will be the final when matters are not covered by the Pokhara University Rules of Examinations.

Detailed Curricular Structure

The MAE students are required to complete 60 credits, including thesis work. The courses consist of core courses (18 credits), research and analytical courses (24 credits), elective courses (6 credits), and specialization courses (12 credits). The curriculum structure is presented in Annex 1.



CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

MASTER OF APPLIED ECONOMICS (MAE)

Code	Course	Credit
Semester I		
ECO 511	Microeconomic Analysis	3
ECO 512	Macroeconomic Analysis	3
ECO 513	Mathematical Economics	3
ECO 514	Data Science for Applied Economics	3
ECO 515	Development Economics	3
Semester II		
ECO 521	Monetary Economics	3
ECO 522	Public Finance	3
ECO 523	Applied Econometrics	3
ECO 524	Development Issues in Global South Economies	3
ELC xxx	Elective I	3

Code	Course	Credit
Semester III		
RES 531	Research Methods in Economics	3
RES 532	Independent Study	3
ELC xxx	Elective II	3
XXX xxx	Specialization I	3
XXX xxx	Specialization II	3
Semester IV		
RES 541	Academic Writing and Research Seminar	3
XXX xxx	Specialization III	3
XXX xxx	Specialization IV	3
RES 571	Thesis	6

Code	Course	Credit
Electives		
ELC 551	Advanced Econometrics	3
ELC 552	International Economics	3
ELC 553	Labour Economics	3
ELC 554	Behavioral Economics	3
ELC 555	Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence in Economics	3
ELC 556	Financial Planning and Analysis	3
ELC 557	Tourism Economics	3
ELC 558	Global Agricultural Policies and Practices	3
ELC 559	Industrial Economics	3
ELC 560	Digital Economy	3
Specialization		
Health Economics		
HEC 561	Fundamentals of Health Economics	3
HEC 562	Healthcare System and Policy in Nepal	3
HEC 563	Economic Evaluation in Health	3
HEC 564	Health Insurance and Financing	3
Environmental and Resource Economics		
ERE 561	Fundamentals of Environmental Economics	3
ERE 562	Economics of Climate Change	3

Code	Course	Credit
ERE 563	Natural Resource and Management	3
ERE 564	Environmental Valuation and Cost-Benefit Analysis	3
Development Economics		
DEC 561	Poverty, Inequality and Social Protection	3
DEC 562	Agriculture and Rural Development	3
DEC 563	Health, Education and Human Capital in Development	3
DEC 564	Institutions, Governance and Development	3
Monetary and Financial Economics		
MFE 561	Macroeconomics of Inflation and Unemployment	3
MFE 562	Monetary Policy, Banking and Financial Institutions	3
MFE 563	Financial Markets and Regulations	3
MFE 564	Development Finance and Financial Inclusion	3

Pokhara University Central Library

Pokhara University Central Library (PUCL) was established in 1999. Being one of the pioneer libraries in the Western Region of Nepal, it is a nexus of collaboration among students, faculty, staff and researchers with a mission to support and enhance their instructional and research activities, thereby contributing to the common goal by collecting, organizing, preserving, communicating, and sharing the finest achievements of human knowledge.

The library, now houses an extensive collection providing access to the latest journals, books, databases, and resources in traditional as well as digital formats to support the students of undergraduate, graduate and doctoral programs in engineering, pharmacy, nursing, laboratory sciences, management, humanities, social sciences and interdisciplinary research at Pokhara University. Besides open individual study spaces, the library also offers a range of group study spaces including one laptop zone, one reading hall with ample study carrels and a seminar hall.



Academic Resources at PUCL

Physical Items

Books (Volumes)	44,881
Periodicals (Volumes)	220
Media (Audiobooks, CDs etc.)	270
Newspapers	7

Electronic Items

eBooks	150
eJournals	200
Access to e-Resource	21

E-resources

- American Institute of Physics (www.journals.aip.org)
- Annual Reviews (www.annualreviews.org)
- Cambridge University Press (www.journals.cambridge.org)
- Wiley (www.interscience.wiley.com)
- Edinburgh University Press (EUP) Journals Online (www.eupjournals.com)
- Geological Society (www.lyellcollection.org)
- International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- JSTOR: (www.jstor.org)
- Liebert Online (www.liebert.com)
- NPG journals (www.nature.com)
- Project Muse (<http://muse.jhu.edu>)
- Oxford University Press - Oxford Journals (www.oxfordjournals.org)
- University of Chicago Press www.press.uchicago.edu
- Other e-resources
- Bioone (www.bioone.org)
- HINARI: (www.who.int/hinari)
- AGORA: (<http://www.aginternetwork.org>)
- OARE: www.oaresciences.org
- ARDI: <http://www.wipo.int/ardi>



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