The Berkeley-Haas PhD Program
Finance

Requirements Years 1 and 2:

Core Classes: Required and used to determine overall GPA; need 3.3 cumulative GPA in these classes.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>1st Semester - Fall</th>
<th>2nd Semester - Spring</th>
<th>3rd Semester - Fall</th>
<th>4th Semester - Spring</th>
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<tr>
<td>Econ 201A</td>
<td>Econ 201B</td>
<td>PHDBA 239C</td>
<td>PHDBA 239DA</td>
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<td>Econ 240A</td>
<td>Econ 240B</td>
<td>PHDBA 239S</td>
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<td>PHDBA 239A</td>
<td>PHDBA 375</td>
<td>PHDBA 239DB</td>
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<td>PHDBA 239B</td>
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The table only outlines the required courses listed below. Students are expected to meet with the Finance Field Advisor to find additional courses or enroll in PHDBA 602 starting in their 3rd semester.

☐ Econ 204 Mathematical Tools for Economics, Prerequisite for Econ 201A; taught in the summer

☐ Econ 201A Economic Theory
☐ Econ 201B Economic Theory
☐ Econ 240A Econometrics
☐ Econ 240B Econometrics
☐ PHDBA 375 Teaching Business (required to work as a GSI)
☐ PHDBA 239A Discrete-Time Asset Pricing
☐ PHDBA 239B Continuous-Time Finance
☐ PHDBA 239C Empirical Finance
☐ PHDBA 239DA Microstructure (7.5 weeks)
☐ PHDBA 239DB Corporate Finance (7.5 weeks)

☐ PHDBA 239S Finance Seminar (every semester after the first year)

**Extremely recommended (soon to be mandatory):**

☐ PHDBA 297T Financial Decision Making in Firms

**Highly recommended (depending on field):**

☐ PHDBA 239E Dynamic Game Theory and Applications

☐ ECON 202AB Macroeconomic Theory

☐ ECON 219A Applications of Psychology and Economics

☐ ECON 220AB Industrial Organization

☐ ECON 236AB Aggregate Economics

☐ ECON 240AB Econometrics

☐ ECON 244 Applied Econometrics

☐ ECON 280AB International Economics

**Other optional classes:**

☐ ECON 209A Theory and Applications of Non-Cooperative Games

☐ ECON 250ABC Labor Economics

☐ PHDBA 297B Research and Theory in Business: Behavioral Science

☐ STAT 200A Statistics

☐ STAT 204 Summary of Stat 205A and Stat 205B

☐ STAT 205A Probability Theory and Measure Theory

☐ STAT 251 Stochastic Calculus
MATH 104 Real Analyses

MATH 105 Analysis

MATH 202A Measure Theory

**Requirements Years 1 and 2 (continued):**

- Students are *required* to produce a research paper that identifies an open question in the literature and poses a potential solution. Students submit these papers at the end of the summer of the first year to the field advisor and present their work in a seminar early in the fall semester of their second year.

- Preliminary Examination
  This is given in the summer at the end of the second year. The exam consists of two parts. The written examination day takes place at the beginning of the summer for eight hours and closed book. The second part is a paper requirement, which has to include a novel piece of research to be written under the supervision of at least two faculty members. The papers are due in early August and will be presented to the faculty at the beginning of the fall semester.

**Requirements – Years 2-4**

**Core (Required) Classes**

- PHDBA 239S Finance Seminar (every semester after the first year)

All students are required to enroll in, attend, and present their original research in the Finance student seminar, PHDBA 239S, from the fall of their second year in the program until they have graduated.

*Options:*

- PHDBA 602 Independent Study/Supervised Research
- PHDBA 299 Independent Research

**Presentations**

Starting in the third year, students have to present their research to the faculty and fellow students in a formal seminar.
Oral Qualifying Examination

☐ QE before the end of the third year (6th semester), no later than June 30th

Students submit and defend their dissertation proposals in the oral qualifying examination before the end of the 3rd year. The objective is to determine whether students have the intellectual capacity and academic preparation to complete the program. Successful completion of prior phases of the program and a well-defined research proposal are required.

Dissertation

A dissertation is the formulation and completion of a major research project and its written presentation. It is the last step in the program. The university has specific guidelines for completing the dissertation. A faculty committee reviews the dissertation as an ongoing process. The committee is chosen by the student and must consist of three or more faculty members, one of whom must be from a department outside of Haas. When all members are satisfied, they sign off on the dissertation to signify their approval. The student then files the work with the University.