
Graduate Connection

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This is the second year of the Department of Economics' newsletter for graduate students. The newsletter will be published three times a year on approximately September 1, December 1, and March 1. It contains information and notices about activities in the department of interest to graduate students. It also serves as a formal notification of events, application deadlines, and course offerings.

From the Department Chair . . .

(Editor's Note: Bill Rogerson succeeded Bob Gordon as Chair of the Department on September 1.)

Welcome to our first-year grad students!

Welcome to the Department of Economics and to Evanston. We hope that your years with us are productive and fulfilling. Please take the opportunity to mix with other graduate students and the faculty. A good way of doing this is at the TGIF held in the seminar room (Andersen 132) every Friday at 5 PM.

Program review

I would like to thank those students who participated in the meetings with the external reviewers as part of the Department's Program Review. The reviewers' report and the response of the University has yet to be made public. As soon as they are, I will share the findings with you in this column.

Changes to the graduate program

In the past Spring, the Graduate Studies Committee made some important decisions clarifying the writing of papers in students' major fields, and the offering of field courses. These changes which take effect from 1996/7 are detailed elsewhere in this newsletter. Please read them carefully, as they will have considerable affect on second and third year students.

Fall quarter dates

Due to Yom Kippur, the starting dates of the fall quarter 1996 will be a bit unusual:

Mon Sept. 23	Registration
Wed Sept. 25	Classes start
Thur/Fri	
Nov. 28/29	Thanksgiving
Mon Dec. 2	CAS reading period
Mon Dec. 9	Examinations start
Sat Dec. 14	Quarter ends

Recent honors

I would like to congratulate **Joel Mokyr** and **Stan Reiter** on their election as Fellows of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. The quality teaching of **Joel Mokyr**, **Ron Braeutigam** and **Mark Witte** was recognized by their election to the Associated Student Government Honor Roll for 1995/6. **Rebecca Blank** has been appointed director of the Center for Poverty Research that has been established jointly at NU and the University of Chicago.

I am especially pleased to report that **Delilah Gray** was awarded a commendation for exceptional service by the University. This is the first award to be made to a staff member in our Department. Her award is well deserved and reflects the exceptional skills that she brings to her job.

Paul Devereux and **Gautam Tripathi** are to be congratulated on their Alfred P. Sloan Foundation dissertation awards for 1996/7.

Graduate student alum **Leslie Marx**, now at the University of Rochester, represented the United States at fencing at the Atlanta Olympic Games. She was featured in a story in *Time* magazine on July 22.

Faculty changes

The Department is pleased to welcome **Jeff Ely** as a new junior faculty member. Jeff's research is in microeconomic theory and industrial organization. He conducted his doctoral studies at the University of California at Berkeley. Jeff's office will be 209 AAH (phone 1-8219).

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We also have two visitors from the south side. **Lars Hansen** will be with us at various times of the year. His office will be 307 AAH (1-8223). Nemmers prize winner **Tom Sargent** will be here in the spring, and will be using Chris Udry's office (203 AAH, 1-8235).

We have also recruited some visitors who will be teaching for us. **Dan Barbezat** is the Chair of the Economics Department at Amherst College. He is an economic historian, and will shortly be taking up residence in room 206 (phone 1-2535). **Rick Flyer**, a University of Chicago Ph.D. will be visiting from the Stern School at NYU for the calendar year 1997. He is a labor economist. His office will be room 228 (1-8204). **Ahmad Seifi** is a postdoctoral fellow at the U of C, and a successful instructor in our evening and summer programs. His background includes a spell as chief economist to the Iranian delegation to OPEC. He will be here in the winter and spring quarters in room 208 (1-8222) to teach development economics.

Our best wishes go to **Phill Swagel** and **Judy Hellerstein** as they move to Washington, D.C., and to **James Montgomery** and his family as they start a new life in London. **Kyle Bagwell** has departed for Columbia University, and we also say goodbye to **Ennio Stacchetti** as he returns to the University of Michigan.

People on the move this summer include **Burt Weisbrod** who has now moved into Kyle Bagwell's old office (221 AAH) but retains his existing phone number (7-1235), and **Juuso Valimaki** who will move from the Math Center to 211 AAH and will also retain his phone number (1-8227).

Faculty leaves

Chris Udry will be on leave in Africa for a year starting in October 1996. **Larry Christiano** and **Alan Taylor** will be on leave in the fall, but will be in residence in Evanston.

Staff changes

I am pleased to report that **Paula Nielsen** returned to work in August after a period of sick leave. Her office has been moved to AAH 124, but she retains her phone number (1-8236). **Yolanda Wales** left in early August to go to sunnier climes. The Department has been fortunate to have had a stable support staff team for over three years now, and I

am sure we will all miss her. Joining the main office staff on September 16th will be **Lavonne Payne**, who was most recently with the Humana Health Center in Evanston. Until the 16th, **Mercedes Thomas** continues to provide invaluable help in the main office.

New and renewed faculty research grants

A large number of Northwestern faculty members are supported by research grants. Continuing grants with expiration dates subsequent to September, 1996, include the following (given in parentheses are the funding source and a brief summary of the topic).

Joseph Altonji, Rebecca Blank, Rosa Matzkin and Chris Taber (NIH, neighborhood effects on child development)

Ronald Braeutigam and John Panzar (Mellon Foundation, economic issues in the dissemination of scholarly learning)

Eddie Dekel (NSF, endogenous rates of experimentation)

Martin Eichenbaum (NSF, empirical issues in macro and monetary economics)

Rosa Matzkin (NSF, nonparametric methods for economic models)

Bruce Meyer (NSF, economics of social insurance)

Dale Mortensen (NSF, recursive competitive search equilibrium)

Ian Savage (US DOT, rail transit costs and evaluation of transit subsidies)

Christopher Udry (NSF, efficiency and market failure in sub-saharan Africa)

Burton Weisbrod (Mellon Foundation, growing commercialism of nonprofit organizations)

Events . . .

Teaching assistant training

The arrangements for training of new Teaching Assistants have changed this year. There will be a one-day program held on Wednesday, September 18. This is organized by the Searle Center for Teaching Excellence. All TAs who will be teaching for the first time in 1996/7, or missed last year's program, are required to attend. The day will last from 9AM to 4.30PM. After registration in Lecture Room 2 of the Technological Institute,

you will go to sessions designed and held solely for TAs from the Economics Department. The sessions will be led by Jim Hornsten, a previous winner of our Distinguished Teaching Assistant award, and an outstanding TA and instructor. You will already have received a letter of invitation to this event.

Start-of-year reception

Faculty, staff, graduate students, and their families are all invited to the start of year buffet and reception that will be held in the Andersen Hall atrium at 7:00PM on Wednesday, October 2.

This reception will also feature the awarding of the Department's Distinguished Teaching Assistant awards for 1995-96. The winners will receive a certificate and a year's subscription to *Econometrica*.

New Graduate Student Seminar . . .

Departmental requirements

The Department has long had a requirement that graduate students: (a) write papers in each of two major fields; and (b) present them in an appropriate seminar. While it seems safe to conclude that all students receiving a degree more or less meet these requirements, they have not been effectively enforced with a timely funding sanction. There are several reasons for this, not least of which is the lack of a graduate student research seminar in which to present the papers.

The problem

The issue of how best to ensure that graduate students acquire important paper-writing skills at an early stage of their career has long posed a problem; at NU and elsewhere. The Department's current practices do not work particularly well. Some faculty require papers that are NOT expected to be completed within the quarter that the course is offered, necessitating an Incomplete. (Economic History courses fall in this category, but there are several others.) Other faculty, in a desire to avoid the bureaucratic Incomplete process, do not require papers for their graduate field courses. They rely on the Department's "two field papers" requirement to force students to gain paper writing experience.

As a result, depending on the Fields taken and the faculty offering them, a student may complete his or her field requirements with several Incompletes hanging over his or her head, or no writing experience except for the required Economic History paper. The latter situation is obviously not to be desired, and a student carrying several Incomplete's into their third year will have difficulty moving ahead and developing a thesis proposal.

The solution

The solution to this problem was developed at Graduate Studies Committee, which comprises both faculty and students. In order to better implement the existing requirements:

- Graduate students will present two field papers in a newly created Graduate Student Seminar for which they will register. A faculty member will organize and administer the seminar over the course of a year. In the usual course of events, a student would make one such presentation late in the 2nd year and the other early in the 3rd year.
- The seminar will be numbered Economics E01, and will be held on Thursdays from 5.00PM to 6.30PM during all three quarters. All second students in the winter and spring quarters, and all third year students in all three quarters must register for and attend the weekly seminar. During 1996/7 Professors Panzar and Savage will oversee the seminar. While a faculty member will assume responsibility (and receive credit) for running the seminar, when a student presents a paper in a particular field, the faculty in that field are expected to grade the paper and attend the presentation.
- During the 1996/7 year procedures will be put in place for the conduct of the seminar, including signing up for presentation dates, and paper evaluation.
- Starting with the entering class of 1995, third year funding will be conditional on the completion of at least one paper and presentation during the second year.
- Starting with the entering class of 1995, completion of two papers and presentations will be required as a

prerequisite for admission to doctoral candidacy. As of the entering class of 1993, admission of candidacy is required by July 31 at the end of the third year to assure funding in the fourth year.

- Faculty are expected to limit field course assignments to those which are expected to be completed during the quarter the course is offered. In addition to the usual homework assignments and "referee reports," it would be especially useful under the new system to require students to prepare an "outline" or "prospectus" for a paper.
- Note that it is not intended that the Economic History requirement be affected in any way by this change in implementing the Department's existing student paper and presentation requirements.

(The text of this section is already posted on the Department's web site for your future reference.)

Teaching Matters . . .

Course offerings 1996-97

The schedule for graduate courses for 1996-97 is shown on the last page of this newsletter. Also listed is the time schedule for the fall quarter. Please consult the Class Schedule published by the registrar for more details on registration.

Graduate field courses

The Graduate Studies Committee has decided on some changes that will clarify the offering of field course sequences. The two-quarters-on-two-quarters-off scheduling will be abandoned and replaced by the offering of each sequence each year. The specifics are:

- The history, IO and econometrics sequences (D20, D50, D81) are unchanged as they are already offered annually.
- The D16 and D30 sequences will be collapsed into one advanced macroeconomics sequence (numbered D16) which will be held each year.
- Theory, Information, and Game Theory sequences (D12, D14, D15) will be held each year.

- The applied econometrics courses (D82 and D83) will be held in alternate years, but could become annual if staffing permits.
- Each year a sequence will be held covering labor and public finance issues. There will be a core courses in public finance (D36-1) and labor economics (D40-1), plus an additional topics course drawn from either public finance or labor (D36-2 or D40-2).
- Each year a sequence will be held covering development and international economics issues. There will be a core courses in development economics (D25-1) and international economics (D60-1) plus an additional topics course drawn from either development or international (D25-2 or D60-2).

In the latter two cases, the Director of Graduate Studies will approve pairing of taught courses, or a combination of a taught course and an independent study to constitute a student's field requirement.

This new policies will be partially in effect for 1996/7, and will be in full effect for 1997/8.

Course descriptions - fall 96/97

Economics D12-1

Economics Theory and Methods

Professor Valimaki

MW 9-11

101 ANN

This course teaches the basic tools needed in game theory. In the first part of the course, we focus on particular solution concepts such as rationalizability, correlated equilibrium and some extensive form refinements including sequential equilibrium and the notion of forward induction. The second part of the course is devoted to an in depth analysis of repeated games. We will cover the case of perfect monitoring as well as imperfect monitoring. We will also talk about small incomplete information in the game with applications to reputation formation. Finally, concepts of renegotiation proofness are studied. The remainder of the course covers additional topics in game theory including examples of dynamic games.

Economics D15-2

Advanced Microeconomics

Professor Reiter

TTh 1-3

132 AAH

The main objective of this course is that each student master the concepts, processes and techniques of analysis widely used in the development and application of theory. The course will begin with a review of mathematical topics fundamental to a broad range of subjects in economic theory and game theory. It will continue with one or more topics from economic theory. Possible topics include: 1) informational aspects of mechanism design; 2) complexity; 3) equilibrium theory. Class meetings are focussed on presentations by class members. While there are no formal prerequisites, and students' backgrounds in mathematics can vary considerably, a rough guide is that a student considering taking this course should have completed the first year micro sequence, and have some exposure to real analysis.

Economics D16-2

Advanced Macroeconomics
Professor Trejos
MW 11-1

G30 ANN

In the introduction to the course (first week) we will briefly look at some classic writings and recent surveys, discuss the main issues to be addressed by monetary theory, and refer to the evolution of the field. This will include some work on liquidity preference. The second part of the course (next three-four weeks) deals with ways to introduce money to general equilibrium macroeconomic models in the context of the Walrasian paradigm. This may include overviews of the Arrow-Debreu economy with financial markets, the cash-in-advance approach to monetary economics and others, but will mainly concentrate on the overlapping generations model. As an aside, we will look into some of the original work on rational expectations, and in more detail deal with the Lucas (1972) contribution. We will also spend one or two classes on dynamical systems in general. The third part of the course looks at the microfoundations of monetary economics, by developing non-Walrasian models where media of exchange emerge endogenously. We start by briefly going over Shubik market games, turnpike models, Diamond search models and, less briefly, sequential service models. Then we go in detail into monetary search theory, on which we shall spend the last three weeks.

Economics D40-2

Labor Economics
Professor Altonji
MW 1-3

132 AAH

This course will survey a set of topics in labor economics: labor supply (2 weeks), human capital and wages (2.5 weeks), the effects of firm and job characteristics on earnings (2 weeks), the demand for labor (2.5 weeks), unemployment, labor mobility, labor market fluctuations (3.5 weeks), and discrimination in the labor market (1.5 week).

Students are required to participate actively in the class. To facilitate this, each student taking the course for a grade will be required to prepare 3 sets of written notes (2-4 pages) on articles that are assigned for the class. Each student will make one presentation in class based on their notes. A presentation is intended to be a summary of the guts of the paper, such as you would give if you were asked to present and criticize a paper at a conference. They will typically take about 30 minutes. Furthermore, I will expect students to read a subset of the articles (which I will designate) in advance of class and be prepared to participate in a critical discussion of them. There will also be an in-class final exam.

Students taking labor as a field must write a research paper. The course grade will be based on a paper proposal, which is due on January 3rd, 1997. The paper must be completed by March 1st, and presented in the new E01 seminar.

Economics D50-1

Industrial Organization & Prices
Professor Porter
TTh 9-11

132 AAH

The first quarter in the two quarter graduate industrial organization sequence. An introduction to industrial organization theory and empirical analysis. Topics include: monopoly pricing; price discrimination; oligopoly price and output; empirical studies of structure, pricing and profitability; dynamics of market structure; product selection; advertising; innovation and R&D. The emphasis will be on the estimation and testing of game theoretic models, and especially on recent developments in the field. Prerequisites: Economics D10 and D80, especially the former. Evaluation: Several problem sets and a final exam. Reading List: Selected

readings, many in a course packet. The required text is *The Theory of Industrial Organization*, by Jean Tirole, MIT Press, 1988.

Economics D81-2

Econometrics
Professor Conley
MW 11-1

132 AAH

This course is concerned with the study of econometric techniques using time series data. Applications of these techniques are typically drawn from finance and macroeconomics, although there are many applications in other fields of economics. Specific topics in the course will include spectral analysis, generalized method of moments estimation, and vector autoregressions. The focus of the course will be on understanding how to use estimators in practice rather than a rigorous derivation of their sampling properties. Problem sets will require students to write their own computer code (in Matlab or Gauss) to implement estimation procedures and hypothesis tests.

Economics D83

Cross-Sectional Methods
Professor Taber
TTh 11-1

132 AAH

This course is intended for students who plan to do applied work using cross sectional or panel data. It will cover many of the common econometric techniques that are available as well as some of the practical matters that arise in doing applied research. Some theoretical econometric topics will be covered as well in a fairly informal matter. This course will require problem sets, a final exam, and a project. The problem sets will primarily involve computer assignments. For the project, students will be asked to roughly duplicate the results found in an empirical paper of their choice. They should then extend these results in some way drawing on the material covered in class.

Economics D98

Poverty and Public Policy
Professor Blank
MW 9:00-10:30

132 AAH

This course analyzes the conditions and causes of poverty within the United States and the variety of economic,

social, and political responses to poverty which have occurred in recent decades. The bewildering number of anti-poverty programs that have been tried in the last 20 years underscores the extent of disagreement about the causes of poverty, the situation of the poor, and the role of government in encouraging income redistribution and/or behavioral change. Various theoretical perspectives on poverty will be explored. The design of recent programs aimed at alleviating poverty will be discussed, as well as the research literature analyzing the effects of these programs.

This course is explicitly designed as an interdisciplinary study of the topic, and will have second-year Ph.D. students from a variety of programs in it. Compared to most graduate economics courses, it will have more reading (but much of it will be less technical reading) and more class discussion. Evaluation will be based on a paper and a final exam. Students are encouraged to use the paper to explore possible areas for thesis research. This is a class that offers the opportunity to become acquainted with the core economics literature in this field, at the same time that it offers the opportunity to read things from the other social sciences and to interact with students from those other fields.

MEDS D49-1

Competitive Strategy
Professor Spulber
Th 3:30-5

This course is the first quarter of the graduate strategy sequence. The course will introduce Ph.D. students to economic analysis of competitive strategy. The course will begin with a review of economic theories of the firm, including the neoclassical, industrial organization, contractual, and organizational incentive theories of the firm. The course will then examine the consequences of a management strategy perspective for economic theories of the firm. The course will present models of pricing, product quality, entry and diversification, with a view to examining competitive strategies of firms. The main requirement of the course is a term paper.

MEDS D60-1

Foundations of Management Economics
Professor Myerson
TTh 9-11 561 LEV

The course surveys some of the basic models used to analyze optimal decision making in economics and operations research. Topics include basic assumptions in decision analysis, linear programming and duality, risk aversion and risk bearing, bidding in auctions, Bayesian inference, and Markov decision problems. David Luenberger's *Linear and Non-Linear Programming* (Second Edition, Addison-Wesley, 1989) is recommended as the primary reference for part of the course. The course will also go through the appendix to Mas-Colell, Whinston and Green's *Microeconomic Theory*.

MEDS D65-1

Contract Theory and Mechanism Design
Professor Al-Najjar
TTh 3:15-5 531 AAH

The course is divided into three equal parts. The first is moral hazard covering both static and dynamic models. The second is adverse selection and mechanism design. The third is incomplete contracts, transaction costs and the boundaries of the 'firm.' Evaluation will be based on a final examination, in-class presentation of a paper from the reading list, and a brief research proposal. Prerequisites are a knowledge of repeated games and games with incomplete information.

From the Director of Graduate Studies . . .

1996 fall prelim dates

The September examinations will be held:

Mon Sept 16	Microeconomics
Tues Sept 17	Macroeconomics
Thur Sept 19	Econometrics

All examinations will be held 1pm - 4pm.

Fall quarter TA course allocations

The forms that allow TAs to express preferences for duties should have been placed in your mailbox on September 3.

Completed forms have to be returned by September 20. Unfortunately, the allocation can only be announced at 4 pm on Tuesday September 24 because we do not know enrollment in B01 and B02 until enrollment closes that afternoon. Classes start the next day.

TA periods in residence

Each quarter that you are a TA, you must be in Evanston from the first Monday of classes until the Monday after examinations end (which is the day that grades are filed). In the past people have left early and arrived back late, in some cases without informing the instructor they will be working for. The Department will no longer tolerate this. You must arrange your vacation airline flights so as to be able to fulfill your duties. Failure to do so will be grounds for rescinding your TAship. For 1996/7 the dates for which you must be in attendance are:

Fall: Wed Sept 25 - Mon Dec 16
Winter: Mon January 6 - Mon March 24
Spring: Tues April 1 - Mon June 16

FAQs by entering students

FAQ1: What courses should I register for?

A1: You really have very little choice your first year. Unless you are EXTRAORDINARILY well prepared due to previous graduate work, you should plan on taking the three, three quarter core sequences D10, D11, and D80.

FAQ2: How many courses must I take this year?

A2: You must take 10 courses, in addition to D01, over the course of the academic year. That is, you must take a fourth course in at least one quarter.

FAQ3: What can I take as my "extra" course?

A3: You can take any course carrying graduate credit as your 4th course. Courses C-level and above generally carry graduate credit. It need not be an Economics course nor a graduate course. In fact, the Department strongly recommends taking undergraduate Real Analysis (Math C10-1) as a 4th course in the fall quarter, unless your math background is too weak or too strong. This is a matter to discuss with your Advisor.

FAQ4: Can I take Math C10-1 Pass/Fail?

A4: Yes! We recommend C10-1 to expose you to mathematical reasoning and gain a deeper understanding of what constitutes a rigorous "proof," not to fatten your GPA. While the grade you earn in Math C10-1 is not important per se, the Graduate School requires you to maintain a B average. If you're nervous about getting a C, take it P/F.

FAQ5: Can I "place out" of one or more core courses?

A5: Yes. You can skip any course whose material you feel you've already mastered. Just inform me, your Advisor, and the instructor, so we know what you're doing. However, bear in mind that you CANNOT "place out" of the associated Prelim exams, which are based on the material covered in the core courses. For this reason, few students elect to skip any core courses.

FAQ6: Can I take one or more Prelim exams this fall?

A6: Yes. The prelim scheduled is listed above. If you have an especially strong background in one or more subjects and old exams (available from Delilah Gray) look easy, consider taking one or more exams. Just sign up in the Office. Taking a prelim now does not count as an official "attempt."

FAQ7: How do I apply for financial aid for my 2nd year?

A7: The Department assumes that continuing students are interested in receiving financial aid for next year, so you do not need to formally "apply" for it, even if you are not receiving aid this year. Sometime this spring we will ask all continuing students to fill out a brief information form. However, foreign students from non English-speaking countries must pass the Test of Spoken English before the Graduate School will award a Teaching Assistantship, the most common form of 2nd year funding.

Therefore, FOREIGN STUDENTS SHOULD SIGN UP FOR THE TSE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. NOW IS NOT TOO SOON! This is a rigid Graduate School requirement, beyond the Department's control. If you think you can qualify for a waiver, arrange that with the Grad School NOW.

FAQ8: Is it possible to obtain financial aid for 1996-97 at this point?

A8: Unfortunately, the Department has no additional financial aid it can

award to entering students, not even a "tuition waiver." (Many departments at state universities have continuing access to such funds. We do not.) If you are entering the program without financial aid, you should not expect to receive any later this year. For your second year, however, you will be considered for aid based on the same standards of satisfactory progress as those currently receiving aid.

Delilah's Domain . . .

I'd like to welcome all of the students, new and continuing, to the 1996/97 school year. I hold an open door policy to all of the graduate students. If you should have any questions or need anything, please feel free to come and see me.

First year students

First-year students have already been given a locker (located in the hallway outside of the Seminar Room) to store their books and personal items. If you have not gotten the assignment, or, are not sure how to use the locks on the lockers please see me. You have also been assigned a Faculty Adviser, please make an appointment to talk with your adviser before you register for your Fall classes. These advisers are assigned to you according to the stated interest on your application form.

Important dates

October 1 submit your Application for Admission to Candidacy to the Graduate School to be granted a Master's Degree in December.

November 8 is the last day for return of the Application for a Degree for all candidates who expect their degrees to be awarded in December 1996.

December 6 is the last day for submission of the COMPLETED dissertation and all supporting materials to the Graduate School for students who expect to receive the Ph.D. degree in December 1996.

December 13 is the last day for receipt of the Final Examination Report and any Change of Grade forms for D99 Projects or E90 Research to the Graduate School for Master's candidates who expect their degrees to be awarded in December 1996.

Funding . . .

Teaching for Summer Session 1997

There will be some changes this year in the appointment of graduate students to teach in the summer and evening programs. Application forms for teaching in the Summer Session 1997 will be circulated to all graduate students in the third year and above in early October. Appointments to these positions will be made by the Director of Graduate Studies and the Assistant Chair.

Appointment of lecturers for University College 1997-8 will be made in February 1997. Please note that appointments to these positions are made by the associate dean of University College and not by the department. After reviewing the forms and checking your CTEC records as a teaching assistant, she will invite a short list of candidates to attend an interview.

These positions provide valuable teaching experience for students with good teaching skills. They can provide a more certain form of funding for students in their fifth year, or those fourth year students who are not admitted to candidacy on time.

TAs and RAs to file a W2

In order to be paid as TAs or RAs, grad students have to go to payroll at 720 University Place and fill out a W2 form.

Notice to third years

TAships are only available to fourth year students who have been admitted to doctoral candidacy. If you have been admitted to candidacy by July 31, 1997 you will - in normal circumstances - be offered a TAship for all three quarters of 1997-8.

If you are admitted to candidacy after July 31, 1997 then we cannot guarantee that TA funds will be available. In any event, a TAship will not be awarded for any quarter in which you have not been admitted to candidacy. This means, for example, that if you are admitted to candidacy in November 1997 funding will not be available for the fall quarter, and will only be available for the winter and spring quarters if there are any unallocated TAships remaining, and if the College of Arts and Sciences allows us to change our TA roster after September.

From the Director of Graduate Placement . . .

Last year was another successful year for student placement. Best wishes are offered to the following people as they start their professional careers:

Dan Aaronson - Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago
 Eugene Canjels - New School for Social Research
 Mark Coppejans - Duke University
 Phil Haile - University of Wisconsin - Madison
 Massimo Marinacci - University of Toronto
 Eugenio Miravette - INSEAD
 Carolyn Moehling - Ohio State University
 Nicola Persico - UCLA
 Gauri Prakash - New School for Social Research
 Peter Sattler - University of Texas at Dallas
 Victor Valdivia - IMF

This year's job market

Ian Domowitz is director of graduate Placement. He will be holding an introductory meeting on Thursday, October 3 at 5:00PM in Andersen 132 for students planning to be on the job market. Please note the following deadlines in preparation of materials for the job market.

October 3: A completed draft of students' job market papers should be in the hands of their Ph.D. committee members.

October 18: Students must have entered their vita on the standard template in the computer room (Andersen 313). Procedures will be distributed at the introductory meeting. Vitae will be collated and mailed to over 200 institutions by Paula Nielsen and Maryann Semer. The "vitae packet" will also be posted on the Department's World Wide Web site.

November 1: Students should prepare multiple copies of their paper for their packets. A photocopy account set to a maximum of 5,000 copies, which is the limit for which the Department will bear the cost, will be in operation for the calendar month of November. Individual code numbers can be

obtained from the main office on or after November 1.

November 1: Submission of a diskette to Paula Nielsen containing a list of addresses for packet labels. The list must be approved by the student's advisor. The Department will process a maximum of 100 labels. The address labels will be put in your mailbox prior to November 8. Please prepare your list early. Requests for late additions to the list will not be given a high priority.

November 15: Students are responsible for "stuffing" their own packets with their vita and paper. A box containing the addressed stuffed envelopes must be delivered to Chris Udry's office (Andersen 203) on November 15.

November 27: The Department will hire temporary help to place reference letters in the packets in a confidential manner and mail the packets. The temporary help will be available November 18-27. Students will receive notification in their boxes when their completed packets have been mailed.

Notes . . .

Phone area code changes

A new area code of 630 has been introduced for the DuPage County and the western suburbs from August 1996. Western suburbs in Cook County such as Oak Park remain in area code 708.

From October 12, the 312 area code will be split into two. The 312 code will only apply to the greater loop area including Northwestern's downtown campus. A new 773 area code will apply to other areas of the city including the University of Chicago in Hyde Park, and the Lincoln Park and Rogers Park residential areas.

Office accommodations for 1996/7

Allocations of office and carrel space for 1996-97 were announced in August. In general, people move into or change offices around Labor Day. Pareto-improving swaps are encouraged but please let Ian Savage know immediately since we would like to publish a directory of rooms and phone numbers by the start of the term.

E-mail addresses

The Department has replaced most paper memoranda by e-mail. A group mailing list for graduate students is <econ-grads@nwu.edu>. To permit this mailing list to be updated, first-year students should get an e-mail account as soon as possible, change their address using the PH system to the abbreviated <yourname@nwu.edu> format, and inform Delilah Gray of the address. Please do so by September 20.

Photocopier

Please note that the office staff and work study students have priority access to the copy machine during regular business hours. It is suggested that during the first few weeks of each quarter that TAs do their copying for classes wherever possible after 5PM. Staff will be busy producing course packets. Please be nice and permit them to use their time efficiently.

Lounge

The Department is pleased that the Lounge in room 125 is so well used. However, please remember that your mother does not work here and therefore clear up after your lunch. Please also keep the newspapers and the weekly magazines tidy. These and the journals are for reading in the Lounge ONLY. Please do not take them elsewhere to read. You can make a copy just across the hallway.

We would like to ask that you reshelve the journal issues when you have finished with them, and do so in the correct order. The current disorder looks untidy and makes it difficult for other readers.

You may have seen the recent notice indicating the frustration of your fellow graduate students with those of you with a penchant for petty theft. Do not steal the Journals. We are a small community of intelligent people, and should not have to tolerate those with less civility.

Personal copy accounts

Graduate students can obtain a personal account on our copy machine. You will be billed at the end of each month at 5¢ a copy. To obtain an account please send an e-mail to the Assistant Chair <ipsavage@nwu.edu> with your name and a 5-digit number to be used as

your personal access code (the number must not start with a 0).

Web page

The department's web site contains directory information for faculty and staff, seminar listings, class information, and official documents on degree requirements. There are also links to information provided by the Graduate School, plus many interesting economics databases and sources. The URL is:
<http://www.econ.nwu.edu>

Next Graduate Connection

Volume 2, number 2 will be published on December 2.

GRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS 1996-97

		<u>FALL</u>	<u>WINTER</u>	<u>SPRING</u>
D01	Mathematical Methods	Valimaki		
D10	Microeconomics	(-1) Panzar	(-2) Pesendorfer	(-3) Matthews
D11	Macroeconomics	(-1) Gordon	(-2) Christiano	(-3) Eichenbaum
D12	Economic Theory & Methods	(-1) Valimaki	(-2) Ely	
D14	Economics of Information		(-1) Wolinsky	(-2) Matthews
D15	Advanced Microeconomics	(-2) Reiter		
D16	Advanced Macroeconomics	(-2) Trejos	(-1) Matsuyama	
D20-1	American Econ. History		Ferrie	
D20-2	European Econ. History			Taylor
D36	Public Finance			(-1) Weisbrod
D40	Econ. of the Labor Market	(-2) Altonji		
D50	Industrial Organization and Prices	(-1) Porter	(-2) Braeutigam Panzar	
D80	Intro. to Econometrics	(-1) Matzkin	(-2) Domowitz	(-3) Meyer
D81	Econometrics	(-2) Conley	(-3) Matzkin	(-1) Domowitz
D83	X-Sectional Methods	Taber		
D98	Poverty & Public Policy	Blank		
D98	Advanced Topics			Sargent
E01	Graduate Seminar	Panzar	Panzar	Panzar

GRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS - FALL 1996-97

		<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>	<u>LECTURE</u>	<u>DISCUSSION</u>
D10-1	Microeconomics	Panzar	MW 9:00-11:00	F 11-1
D11-1	Macroeconomics	Gordon	MW 11:00-1:00	F 2-4
D12-1	Economic Theory & Methods	Valimaki	MW 9:00-11:00	
D15-2	Advanced Microeconomics	Reiter	TTh 1:00-3:00	
D16-2	Advanced Macroeconomics	Trejos	MW 11:00-1:00	
D40-2	Econ. of the Labor Market	Altonji	MW 1:00-3:00	
D50-1	Industrial Organization and Prices	Porter	TTh 9:00-11:00	
D80-1	Intro. to Econometrics	Matzkin	TTh 11:00-1:00	F 9-11
D81-2	Econometrics	Conley	MW 11:00-1:00	
D83	X-Sectional Methods	Taber	TTh 11:00-1:00	
D98	Poverty & Public Policy	Blank	MW 9:00-10:30	
E01	Graduate Seminar	Panzar	Th 5:00-6:30	