



UNIVERSITÄT  
BAYREUTH

# History & Economics

*Master of Arts (MA) – An Interdisciplinary Programme*



*The University of Bayreuth is a modern and friendly campus university that offers you an ideal teaching and learning environment.*



The H&E Programme >>

# The Bayreuth way to study

**The University of Bayreuth may be tucked away in the scenic hills of northeast Bavaria, but as a place of higher learning it has much to offer.**

The University of Bayreuth's "History & Economics" (H&E) programme – set to begin in Winter Semester 2016 – was created by a group of academics from the history and economics departments who wanted to offer students a new way of studying economic history in Germany. Our approach is to train the next generation of economic historians in both historical methods and econometrics - a new generation capable of understanding economic change from different methodological perspectives and interested in achieving new solutions based on historical experience.

## **Merging fields and methods.**

The Bayreuth idea of H&E is about bringing together two tightly connected fields of study that have all too often failed to communicate with each other. Our MA programme combines hermeneutic methods from historical research with formal methods of econometrics to offer truly interdisciplinary training that is one-of-a-kind in Germany. The University of Bayreuth has obtained a worldwide reputation for its interdisciplinary programmes such as Philosophy & Economics and Sport, Business & Law. The programme H&E complements and reinforces this tradition. It provides a career-qualifying degree that prepares graduates for a career in the private sector or to continue their postgraduate education by pursuing doctoral research.

## **Small classes and intensive supervision.**

A major advantage of Bayreuth's H&E programme are the small class sizes and the close contact with academic staff. We offer you the intellectual environment of a classic campus university: peaceful, friendly, and personal, yet highly investigative and stimulating.

## **And a place to socialize.**

University life is not only about your studies. There are plenty of opportunities to get involved in Bayreuth's vibrant cultural life. For instance, you could sing in the university chorus or gospel chorus, or play your instrument in the university orchestra or big band. The campus also hosts regular film screenings during the semester, art exhibitions, theatre performances, a variety of musical performances, and last but not least, the University's annual open air festival.



# The Master’s Programme – Curriculum Overview

The MA Programme in History & Economics is organized and taught by both the departments of history and economics. It is a unique two-year programme of study offering rigorous and demanding graduate-level education in economic history. It is taught entirely in English.

The programme is targeted at students with an interest in obtaining an advanced analytical and quantitative training as a foundation for pursuing research-based careers in academia, public service, and business. The target groups of students are economists and historians who are interested in deepening their knowledge of economic and historical processes and on broadening and enhancing their methodological skills.

Why are some nations rich, and others poor?

The economy is constantly changing. The latest economic crises have taught us that a long-term perspective can help us to better understand changes in the economy. Economic history addresses a wide range of both fundamental and applied questions: What are the underlying reasons for economic growth? What explains economic crises and recovery? Why have some nations become rich and others poor? Why has the world economy converged at some points in history and disintegrated at others? What is the role of institutions and the state? How does our understanding of the economy and our theoretical models shape economic outcomes? What is capitalism? Has it always functioned the same way? When did it come into existence?

In the master’s programme H&E you will discuss these questions and many more. You will get a fresh look at topics such as the Great Depression, long-term economic growth, sovereign debt crises, or the effects of global economic interrelations on corporate structure – all from the perspective of research in economic history. In addition to sharpening your discussion skills, you will deepen your knowledge of the latest quantitative tools that help you to support your arguments with relevant empirical data.

Foundations, Skills, and Individuality.

The H&E Master programme has a clear structure with a set of foundational courses, a convergence module to address students with different academic backgrounds, a set of modules to acquire the necessary skills and methods, a number of courses to learn about research and debate in economic history, a module to apply your knowledge in practice, and a wide range of electives allowing our students to specialize according to individual interests and skills. Our programme will provide you with solid foundations and the opportunity to carve out your own distinctive academic and professional profile.

History & Economics – Module Overview		ECTS	
Foundations of Economic History		26	
<div><div></div> Economic Growth, Development, Crises (F I)</div> <div><div></div> Global Economy (F II)</div> <div><div></div> State and Institutions (F III)</div>			
Skill Convergence			
Humanities Graduates	or	Economics Graduates	12
<div><div></div> Introduction to Economics</div> <div><div></div> Introduction to Empirical Methods</div>		<div><div></div> Introduction to Economic History</div> <div><div></div> Introduction to History</div>	
Skills and Methods		20	
<div><div></div> Advanced Empirical Economics I</div> <div><div></div> Quantitative Methods in Economic History</div> <div><div></div> Historical Methods in Economic History</div>			
Specialization			
<div><div></div> Summer schools, language courses, courses in economic history or other fields of study</div>		14	
Research and Debate			
<div><div></div> Research Colloquium</div>		6	
Career Profile		12	
<div><div></div> Internship (Preparation and Follow-Up)</div>			
Master’s Thesis		30	
Total		120	

# The Master's Programme – Overview of Core Requirements

**You will complete three modules that provide you with foundational knowledge in economic history, two modules that ensure you gain a firm understanding of methods and concepts, three modules that teach the specific methodological skills in “quantitative” as well as “qualitative” economic history, one module over the course of three semesters to learn about research and debate, and one mandatory internship to apply your knowledge and sharpen your career profile.**

## **Economic Growth/Development/Crises (Foundations I).**

The objective of this course is to provide a systematic overview of the central scientific issues, research approaches, and findings in economic history with a special emphasis on economic growth, development, and crises. You will learn about different historical episodes with varying growth patterns and critical slumps. You will discuss the underlying factors and learn to draw on different economic theories for their explanation.

## **Global Economy (Foundations II).**

This course provides a systematic overview of the issues, research approaches and findings in the history of the global economy. The international flow of goods, migration, and foreign direct investment, the structure of multinational firms and the international monetary order all have seen drastic changes over the last two centuries. Based on different historical episodes of global integration and disintegration the course will discuss the historical underlying factors and draw on different economic theories for their explanation.

## **State and Institutions (Foundations III).**

States and institutions have always played a crucial role in economic history. Yet the specific constellation of state actors, non- governmental organizations, and the private sector has been constantly changing. The objective of this course is to provide a systematic overview of the role of economic policy, economic law and corporate strategies in economic history. Based on different historical episodes, the course will discuss and explain the different roles of states and institutions and their varying impact over time.

## **Writing Seminar (Foundations P).**

One out of the three lectures in the Foundations area will be accompanied by a writing seminar that addresses the topic. In the seminar, you will be assisted in developing your own research questions and in writing a scientific paper.

## **Introduction to Economic History & Introduction to History.**

These two courses are geared towards students with a degree in economics (or similar) who have not worked with historical theories and methods before. The modules seek to give students an understanding of the historical method of source criticism and to introduce them to thinking in historical terms of “understanding” and “explaining”.

## **Advanced Empirical Economics I.**

In this course, you will gain a basic knowledge of different estimation methods that are necessary for analyzing micro- and macro-data. This allows for a data-based analysis of economically relevant research questions. You will learn to evaluate empirical methods in light of their context-specific capabilities and limitations. A special emphasis will also be on the practical application of methods by means of software packages.

## **Quantitative Methods in Economic History.**

The objective of this course is to introduce and practice the most important methods that are used in “quantitative” economic history (“cliometrics”). You will be introduced to all relevant steps alongside the value chain of research in quantitative economic history: Identifying historical datasources, processing data, constructing datasets, data analysis, and interpretation of results.

## **Introduction to Economics & Introduction to Empirical Methods.**

Students with a degree in historical science (or similar) will complete these two modules which are offered by different chairs in the economics department. The courses will give students a basic knowledge of the foundations of micro- and macroeconomics as well as empirical economic research.

## **Historical Methods in Economic History.**

This course will hone your ability to collect and assess economic historical sources such as historical statistics and archival sources critically. Based on a thematically focused topic, the seminar puts a strong emphasis on looking at the origins and possible limitations of the sources. It will also practice ways to use the sources for writing a paper that meets the current state of research.

## **Research Colloquium.**

This course is organized in collaboration between the two chairs of economic history. The research colloquium is seen as an important cornerstone to facilitating the regular interdisciplinary exchange. It consists of reading sessions as well as presentations and discussions with (international) experts in the various fields.

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Structure and Content >>

# The Master's Programme – Tailored to fit your specific interests.

The MA programme gives you the opportunity to sharpen your profile by integrating courses with different thematic and methodological focuses into your curriculum. The two chairs of economic history will offer electives on a regular basis covering topics such as the history of economic thought or natural experiments in economic history. You can also attend courses from other degree programmes offered by the faculties involved, or gain credits by visiting an international Summer School or completing a language course. You must earn a total of 14 credit points in the module area “Specialization”. You will choose between an internship in a company, research institute, or at a different institution.

## Module Area: Specialization.

Students choose from an impressive range of courses from the departments of History, Economics, Legal History, Management Science, Philosophy and Economics, African Studies, Social Anthropology, and Sociology. Here are just a few examples. For a full list you can take a look at the MA Module Handbook (see below):

Introduction to the History of Economic Thought - a course that gives you a historical overview of the development of economic theory since the 18th century with its different conflicting “schools” and paradigmatic changes.

International Summer School – an opportunity for you to meet scholars from other countries and to exchange your academic experiences and scholarly achievements.

History of Economic Law – an overview over the main epochs of legal history from its origins in ancient Babylon to the formation of the European Union.

Methodology of Economics – an introduction to the most important methodological debates in modern economics, and a discussion of strategies to overcome logical errors or weakness of argument in selected economic theories.

## “Internship”.

An internship provides an insight view and experience that is crucial for orientation in the job market. You will get the chance to apply your theoretical knowledge to practical issues and thus deepen your knowledge. You are free to choose the place that best suits your interests. We will, however, make available internships for a number of companies and research institutes.

You can find out more about the programme structure and courses by downloading the MA Module Handbook: [www.he.uni-bayreuth.de](http://www.he.uni-bayreuth.de)





*Students, instructors and researchers  
from more than 100 different  
countries work and study here.*



Internship >>

# The Master's Programme – A chance to apply your knowledge.

« We regularly offer internships in the field of archival work and historical corporate communication and look forward to receive applications from the Bayreuth students. »

**Dr. Manfred Grieger**  
Head of Corporate Archives,  
Volkswagen AG, Wolfsburg

« Graduates having acquired both historical knowledge and quantitative abilities in the Bayreuth HE-programme appear well endowed for a career in the macroeconomic research team of our bank. »

**Wolf-Fabian Hungerland**  
Berenberg Bank

« We would very much like to consider applications from students of the Bayreuth economic history programme for internships. They certainly would fit and even enrich our research division. »

**Prof. Dr. Michael Hüther**  
Director of the IW Cologne

« The program 'History & Economics' offers a great analytical and quantitative training. These are important skills for an internship at Ifo. »

**Prof. Dr. Ludger Wößmann**  
Director of the Ifo Center for the  
Economics of Education



# Practicing Interdisciplinarity

**Regardless of whether you're planning a career in academia, a national or international governmental or non-governmental organization, in politics, or business and industry - if you enjoy the intellectual challenges that advanced research-driven training in economic history presents, the master's programme H&E at the University of Bayreuth might just be the opportunity you've been looking for.**

Bayreuth's H&E programme is unique in Germany. No other university brings together economic historians with a background in history and economics to jointly organize an MA programme. We are committed to interdisciplinary exchange instead of establishing boundaries between the different departments. We believe that research questions can be tackled with a variety of methods, from econometrics to economic sociology and source criticism. What separates good and poor research is not your scientific background, but how you do things. We want you to be an active part of this programme, not just another face in the crowd. We are interested in what you have to say – both in and out of the classroom.

One of the advantages of studying H&E in Bayreuth is the close contact with the teaching staff. In 2015/2016, the University of Bayreuth welcomed two full professors and one junior professor, making Bayreuth a new centre of economic history in Germany. They are responsible for most of the core curriculum.

**Prof. Dr. Jan-Otmar Hesse** – Prof. Hesse received his Ph.D. in history. After positions at the Universities of Frankfurt, Goettingen and Bielefeld, he joined the University of Bayreuth in 2015. Hesse was research fellow at the German Historical Institute in Washington D.C., the Historisches Kolleg in Munich, and Alfred D. Chandler Visiting Professor in International Business History at Harvard Business School. He specializes in business history, history of economic policy, and history of economics.

**Prof. Dr. Erik Hornung** – Prof. Hornung holds a Ph.D. in economics from the LMU in Munich. He has taught courses on the determinants of growth in economic history, mechanisms of persistence in economics, and empirical economic history of Germany. His empirical work focuses on long-run growth and development, human capital formation, and technological diffusion.

**Prof. Sebastian Teupe** – Prof. Teupe received his Ph.D. in history from Bielefeld University. Teupe has taught seminars on the history of free trade, on money and markets, on economic policy, as well as the history of economic thought. His research focuses on the social foundations and historical developments of markets and the use of money in the 19th and 20th centuries.

*Prof. Sebastian Teupe,  
Prof. Dr. Jan-Otmar Hesse and  
Prof. Dr. Erik Hornung*



*Bayreuth offers a modern, comfortable learning environment.*



Studying at the University of Bayreuth >>

# Student life

**The H&E Programme is small and exclusive. Rather than addressing a great audience, we are interested in finding students who are motivated, ambitious, and interested in the challenge of crossing the disciplinary boundaries between history and economics. To make this work, open minds and open ears are crucial.**

## **A vibrant atmosphere.**

This approach fits well with the University and the town of Bayreuth. The University of Bayreuth offers a comfortable setting for study and work. It has a reputation for interdisciplinary exchange and a friendly climate. The departments of history and economics have a vibrant student community and offer a range of opportunities for students to collaborate and socialize outside of the classroom such as student clubs, study groups, workshops, and conferences.

## **The programme and you.**

One of our guiding educational ideals is finding a close fit between students and the programme. Our programme advisors are always there to answer any questions or offer advice. And if you'd like to visit us to learn about the programme, the University, and our town, we are always happy to welcome you. Just get in touch with one of the programme advisors listed at the end of this brochure. They will be happy to talk with you!

## **Life after your degree.**

Our degree will prepare you for undertaking a PhD in either discipline or a research-based career. Economists with interdisciplinary training are in great demand in the financial sector and in internationally oriented companies, organizations, foundations, and administrative bodies. A range of career fields require a combination of historical and economic expertise. You can go for a career in research divisions of companies and banks or in research institutes and public administrative bodies. You can start with political, financial, and government consulting, or with archive and foundation management. You can work for museums, or the publishing industry. You can become a journalist in science or business journalism. And if you are interested in higher education management, public relations, business consulting, and marketing, the degree will provide you with a competitive edge.



# Where ideas and research come together

**Does it take hundreds of years to gain a reputation for pioneering research and academic excellence? It can, if your idea of higher education is centuries old.**

We've chosen a different path. According to Times Higher Education's "150 Under 50," which ranks the top 150 universities founded within the last 50 years, the University of Bayreuth is among the best young universities in the world.

**The CHE University Ranking – top grades for the general educational environment.**

It's no wonder the University of Bayreuth keeps earning top rankings from the Centrum für Hochschulentwicklung (CHE). Students rate the general educational environment and equipment of our labs as excellent. They give the advising they receive in fields such as biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, and computer science top marks. Scientific publications and research in the field of geoscience were also noted for their excellence.

**One campus, six faculties, and a world of opportunities.**

As a graduate of the University of Bayreuth, you will have the best chances for success in your future career. Our approach to education involves extensive academic advising for our students. Building on basic research and real-world applications, you will receive an education that focuses on excellence both within individual disciplines and across traditional academic boundaries. Freed from the constraints of traditional academic fields, we prepare you to solve the scientific, technical, and social challenges of the future.

We offer degree programmes in the natural and engineering sciences, law, economics and business, and the humanities and social sciences. The University has an extensive national and international network and reacts quickly to new developments in science and society. The University of Bayreuth is interdisciplinary to the core, an approach that provides the lifeblood of our campus. Our degree programmes include:

- Legal training with a specialization in economics & business
- International Economics and Development/Governance
- Philosophy & Economics
- Biotechnology & Process Engineering
- Health Economics
- Sport Management
- Applied Computer Science
- Polymer Science
- Geo-Ecology
- Global Change Ecology
- Theatre & Media

*Enjoy an outstanding learning environment with 13,500 other students.*



How to apply >>

# You don't have to love Wagner to love Bayreuth



**Students, researchers, and staff agree: when they first came to the University of Bayreuth, they felt at home straight away. And with an enrolment of 13,500 students, we're not too big, and not too small – there are plenty of interesting people here, but it's still easy to meet them.**

With a population of 73,000, the town of Bayreuth - home to the world-famous Bayreuth Festival showcasing the works of Richard Wagner - has a vibrant cultural scene you can appreciate even if you're not a fan of the opera. You'll be surprised at how quickly you'll acclimate to life in Bayreuth – before you know it,

you'll feel just as comfortable downtown as you do on campus.

## **Get away for the weekend.**

Bayreuth is located right on the doorstep of Bavaria's Franconian Switzerland region. It's an excellent place for outdoor sports such as cycling, hiking, climbing, canoeing, boating, and skiing. But if you ever long to see the big city lights, just catch a train to Nuremberg (1 hr.) or Munich (2.5 hrs.) Berlin is not even a four-hour drive, and Leipzig only takes half the time to reach by car. And don't forget, you're also in the heart of Europe – you can be in Prague just three hours.

## **Entry requirements.**

Admission requirements for the master's programme include a bachelor's degree in economics or history, or an equivalent degree awarded by a university in Germany or abroad. Depending on your final grade, you may also need to undergo an aptitude assessment process. An excellent command of written and spoken English is required. If you are unsure whether you fulfil the requirements, do not hesitate to contact us. We are open to talented and hard-working applicants who want to enter the field.

## **Language of instruction**

English

## **Start date**

Winter Semester

## **To Apply**

The application deadline for the next academic year is 15 July. We advise you to apply as early as possible. You can apply before completing your bachelor's degree.

For information on how to apply please visit:

[www.he.uni-bayreuth.de](http://www.he.uni-bayreuth.de)

## **Tuition**

No general tuition fees.

## **Contact.**

If you'd like to learn more about the MA programme History & Economics, please contact:

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## **General enquiries**

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