

Recommended Teaching Patterns for Economics Tutorials, 2011/12

This table¹ shows numbers of tutorials and classes recommended by the department for each part of the economics course. Small classes of approximately 6 students, lasting 1½ or 2 hours, are recommended for the more technical material based on problem sets: tutors will need to go through the same material with every student, and classes allow more contact time per student. For other parts of the course students write essays and have 1-hour tutorials in pairs or triples.

Recommended Pattern	Explanations and Variations	Estimated Tutor Time per Student ²
<u>First Year – Prelims</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 Tutorials/Classes • of which 10 are for Micro and Maths, 6 for Macro • given by college tutors 	<p>Some tutors teach the first year course entirely in tutorials; others replace tutorials by classes to cover the more mathematical/technical material.</p> <p>It should not be necessary to provide additional maths teaching, except for those with a very weak maths background. Some colleges still do this, however.</p>	10 weighted hours
<u>Second Year - Core Finals Papers</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 Tutorials/Classes • of which about half will be tutorials • given by college tutors 	<p>There are three courses: Macro, Micro, Quantitative Economics. They are taught in the three terms of the second year, with 8 tutorials/classes each term.</p> <p>Some colleges prefer 1-hour tutorials even for problem sets.</p>	15 weighted hours
<u>3rd Year Optional Finals Papers</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 Tutorials/Classes per paper • Taught by specialist tutors by intercollegiate exchange, organised via the Option Grid 	<p>Most students will do 1 option, but they may do any number between 0 and 3.</p> <p>A typical pattern is 4 tutorials and 4 classes in alternate weeks. Technical options (Game Theory, Econometrics, Micro Theory, Mathematical Methods) are taught entirely in classes.</p>	5 weighted hours per option paper
<u>Revision Classes</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prelims: 2 1½ hour classes • Core: A total of 15 hours (~ 5 hours per core course) • Options: 1-2 hours per option. 	<p>College revision classes typically involve the whole year group, so may contain more than 6 students.</p> <p>For some options there are revision lectures, or classes open to all students taking the paper. For others revision is arranged by individual tutors. See the relevant course webpage for details.</p>	Average of 6 weighted hours over the whole course
Total Tutor Hours required for a typical student doing 1 option:		36 hours

¹ The table applies to PPE, E&M and H&E students. EEM and MEM students do the same papers, but at different times and in different combinations.

² A paired tutorial requires 1.25 weighted hours of tutor-time, which is 0.625 weighted hours per student. A 1¾ hour class of 6 students, with work marked for each student, is almost exactly the same (0.63) in terms of weighted hours per student.