Since pioneering the first economics department in Egypt in 1947 and graduating its first bachelor’s class in 1951, the Department of Economics at AUC has been committed to a broad and inclusive study of the discipline. Students gain an appreciation of the interdependence of world economies while being encouraged to critically and rationally explore the connection between theory and the applied features of economic policy. With its diversified faculty members, the department offers an interesting mix of theoretical and applied courses.
In the United States, The American University in Cairo is accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools in the United States (MSCHE). In Egypt, it is accredited by the National Authority for Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Egypt (NAQAAE). In addition, the School of Business is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International). Also, the Master of Arts in economics and the Master of Arts in economics in international development are programs accredited by the Egyptian Supreme Council of Universities.

The Department of Economics offers three graduate programs for interested candidates: Master of Arts in economics, Master of Arts in economics in international development, and a graduate diploma in economics in international development.
Program Overview
The MA program in economics is specifically designed to provide students with a strong theoretical foundation, solid quantitative skills and critical thinking tools necessary to succeed in a world-class doctoral program or advance through the ranks of their chosen professions. In addition, the program’s diverse curriculum and distinguished faculty members help prepare students to become ideal candidates for prestigious and challenging jobs in international, government and private institutions.

Admission
Candidates seeking acceptance to this program are required to have a strong foundation in economic theory and quantitative methods. Students from other disciplines may be provisionally admitted until they successfully complete additional prerequisite course work. All students admitted to the program are required to have successfully completed ECON 416 and ECON 418, with a course grade of B or higher, before being fully enrolled in the program and permitted to enroll in 500-level courses. Additionally, applicants must receive an acceptable score on the Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) before the completion of their first semester of enrollment.

Two Tracks
The MA in economics allows students to pursue one of two tracks: a thesis track or a non-thesis track. Through the thesis track, candidates complete their studies with a research project under the supervision of selected faculty members. Non-thesis track students are required to complete a minimum of six credit hours in at least one of the concentration fields: Growth and Sustainable Development, Competitive Strategy and Valuation, and International Economics.

Program Completion
Students are required to complete 30 credit hours of course work.
Master of Arts in Economics in International Development

Program Overview
This program is designed for students who wish to acquire an advanced understanding of the field of development economics. The program adopts a highly interdisciplinary approach as an essential requirement for gaining a broader and more integrated perspective of this dynamic field of study. The program also promotes effective unification of theoretical foundations with the modern applications of policy within the developing world. This unification is made tangible as students are required to apply their knowledge within this unique practicum program. Graduates of this program have been employed in international organizations, representative offices and projects, nongovernmental organizations and development-finance institutions. Students have also assumed technical positions in governmental departments directly concerned with development planning and evaluation.

Admission
Applicants should have superior knowledge of economic concepts and analytical tools. An applicant whose bachelor’s degree is in a discipline other than economics may be admitted provisionally, but in such cases, the applicant must either display competence in economics via an interview or work experience in the field of economics, or develop the necessary competence by completing additional undergraduate courses. Applicants to the MA in economics in international development program must obtain an acceptable score on the Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) before the completion of their first semester of enrollment.

Program Completion
Students are required to complete 36 credit hours of courses, as well as a practicum with an approved host organization.

Practicum
The practicum is a 200-hour placement over a four to six-week period with a development-related institution. It is preferable that the practicum is undertaken after completing six core courses. The department will assist in identifying appropriate hosts for the practicum and in the placement of students. The practicum is an essential requirement of the program that is expected to provide students with pragmatic exposure to serious development work settings. AUC’s economics department and host institutions will be jointly responsible for supervising and evaluating student practicum work.
Graduate Diploma in Economics
in International Development

Program Overview
This program is designed for students who wish to gain basic understanding and knowledge of development economics without proceeding toward a master’s degree. The diploma program is also interdisciplinary to provide a broader and more integrated perspective of development issues. In addition, the program attempts to bridge the gap between theory and practice by encouraging students to study development cases and effectively assess the successes and failures of efforts to influence the course of economic development over time.

Admission
Applicants to this program should have strong knowledge of economic concepts and analytical tools. Applicants whose bachelor’s degree is in a discipline other than economics may be admitted provisionally, but in such cases, the applicant must either display competence in economics via an interview or work experience in the field of economics, or develop the necessary competence by completing additional undergraduate courses. Applicants to the graduate diploma in economics in international development must obtain an acceptable score on the Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) before the completion of their first semester of enrollment.

Program Completion
The graduate diploma requires students to complete a total of 18 credit hours, spread between a series of required and elective courses. Students completing the program are permitted to apply for admission to the Master of Arts in economics in international development.
AUC offers a variety of fellowships, academic scholarships and work-study opportunities to assist students in financing their graduate studies. Below is a list of fellowships and scholarships available at the graduate level.

- African Graduate Fellowships (every fall): University-wide fellowship
- The Ahmed and Ann M. El Mokadem Scholarship (every fall): Department of Economics only
- Building the Next Generation of Scholars in Egyptian Public Universities (every two years): open to specific majors, including economics, for those holding a tenured teaching assistant position in Egypt’s public schools
- Graduate Merit Fellowship (every fall): University-wide fellowship
- Model Arab League/Model United Nations Fellowships (every semester): for those enrolled in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences or Department of Economics
- The Mo Ibrahim Graduate Fellowships (every semester): for students of Nubian origin from Egypt or Sudan
- The Nadhmi Auchi Young Arab Leaders Fellowship: for Arab nationals
- Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship (every fall): for those enrolled in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences and Economics
- University Fellowships (every semester): University-wide fellowship
- The Arab Women Professionals Fellowship Program: (every two academic years): for female citizens of Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Iraq
Where Are Our Alumni Now?
Economics graduates have joined leading international, regional and local institutions, and have been admitted to doctoral programs at prominent universities worldwide. Notable alumni include: Basel Mohamed El Hini (MA '85), managing director of credit, corporate and retail banking, Banque du Caire; Rania Galal Zayed (MA '87), assistant minister and director, Public-Private Partnership Central Unit, Egyptian Ministry of Finance; Tarek Heiba (MA '88), general manager, Egypt and Levant, Dell; Karim Abadir (MA '91), professor, Imperial College London; and Tamer El Gindi (MA '07), PhD candidate in planning, policy and design, University of California, Irvine.

Testimonials of Prominent and Distinguished Alumni
“The MA program in economics was an ideal follow up to my BA at AUC. I was taught by the best professors, and it resulted in me publishing my MA dissertation in one of the best journals in my field, *Econometric Theory*. The MA more than qualified me for my doctoral studies at Oxford, where I felt I knew more advanced material than most of my cohort.”

– Karim Abadir (MA '91), Imperial College London
“As a graduate student of economics, I really benefited from the highly distinguished faculty members and their help, reflecting their experiences in very prestigious universities. I also profited from the huge library and its different resources, especially the online specialized databases and e-books, as well as the writing center with all the help and support provided by a devoted team whenever it is needed. All of this made my years of graduate study at AUC a really wonderful and enjoyable experience. When I moved to the professional world, my credentials were always highly regarded by my employers. Throughout my career, I benefitted from the knowledge I gained during my studies, the techniques of economic analysis that I learned and the problem-solving skills I developed. It was easy for me to accommodate all changing aspects of my career. All in all, it was a character-altering milestone in my life.”

Mona El Abiad

“Many people pursue an MA degree for the purpose of getting a job promotion or receiving a higher salary. It is, in fact, true that these are the rewards of pursuing an MA degree. However, it is of utmost importance to note that pursuing such a degree has an even greater impact on one’s life and career. It expands one’s knowledge and enhances existing skills, which not only positively impact attitude and behavior in the workplace, but also day-to-day activities. Knowledge develops one’s character, which results in the development of a whole nation, and thus the world in which we live.”

Asma Abu-Seif

“I chose to pursue the graduate diploma in economics in international development at AUC because the program provides rigorous academic background presented by some of the sharpest minds actively working in the field. The program also required that my academic studies be supplemented by actual participation in the field of economic development. This real-life experience of participating and researching economic development in a developing country proved invaluable and greatly supplemented and enhanced my understanding and appreciation of the field.”

Matt Ellis
“I have become an economist, not because of the exams I have passed and the books I have read, but rather through the capable professorship and sincere mentorship I received through AUC’s economics program. The diverse backgrounds, rich experiences and dynamic interests of my professors helped shape my academic and professional ambitions, and I continue to sharpen my research and analytical skills through the department’s MA program.”

Sherif Fouda

“It was a great pleasure doing my MA in economics, which enhanced my theoretical understanding and enlightened my diplomatic career with the practical experience that is difficult to find in a university other than AUC. The knowledge I gained during my studies helped build a strong base from which I managed to excel in my career and allowed me to show excellence in my foreign postings, whether in India or in UN organizations in Vienna.”

Mohamed Helmy

“Economics in international development is a high-quality academic program in the field of development studies, which examines the importance of contemporary theory in the social sciences for development policy and practice. This program fulfilled my needs in pursuing a career in the field of international development. In addition, the master’s degree has a wide range of choices in optional courses within the School of Business so that I can deepen and widen my disciplinary training, or take up the advanced study of a particular region in the developing world. It helped me in shaping my studies according to my needs.”

Yasmine Wissa
**ABDEL-BAKI, MONAL**
Assistant Professor of Economics
PhD, Sadat Academy for Management Sciences (2002)
Research interests: Impact of the banking sector on development, effect of monetary economics on poverty alleviation, financial sector reforms in emerging economies, mortgage finance, Islamic banking and finance

**AL-ISSISS, MOHAMAD**
Assistant Professor of Economics
PhD, Harvard University (2010)
Research interests: Financial markets, behavioral economics, economic development, religion and economics, experimental economics, economics of conflict, violence and conflict resolution, and economics of the Middle East

**AMIN, GALAL**
Professor Emeritus of Economics
PhD, London School of Economics (1964)
Research interests: Philosophy of economics, microeconomics, economic development, history of economic thought, economics of the Middle East, economics of Egypt and problems of globalization
ATTALLAH, SAMER  
Assistant Professor of Economics  
PhD, McGill University  
ABD, (expected 2012)  
Research interests: Trade and international economics, development economics, natural resources and environmental economics

BESHAII, ADEL  
Professor of Economics  
DPhil, Oxford University (1973)  
Research interests: Egyptian economy, economics of food and agriculture, globalization and quantitative international economics

BOUADDI, MOHAMMED  
Assistant Professor of Economics  
PhD, HEC Montréal (2010)  
Research interests: Time series econometrics, financial econometrics, financial economics, asset pricing and statistics

EL-EDEL, DALIA  
Associate Chair  
Assistant Professor of Economics  
PhD, University of Leicester (2010)  
Research interests: Macroeconomics, international money and finance, applied financial econometrics and optimal portfolio allocation

KAMALY, AHMED  
Chair, Department of Economics  
Associate Professor of Economics  
PhD, University of Maryland (2002)  
Research interests: International economics, international finance, applied growth theory, and determinants and dynamics of capital flows

MIKHAIL, WILLIAM  
Professor Emeritus of Economics  
PhD, University of London (1969)  
Research interests: Econometrics and statistics
EL RAMLY, HALA
Associate Professor of Economics
PhD, University of Houston (1998)
Research interests: International monetary
economics, macroeconomics, time series
econometrics and income convergence among
Arab countries

RIZK, NAGLA
Director, Access to Knowledge for
Development Center
Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research
Associate Professor, School of Business
PhD 1995, McMaster University (1995)
Research interests: Economics of knowledge,
information technology and development (with a
focus on business models in the digital economy),
intellectual property and human development

SAID, MONA
Associate Professor of Economics
PhD, University of Cambridge (2001)
Research interests: Labor and human-resource
economics, poverty and income distribution, gender
gaps in earnings and job quality in the Middle East

SALEVURAKIS, JOHN
Associate Professor of Economics
PhD, University of Utah (2003)
Research interests: Poverty, Islamic finance, food
subsidies, gender inequality, development and health economics

SEGHIR, ABDELKRIM
Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies
and Administration, School of Business
Associate Professor of Economics
PhD, Pantheon-Sorbonne University (2002)
Research interests: Mathematical economics, general
equilibrium theory, game theory, credit markets, and
default and overlapping generation models

SELIM, TAREK
Professor of Economics
Research interests: Microeconomics, industrial
policy, competition and antitrust analysis,
competitiveness of firms, industries and nations,
and field-based market studies
EL-SHENNAWY, ABEER
Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics
PhD, University of Minnesota (1998)

Research interests: Environment, growth and development, international trade, adjustment costs to trade liberalization and water pollution