

## APPLIED ECONOMICS

The Applied Economics Program at Mills combines study of economic theory with a strong emphasis on data analysis and real-world problem solving. You'll learn to use quantitative data to test models of human behavior, make predictions about market outcomes, and develop sound policy. You'll also be encouraged to examine the social consequences of economic decision making. Our program is more practical than a typical economics MA program and provides more quantitative training than an MBA program.

Reflecting the College's interdisciplinary culture, your studies will include a core set of economics, computer science, and math and statistics courses. You'll learn advanced empirical applications—econometric techniques and software packages such as "R" and "Stata"—and gain practical insights from standard economic theory, game theory, behavioral economics, and mathematical modeling. You'll choose from electives in the following concentrations:

- Quantitative methods
- International economics
- Industry and government
- Environment
- Finance

In your final semester, you'll undertake a research-focused thesis or a project that solves a practical problem at the local, national, or international level. You'll have the support of an advisor from the economics faculty who'll guide you as you work on your thesis/project. In addition, you can tap the expertise of Mills professors in computer science, mathematics, environmental science, government, and public policy.

You may enter our master's degree program after earning a bachelor's degree at Mills or another institution, or by entering the Mills bachelor's-to-master's accelerated degree program in applied economics (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-degree-programs/bamae-applied-economics-program>) as an undergraduate. The accelerated degree program enables Mills students to complete the MA in one year of study beyond their BA. The program's foundation requirements are easily met by students who major or minor in economics, business economics, computer science, mathematics, public policy, PEPL, or PLEA.

### Program Goals

- Use economic terminology appropriately and correctly
- Be able to identify and compare a range of economic theories and concepts
- Collect, analyze, and present quantitative data and draw inferences from statistical measures
- Locate, understand, and assess professional economic literature
- Organize and present material in a systematic framework

### Programs

#### Master's Degrees

Master of Applied Economics (<https://catalog.mills.edu/graduate/programs/applied-economics/mae>)

### Accelerated Degree Program

BA/MAE Applied Economics (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-degree-programs/bamae-applied-economics-program>)

### Faculty & Staff

#### Faculty

##### Jasmin Ansar

Adjunct Professor  
GSB 214C

510.220.6918, 510.430.3303, [jansar@gmail.com](mailto:jansar@gmail.com)

Professional Interests: Data analysis, forecasting, econometric modeling, energy markets, environmental economics

##### Neha Dave

Adjunct Professor  
GSB 228

510.430.2248, [ndave@mills.edu](mailto:ndave@mills.edu)

Professional Interests: Finance, microeconomic and macroeconomic theory, development economics, economics of globalization, international trade and finance

##### Siobhan Reilly

Professor of Economics  
GSB 232

510.430.2346, [sreilly@mills.edu](mailto:sreilly@mills.edu)

Professional Interests: Public economics, labor economics, economics of the family, health economics, urban economics, international economics

##### Lorien Rice

Kathryn P. Hannam Professorship in American Studies  
Professor of Economics

Lorry I. Lokey Endowed Chair in Ethics

GSB 233

510.430.3113, [lrice@mills.edu](mailto:lrice@mills.edu)

Professional Interests: Labor economics, public policy, poverty, education economics, applied econometrics

##### Roger Sparks

Professor of Economics  
GSB 231

510.430.2137, [sparks@mills.edu](mailto:sparks@mills.edu)

Professional Interests: Applied microeconomics, banking, energy economics, labor economics

### Staff

##### Taylor Hammond

Administrative Assistant

510.430.2194, [gsb@mills.edu](mailto:gsb@mills.edu)