

Summer Prep Program

The IR/PS Prep Program is designed to equip students with the skills and abilities to succeed in the demanding and competitive environment of MPIA graduate studies. The Program provides a review of skills required in the IR/PS classroom, as well as insight into the academic and cultural environment at IR/PS. The Prep Program consists of three components: Academic Writing (AW); Quantitative Methods (QM); and Economics (ECON). Listed below is a brief description of each component.

Academic Writing (AW)

(August 3 - September 8)

Registration Fee: \$600.00

The Academic Writing component of the IR/PS Prep Program concentrates on written, analytical skills for academic purposes and provides the opportunity to improve students' listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills necessary for successful MPIA academic study. Students will participate in seminars, attend lectures, make presentations, develop reading strategies, and write short essays and research papers. This component allows students to practice public speaking and working in groups with fellow classmates.

Quantitative Methods (QM)

(August 3 - September 9)

Registration Fee: \$500.00

The QM component provides students with a set of quantitative skills that are required for IR/PS core courses, such as Quantitative Methods, Managerial Economics, and International Economics. Topics include:

- *Math Review*: basic mathematical skills (logarithms, powers, and roots) and calculus (functions, derivatives and optimization).
- *Elementary Statistics*: descriptive statistics, distributions, sampling and probabilities.
- *Excel*: introduction to spreadsheets (terminology, formulae, functions, arrays, named cells, sorting, and filtering).

Economics (ECON)

(August 3 - September 10)

Registration Fee: \$500.00

The ECON component prepares students for IR/PS core economic and management courses, such as Managerial Economics, International Economics, and Finance. Topics include:

- *Math Review*: basic mathematical skills (logarithms, powers, and roots) and calculus (functions, derivatives and optimization).
- *Comparative Advantage and Specialization*
- *Demand, Supply, and Optimization*: utility, individual versus market demand, consumer and producer surplus, and finding profit maximization using calculus and graphing.
- *Elasticity*: price, income and cross-price.
- *Market Structure*: perfect competition, monopoly an oligopoly.