

Concentration in Modern Data Analysis

ISET is proud to announce the launch of The Concentration in Modern Data Analysis (MDA) as part of its MA in Economics program. The concentration aims to provide young professionals with expertise in data (including big data) management and analysis using modern analytical tools. The concentration is currently funded by the *Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Estonia* and is implemented in cooperation with the *University of Tartu*. ISET MA alumni and young professionals with equivalent education are eligible to participate in the concentration.

About the Concentration

The concentration includes *6 core elective courses*:

Existing courses:

- Advanced Econometrics (Karine Torosyan, ISET)
- Program Evaluation (Norberto Pignatti, ISET)
- Financial Econometrics (Maksym Obrizan, KSE)

Added courses:

- Introduction to Business Data Analytics (Rajesh Sharma, UT)
- Advanced Business Data Analytics (Rajesh Sharma, UT)
- Geospatial data analysis (Anto Aasa, UT)

MDA participants can choose to write a *Master Project* (MP) – a research project done under close supervision of MDA faculty (including internal as well as external experts). MP could be an individual or a group project that has to be completed by the end of the academic year and presented in front of a defense committee. The main goal of MP is to help MDA participants improving research abilities and gaining practical skills.

In addition to coursework, ISET will also hold regular *seminars and research workshops* specifically designed for the concentration. All these events will be announced in advance and will be open to all MDA participants. Also, at the end of the academic year MDA participants will have a chance to take part in the annual *Data Hackathon* organized by ISET and UT (held in Tbilisi).

MDA participation by ISET alumni and young professionals can be very flexible and can range from taking only one course to enrolling in all coursework and completing an MP. The existing MA courses (top 3 courses in the list above) will be offered in a regular manner (typically 2 lectures per week during 7 weeks of the miniterm). The new courses that are specifically designed for the MDA concentration will be taught as intensive 5-day workshops with 4 contact hours per day and will combine both lectures and practical/lab sessions. The dates of these courses are announced in the MDA timetable below. Upon completion of coursework, MDA students will receive a Certificate of Participation (without grades) or Certificate of Completion (with grades) certifying work they did within the concentration.

MDA timetable (major events)

MT1	Student admission into MDA, individual consultations with faculty
MT2	Courses: Advanced Econometrics Introduction to Business Data Analytics (November 5-10) MP proposal Data Sharing Practices workshop
MT3	Courses: Advanced Business Data Analytics (tentatively: February 18-23)
MT4	Courses: Geospatial Data Analysis (tentatively: March 11-16) Program Evaluation MP submission
MT5	Courses: Financial Econometrics MP defense workshop Data Hackathon

Admission information

All ISET alumni are eligible to enroll in MDA concentration in full, or in any of its components. Application requirements are: [application form](#), CV, motivation letter. Enrollment in MDA courses is capped, and slots will be filled on first-come-first-serve principle, so early applications are encouraged. Successful applicants will be required to pay tuition fee for relevant coursework and MP supervision (see the table below) before enrolling in each activity.

Activity	Price (USD)
Course 1	350
Course 2	300
Course 3	250
Course 4	200
Course 5	150
Course 6	100
Master Project	1400
TOTAL	2750

MDA applications are due by **Friday, September 28**. Send your documents to mda@iset.ge, please put “MDA application” in the subject line.