FAECTOR/ESE Excellence Programme 2026

Applications: 8 December 2025 - 11 January 2026
Open for bachelor-2 and higher & pre-master econometrics students

CONTENTS

This year's central theme is Econometrics and Energy.

The focus is on applying econometric and optimization tools to some of the most pressing challenges in modern energy systems. Block 3 introduces students to the structure of energy markets, discussing optimization problems, renewable integration, and the role of uncertainty in supply and demand. Block 4 builds on this by focusing on optimisation and market design, covering dispatch models, electricity market clearing, storage technologies, and the use of quantitative methods in operational decision-making. Block 5 shifts toward a policy and econometric perspective, analysing topics such as energy transition pathways, environmental regulation, and the macroeconomic implications of energy shocks.

Recent developments—from rapid fluctuations in gas and electricity prices to geopolitical tensions affecting global energy trade—show how crucial it is to understand energy markets from both a modelling and policy point of view. These skills are highly relevant for careers in quantitative research, energy finance, consulting, and public policy, where data-driven insights play an increasingly central role.

LEARNING GOALS

You will join a group of 20 highly motivated and excellent econometrics students to dive into subjects that extend beyond the standard curriculum. The programme includes guest lectures and quantitative workshops led by experts from organizations like ACM and Eneco, and industry partners.

Aside from broadening your scope and knowledge, the Programme allows improving your quantitative skills through two small programming assignments, and qualitative skills through a small presentation and a final discussion paper about a connected subject that interests you!

TIME INTENSITY

In the schedule below, you can see an overview of the dates of our sessions. The time slots are either during 17:00 - 18:45 or 15:00-16:45 (make sure to check!) on our campus on Wednesdays, with an occasional session a bit later and off campus. Most of them are guest lectures by experts, with room for questions and discussion, some quantitative workshops, and a couple reserved for presenting and discussion. As mentioned above, there are a few small programming assignments and a final discussion paper as well. You are expected to be present for all sessions, and can only successfully complete the programme if you are present at least 80% of the sessions and pass the assignments.

ESE	Block 3 (Operational Constraints in Energy Markets)	Block 4 (Energy Forecasting and Trading)	Block 5 (Policy Impacts and the Energy Transition)
W1	*(not started yet)*	Mon, 2 March Wed, 4 March	Mon, 4 May Wed, 6 May
W2	*(not started yet)*	Wed, 11 March	Mon, 11 May Wed, 13 May
W3	Wed, 21 January	Wed, 18 March	Wed, 20 May
W4	Wed, 28 January	Wed, 25 March	Wed, 27 May
W5	Wed, 4 February	Wed, 1 April	Wed, 3 June
W6	Wed, 11 February	Wed, 8 April	Wed, 10 June
W7	Wed, 18 February	Wed, 15 April	Wed, 17 June
W8	*(no session)*	*(no session)*	*(no session)*