Learning Goals for the PhD program:

- Successful PhD students will be able to go on to conduct their own independent research in academic, government, or business settings.
- The PhD program requires mastery of the core fields of
  - Microeconomics
  - Macroeconomics
  - Econometrics
- The program also requires mastery of two areas of specialization that are evaluated through a comprehensive exam.
- Mastery requires a level of knowledge at the current research frontier. Students should be capable of reading the latest journal articles, and producing journal quality research papers.
- The final goal for PhD students is to produce a piece of original research, a dissertation. This involves bringing together their skills and applying these to a research topic that they will explore in great depth.