The School of Labor and Employment Relations offers graduate work in the Ph.D. is an interdisciplinary degree, which typically leads to a career in teaching and research, especially at business schools or industrial relations schools. Research-oriented careers outside the academic world are also available. The program can be completed in five years beyond the baccalaureate degree or four years beyond the master’s degree. Doctoral students are required to complete 96 graduate hours of credit beyond the baccalaureate degree. Coursework is usually completed in two years. There is a second year paper requirement, one examination that focuses on the candidate’s selected area of specialization, and the preliminary and final exams. Examples of areas of specialization include the effects of technological change on the human resource function; motivation, morale, and job satisfaction; labor-management relations in the public sector; labor markets and employment; and international comparative labor problems. Each student’s program of study is chosen in consultation with the Ph.D. Advisory Committee at the School.

Graduate Degree Programs in Labor & Employment Relations

Human Resources and Industrial Relations, MHRIR (p. 1) (on campus & online)

Human Resources and Industrial Relations, PhD (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/ler/human-resources-industrial-relations-phd)

Joint Degree Programs with Human Resources and Industrial Relations, MHRIR (on campus only):

Business Administration, MBA (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus_ler/joint-degree/human-resources-industrial-relations-mhrir-business-administration-mba)

Law, JD (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/law_ler/joint-degree/human-resources-industrial-relations-mhrir-law.jd)

The School of Labor and Employment Relations offers graduate work leading to both a master’s and a doctoral degree. Graduate study in Human Resources and Industrial Relations (HRIR) is based on a multidisciplinary approach to human resources/industrial relations problems and a flexible curriculum. To achieve this, the School has joint faculty appointments or course cross-listings with economics, psychology, law, business administration, history, and finance.

Admission

Students must meet the general admission requirements of the Graduate College, as well as the specific requirements of the School. Admission to the master’s program in either the fall or spring semester is based on an applicant’s undergraduate record, letters of reference, Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or Graduate Management Aptitude Test (GMAT) scores, a resume and a statement of interest and career goals. The minimum requirements for admission are a course in statistics and an average grade of B in the last two years of a four year undergraduate program. A deficiency in statistics may be made up by taking the required course without graduate credit during the first semester of graduate study. International applicants must provide Test of English as Foreign Language (TOEFL) test results with a recommended minimum score of 96 on the internet-based IBT (590 on the written test) or IELTS with minimum overall score of 6.5.

Students applying to the online program will have the same admissions criteria as the on-campus MHRIR program. However, a waiver of the GRE or GMAT requirement may be available to applicants with 3 or more years of direct HR/IR experience or 5 years of related managerial experience. Eligibility of this waiver will be assessed by the Associate Director, Online Programs. Admission decisions for the online program are made in all semesters (Fall, Spring, and Summer).

Students with outstanding academic credentials, with or without a master’s degree, are encouraged to apply to the Ph.D. program. Applicants to the doctoral program must submit evidence of research ability, such as a master’s thesis, an undergraduate thesis, special reports, or published articles. This is in addition to the other required application materials as indicated for the on-campus master’s program. Admission to the doctoral program is made for the fall semester only. An exception is made for current HRIR master’s degree students at Illinois, who may submit an internal application in the spring.

Graduate Teaching Experience

Although the School has no teaching requirement, doctoral students are encouraged to gain teaching experience in this program.

Financial Aid

The School offers research assistantships, scholarships, and fellowships to graduate students with superior academic credentials in the on-campus MHRIR and Ph.D. programs. A School research/teaching assistant receives a stipend plus waiver of resident or non-resident tuition and some fees (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook). The Graduate College also awards minority fellowships that carry stipends plus tuition and service fee waivers.

The online program is self-supporting and DOES NOT accept the following tuition and fee waivers (TFWs): Non-Academic waivers (including UIUC employees and employees of other state institutions), Academic waivers from UIUC, UIC and UIS employees, Related Agency waivers, waivers granted through fellowships/assistantships as governed by the Graduate College at UIUC, or Retiree waivers. This program DOES accept statutory waivers (veteran grants, etc.)

for the degree of Master of Human Resources and Industrial Relations in Human Resources and Industrial Relations (on campus & online)
For additional details and requirements refer to the department’s Student Handbook (https://ler.illinois.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/CurrentStudents_LERHandbook.pdf) and the Graduate College Handbook (http://www.grad.uiuc.edu/gradhandbook).

This degree program can be completed either on campus or online. The non-thesis option is offered online, the requirements are listed below:

**Thesis Option**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LER 591</td>
<td>Employment Relations Systems &amp; LER 593 and Quantitative Methods in LER</td>
<td>8</td>
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</table>

**At least one course in each of four subject areas**: 16
- Union Management and Labor Relations Policy
  - LER 542 Collective Bargaining
  - LER 543 Workplace Dispute Resolution
  - LER 590 Individual Topics (Section CB)
- Human Resource Management and Organizational Behavior
  - LER 522 Government Regulation
  - LER 523 Org Fundamentals for HR
  - LER 530 Found of Ind Org Psych
  - LER 561 Compensation Systems
  - LER 564 HR Training and Development
  - LER 566 International HR Management
  - LER 590 Individual Topics (Section CER)
  - LER 595 Managing Diversity Globally

**Electives**: 16
- LER 450 European Working Class History
- LER 540 Labor Economics I
- LER 541 Labor Economics II
- LER 547 Labor Law I
- LER 556 Industrial Relations Theory
- LER 557 Human Resources Theory
- LER 559 Micro Research Methods
- LER 590 Individual Topics (Sections CMT, CSR, E, EW, FBM, GI, GT, HDA, IM, SN, TI, TM, WFO, X)

**LER 599 Thesis Seminar (min/max applied toward degree)** 8

**Total Hours**: 48

**Other Requirements**

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<td>Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall:</td>
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<td>Minimum GPA:</td>
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**Non-Thesis Option**

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<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**At least one course in each of four subject areas**: 16
- Union Management and Labor Relations Policy
  - LER 542 Collective Bargaining
  - LER 543 Workplace Dispute Resolution
  - LER 590 Individual Topics (Section CB)
- Human Resource Management and Organizational Behavior
  - LER 522 Government Regulation
  - LER 523 Org Fundamentals for HR
  - LER 530 Found of Ind Org Psych
  - LER 561 Compensation Systems
  - LER 564 HR Training and Development
  - LER 566 International HR Management
  - LER 590 Individual Topics (Section CER)
  - LER 595 Managing Diversity Globally

**Electives**: 24
- LER 450 European Working Class History
- LER 540 Labor Economics I
- LER 541 Labor Economics II
- LER 547 Labor Law I
- LER 556 Industrial Relations Theory
- LER 557 Human Resources Theory

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 05/2020
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<thead>
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<th>Course</th>
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<tr>
<td>LER 559</td>
<td>Micro Research Methods</td>
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<tr>
<td>LER 590</td>
<td>Individual Topics (Sections CMT, CSR, E, EW, FBM, GI, GT, HDA, IM, SN, TI, TM, WFO, X)</td>
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Total Hours 48

**Other Requirements**

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<tr>
<td>Other requirements may overlap</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum Hours Required Within the 36 Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall</td>
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<td>Minimum GPA:</td>
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