

ECON 190: INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH IN ECONOMICS

WINTER 2024

Instructor

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Teaching Assistant

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Lecture Meetings

Time: Tue 5:00-6:20pm
Days: Weeks 1 through 10
Location: SOLIS 105

Tutorial Meetings

Time: Thu 6:30-7:50pm
Days: Weeks 1, 3, 5, 7 & 9
Location: SSB 107

Course Description

This course will provide you with tools to carry out your own research in economics. Tools include (1) strategies to identify meaningful information sources (Economics-related datasets and literature databases) and (2) technical tools for citation and text management (e.g. Overleaf). In this course, you will also develop skills to write key sections of an academic article in economics, such as a section including results or a section connecting a research idea to the existing literature (introduction). Finally, by the end of the course, you will produce an original research proposal with the potential to continue working on beyond the course.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, you will have:

- Identified a strategy for searching for peer-reviewed articles for conducting a literature review and evaluating their relative importance in the field.
- Conducted a literature review and written it up using an appropriate citation style and citation management tools.
- Learned how to structure and write a research paper in economics.
- Identified the connection between the paper's research question and empirical results.
- Developed a research proposal on a topic of your interest with a feasible strategy for implementation of your research idea after the course
- Gained experience working in Overleaf for papers and making slides (incl. a bibliography)

Attendance

Attendance at all scheduled class meetings is required. All meetings will be held in person.

Tentative Schedule

Week	Topic	Assignment
1 (Lecture)	Introduction	Page of References Due by Week 3 lecture
1 (Tutorial)	Overleaf	
2 (Lecture)	Question/Hypotheses	
3 (Lecture)	Data & Design	Hypotheses & Data Section Due by Week 5 lecture
3 (Tutorial)	Hypotheses & Data	
4 (Lecture)	Data Sources	
5 (Lecture)	Writing Results	Results Section Due by Week 7 lecture
5 (Tutorial)	Results Section	
6 (Lecture)	Discussion Section	Discussion Section Due by Week 7 lecture
7 (Lecture)	Writing the Introduction	Introduction Section Due by Week 9 lecture
7 (Tutorial)	Introduction	
8 (Lecture)	Literature Review	
9 (Lecture)	Group Task Description	Group Task Presented during Week #10 lecture
9 (Tutorial)	Group Task	
10 (Lecture)	Group Task Presentation	

Assignments

There are six total assignments in the class. The next table describe each assignment, the due date, and its weight in determining the final grade for the class.

Assignment	Due by	Weight
Page of References	1/22 at 11:59pm	5%
Hypotheses & Data Section	2/5 at 11:59pm	10%
Results & Discussion Section	2/19 at 11:59pm	10%
Introduction Section	3/4 at 11:59pm	15%
Group Presentation	3/12 during class	20%
Final Proposal	3/20 at 11:59pm	40%

You will submit your work for the first four assignments as PDFs on Gradescope using the templates for PDFs provided via Overleaf.

Group Presentation

- The Group Task involves a presentation described in Week #9
- You will present with your group during the lecture in Week #10

Individual Proposal Write-Up

- You will submit a 2-3-page paper describing your own proposal (max 1200 words).