

ECON 6902
Research Methods for Economists II
Fall 2018

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Class Time & Location:	T 6:30 – 9:15 p.m.	207 Friday
Office Hours:	By appointment	By appointment

Course Description

ECON 6902. Research Methods for Economists II. Prerequisite: ECON 6901. Critique of economic research and reports, presentation of econometric results and reports. The student will develop a research project, perform statistical tests, and present the results orally and in a major research paper.

Course Objective

The objective of this course is to support the student in completing the research project started in ECON6901.

Recommended Reading

Students will find the following to be a very useful guide to academic writing:

Strunk, William and E. B. White, "The Elements of Style," any edition, Allyn and Bacon publishers.

Please note that this classic style manual costs less than \$10 on Amazon.com

Course Canvas Page

The course Canvas page will be maintained by Dr. Depken. Please see that page for course announcements and updates.

Attendance and Class Participation

Students are expected to attend all classes (unless excused by the instructors) and to participate in the classroom discussion of topics and projects presentations. Student participation – not simply class attendance – is essential.

Your performance in this aspect of the class will constitute 10% of your final grade for the course.

Assignments

The remaining 90% of your final course grade will be based on your performance on five assignments. Due dates and individual weightings for these assignments are listed on the course schedule in the following section.

Assignment 1 (5% of final course grade)

Each individual will make a short presentation that (i) briefly outlines his or her research project from Research Methods I in the Spring semester and (ii) briefly summarizes progress made over the summer.

Assignment 2 (15% of final course grade)

Each individual will make a presentation on his or her preliminary empirical results for the research project and the state of progress for completing the final research paper.

Please note that there is no paper submitted at this time. However, the individual submits an electronic copy of the presentation to each instructor 2 days prior to the presentation date.

Assignment 3 (20% of final course grade)

Each individual submits a preliminary research project report on the research topic. This paper should discuss the specific research question and its relevance to the academic literature on the topic. The paper should also include a discussion of the empirical methods used as well as preliminary empirical results. Please use double-spacing, 12 point font, and one-inch margins.

Assignment 4 (20% of final course grade)

Each individual will make a final presentation of their research topic. This presentation should discuss the motivation for the research question, the data and empirical methods used, and the empirical results and contribution of the research.

Please note that the individual does not submit a paper. However, as for Assignment 3, the individual submits an electronic copy of the presentation to each instructor 2 days prior to the presentation date.

Assignment 5 (30% of final course grade)

Each individual submits a final research paper. This is to be a formal research paper (not an outline or list of information) and must include discussions of the research question(s), relevant literature, data sources and descriptions, empirical methods, empirical results, and the research contribution.

Course Schedule (Tentative)

Week 1 (A 21)	Assignment 1 presentations
Week 2 (A 28)	Individual meetings with instructors to discuss project
Week 3 (S 4)	Individual meetings with instructors to discuss project
Week 4 (S 11)	No class meeting – work on assignments 2 and 3
Week 5 (S 18)	Assignment 2 presentations & discussion
Week 6 (S 25)	Assignment 2 presentations & discussion
Week 7 (O 2)	Assignment 2 presentations & discussion
Week 8 (O 9)	No class meeting – Assignment 3 paper due (Fall Break)
Week 9 (O 16)	No class meeting – work on assignments 4 and 5
Week 10 (O 23)	Individual meetings with instructors to discuss project
Week 11 (O 30)	Individual meetings with instructors to discuss project
Week 12 (N 6)	No class meeting – work on assignments 4 and 5
Week 13 (N 13)	Assignment 4 presentations & discussion
Week 14 (N 20)	No class meeting – work on assignments 4 and 5
Week 15 (N 27)	Assignment 4 presentations & discussion
Week 16 (D 4)	Assignment 4 presentations & discussion
Week 17 (D 11)	Assignment 5 due by 8:00 p.m. (beginning of scheduled final exam period)

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty is not tolerated by the Belk College of Business or these instructors. Students have the responsibility to know and observe the requirements of the UNCC Code of Student Academic Integrity (this Code is online at <http://www.legal.uncc.edu/policies/ps-105.html>). The Code forbids cheating, fabrication, falsification, multiple submission of academic work, plagiarism, abuse of academic materials, and complicity in academic dishonesty. Academic evaluation in this course includes a judgment that the student's work is free from academic dishonesty of any type. Violations will be dealt

with in the manner specified the Code. Students observing violations of the Code are expected to report this to the instructors.

Diversity

The Belk College of Business strives to create an inclusive academic climate in which the dignity of all individuals is respected and maintained. Therefore, we celebrate diversity that includes, but is not limited to, ability/disability, age, culture, ethnicity, gender, language, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status.

Adverse Weather

If the University is closed or if the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School system is closed, there will be no class. If you commute in from outside the county and there is adverse weather there (but not in Mecklenburg County), make your own decision to attend or not, but remember we do not want you to endanger life or limb just to get to class.

Communication

To repeat: Dr. Gandar's email address is **jmgandar@uncc.edu** and Dr. Depken's email address is **cdepken@uncc.edu**. Always email both of us. Please include "ECON 6902 student question" in the subject line to ensure a prompt reply. If the question is such that all students could benefit from a reply, we may reply to all students in the class.

When we email an individual or the entire class, we will use your official university email address. You are responsible for monitoring this address: we will not use your private address.

Disability Services

Students seeking accommodation for disabilities must first consult with the Office of Disability Services and follow the instructions from that office for obtaining any accommodation.