

## **Econ 8219: Research Methods Spring 2011 Course Syllabus**

### **Professor Tania Barham**

**Office:** Economics 114

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**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Class Time and location:** Econ 5 Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 - 12:15pm

### **Course Goals**

The second semester of the research methods class gives opportunities for students working on their orals proposals to discuss and present their ongoing work. By the end of the class it is expected that most students will complete the comprehensive oral exam proposal and defend it. We will also be focusing on making short conference presentations, useful descriptive statistics, and editing your own work as well as others.

### **Course Content**

Students will participate in the following activities:

1. *D A* : Students will be given guidelines for generating a 1-2 page detailed abstract of their research proposal. It will cover basic motivation, main research question, the contribution of their research to the literature, and perhaps key points of their methodology. I will also ask you to either include, or discuss what you would include in your “money graph” or main descriptive statistics or real life examples (if doing theory).
2. *G E D A* : Students will be sent draft detailed abstracts in advance of class for their group members and be expected to edit the detailed abstracts. In class the students must go over the edits in details with the group/author and the group should discuss how the author can improve their work.
3. : Mid-way through the semester students will make a short (15 minute) conference style presentation of their research. See more details below.
4. *G E* : Students will be send drafts of different sections of their proposals at different points in the semester. They will send the draft in advance of class to their group members and are expected to come to class with detailed edits for each group member. In class the students must go over the edits in details with the group/author and the group should discuss how the author can improve their work.
5. *F /* : The final product of the semester is a draft of the student’s comprehensive exam proposal. The proposal should be written like a paper including all citations, but the author can say what they will do if they don’t have all available data or have not finished there models. Depending on where the student is with their research this may or may not include final results. Presentations will take place the last 4-5 weeks of class. Most students are expected to use this presentation as their oral comprehensive exam and this is the goal of the class; those doing so will have the first pick of dates at the end of the semester.

2

. Final

papers are due on the last day of class. See below for more details regarding the guidelines for the oral comprehensive exam.



## **Due Dates**

All due dates are on the calendar. When drafts are due, please email them to your group before 11am on the day they are due. Please also put a hard copy in my mail box by the end of the day. This allows students to use the class time to read each of the group papers. The final proposals are due the last day of class. A printed copy needs to be put in my mailbox by the end of the day and you also need to



2) In consultation with the dissertation advisors, students are responsible for scheduling the remaining faculty members to serve on their comprehensive committee. You are also responsible for booking a room if you are not presenting during class time.

### **University Policies if Needed**

Please remind yourself of the various university policies if needed.

University policies regarding classroom behavior are available at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/student-classroom-and-course-related-behavior> and [http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/studentconduct/code.html#student\\_code](http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/studentconduct/code.html#student_code)

The Honor Code

<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html> and at <http://honorcode.colorado.edu/>.

University policies regarding disabilities are available at <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices>.

University policies regarding religious practice are available at [http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac\\_relig.html](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html).

University policies regarding Sexual Harassment and Amorous Relationships are available at <http://hr.colorado.edu/dh/Pages/default.aspx>