**Requirements and Grading:**

Your grade will depend on your performance on a number of assignments, according to the table below:

| Assignment | Weight | Due Date |
|---|---|---|
| Problem Sets | 15% | Every 1-2 weeks (8-10 total) |
| Paper Replication/Extension | 30% | Saturday 12/10 4:00 PM (Final exam slot) |
| First Midterm | 25% | Tuesday, 10/25 In Class (tentative date) |
| Second Midterm | 30% | Thursday, 12/1 In Class (date certain) |

**Problem Sets** will be posted on Canvas with deadlines every 1-2 weeks. These problem sets will allow you to gain direct experience with all of the econometric techniques we cover.  All assignments will be Stata-
questions as well. Five percentage points of your overall grade will be based on whether you complete the assignments and turn them in on time. I will also choose two assignments at random to grade in depth, and these grades will account for the remainder of your problem set grade. Note that the problem sets are fairly short and simple to start and become more difficult as we tackle more complicated material. You may work with other students on these assignments, To eliminate the temptation to free ride, each student must submit his/her own copy of the problem set (via Canvas), and you should indicate each of your collaborators on each problem set.

**Each student must answer the "thinking/interpretation" questions separately, although you may discuss the answers with other students. It is expressly forbidden to copy and paste answers to these questions from another student, and any evidence that this occurred will result in a penalty of, at a minimum, zero credit for that assignment.**

**Paper Replication/Extension**:  Unlike the harder sciences, the field of economics has historically accorded relatively little value to replication papers (although this is changing somewhat). Nevertheless, economists make mistakes all the time, and some of them go undiscovered forever. So, as a means to practice all of the skills we are developing, and in service of the broader good, you will replicate the central analysis of a paper in a field that is of interest to you. You should choose a published paper that relies on publicly available data or on data that the authors have made available. methodology should be one of the methods we cover in this course. You must also provide at least one extension to the original work. Possible extensions include adding additional years of data, running additional specifications (e.g. functional form, synthetic control instead of DiD, new method for staggered rollout, etc.), and subjecting the results to additional robustness checks. Alternatively, you could use similar methods in a slightly different context    different geography, different time period, etc. An existing paper is not suitable as a replication paper if you cannot feasibly extend the paper. This assignment will function as our final exam, and an electronic copy of this paper will therefore be due on Canvas by the end of our assigned final exam time from the Registrar. A handout with more details on this assignment will be posted on Canvas.

I will submit all final papers to TurnItIn. Note that although this assignment requires the replication of the central analysis from a published paper, **you may not borrow any language from the original paper without proper citation.** I will require that you complete and attach

**The First Midterm** will cover material from the beginning of the course through lecture on October 18.  The exam will take place during a normal class meeting and is tentatively scheduled for October 25.  You *will not* have to do any STATA programming for the midterm.  Instead, the questions will focus on the interpretation and implementation of techniques we have discussed.  The questions will thus be very similar to the interpretation questions asked on the problem sets.  You may also be asked questions about the papers that we read.

**The Second Midterm** will be nominally cumulative, but it will focus heavily on material covered after the first midterm. It will be similar in format to the first midterm,7(a)7(d, t)7(h)-20612 79grm

given no weight in the calculation of the final grade and other assignments will be reweighted accordingly.

**A note on my role:** I am willing to offer you assistance with any assignment for this course, including the final paper. I will strongly suggest, however, that you form study groups for the problem sets and use the other members of your group as your initial resource in solving programming problems. I will not tell you how to solve specific coding issues on the problem sets, nor will I tell you whether you have answered interpretation questions properly prior to the due date. Solutions will be provided shortly after the deadline to turn in the assignment.

Unfortunately, I cannot offer methodological help to every student who takes this course on research projects that are not a part of this course. If I become an official member of your dissertation committee, however, I will be happy to meet with you and discuss your dissertation research. I have availability to serve in this role for a few students in each cohort, primarily                                                                                    My goal in offering this course is to create a critical mass of well-trained graduate students who can then continue to learn more on their own and then serve as a resource to each other.

**Cheating:** If you copy interpretation answers from a classmate (or previous student) on a problem set, you will receive no credit for that problem set. If you cheat on an exam, you will fail that exam. If you plagiarize even a portion of your final project, you will, at a minimum receive no credit for the copied portion. More than one past student has copied text directly from the paper they are replicating for the final project; if you do this, you will receive no credit for that portion of your work. I reserve the right to impose harsher academic sanctions up to and including failing the course for any instance of cheating. Also, note that failing any component of the course makes it very unlikely that you will               -

**Learning During a Global Pandemic:**
The pandemic has affected and will continue to affect all of us in profound and unpredictable ways. This semester, I commit to offering empathy and flexibility to students enrolled in the class, and I ask that you offer me the same. I recognize that you are adjusting to taking (and teaching!) courses in multiple formats and that the sometimes-unpredictable format switches present a challenge to all of us. I also recognize that things other than your coursework may have become higher priorities than usual. At times during the semester, you may need to attend to your own health care or care for loved ones. I am more than willing to be flexible and to find ways to support you. Please be i
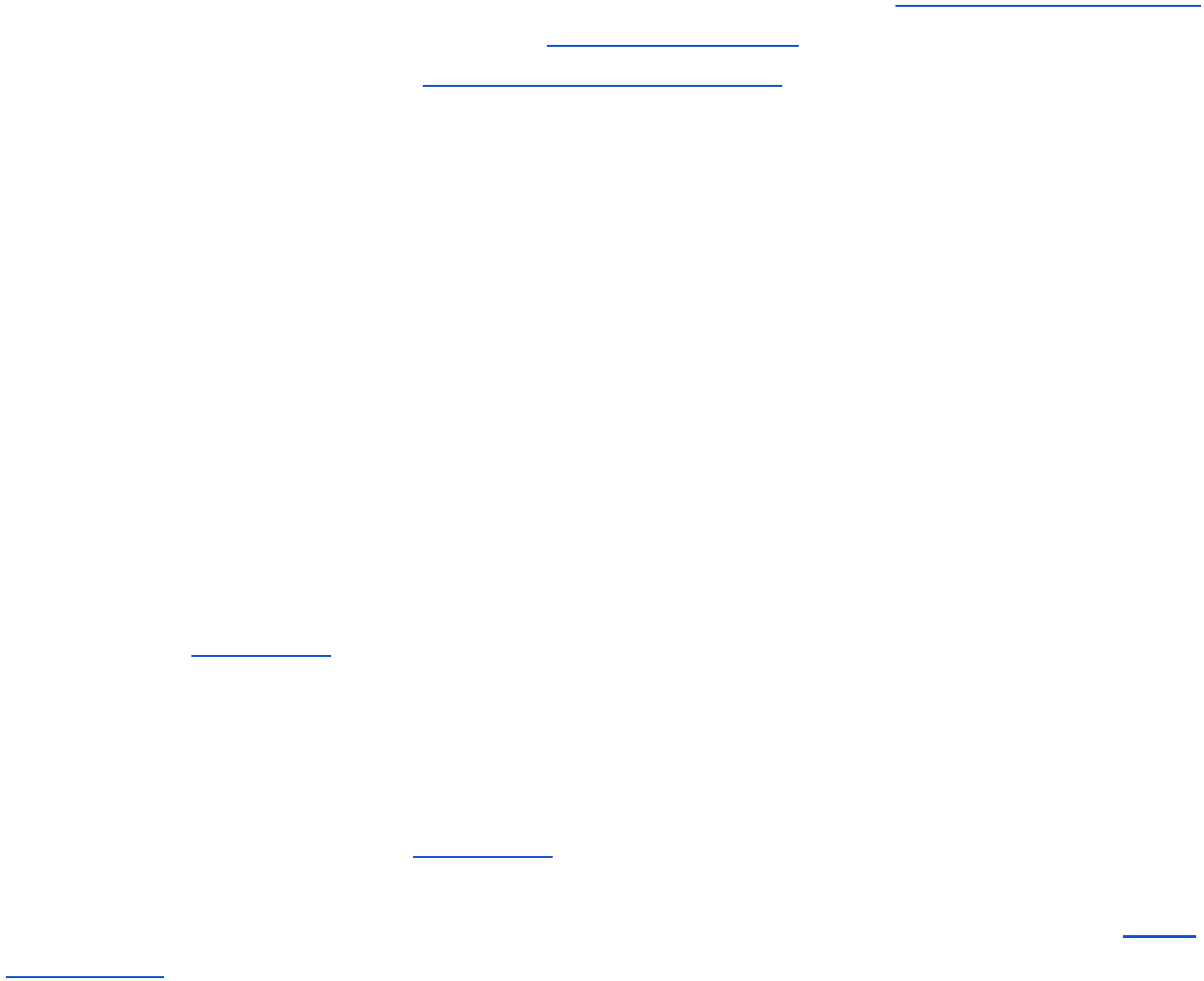
**Tentative Schedule**

**Additional Policies:** This course is governed by additional policies covering all courses at CU Boulder. They are listed below for your reference.