Econ8219: Research Methods Spring 2011 Course Syllabus

Professor Tania Barham

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Office Hours: By appointment

Course Website: http://www.colorado.edu/ibs/hb/barham/courses/econ8219/

Class Time and location: Econ 5 Tuesday and Thursday 2 - 3:15pm

Course Goals

The second semester of the research methods is for students working on their

- 1. Executive Summary or Detailed Abstract or Research Proposal: Students will be given guidelines for generating a 1-3 page executive summary or detailed abstract of their research proposal. It will cover basic motivation, main research question, the contribution of their research to the literature, and the 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.
- 2. Group Editing of Executive Summaries: Students will be sent draft executive summaries in advance of class for their group members and be expected to edit the executive summaries. 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. Short Presentations: Mid-way through the semester students will make a short (15 minute) conference style presentation of their research. See more details below.
- 4. Group Editing of Draft Final Proposals: Students will be sent draft final proposals in advance of class for their group members and be expected to edit the executive summaries. 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. Final Papers/Presentations: The final product of the semester should hopefully be a meaningful draft of their comprehensive exam proposal. 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. Students have the option of using this presentation as their oral comprehensive exam; those doing so will have the first pick amount the dates at the end of the semester. Note that a complete draft must be provided 2 weeks in advance of the presentation if it is serving as a comprehensive exam. 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

1. Draft Executive Summaries:
2. Final Executive Summaries:
3. Copies of Proposal (Fall version): Due Jan. 24 (Mon.). Email to me and printed copy in mail box.
3. Draft Final Proposals:
4. Final Proposals:

Due Jan. 17 (Mon.). Email to me and printed copy in mail box.

Tentative Date Mar. 28 by noon. Email me and group members

Due Jan. 17 (Mon.). Email to me and printed copy in mail box.

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Due Jan. 17 (Mon.). Email to me and printed copy in mail box.

Grading

Peer Grading of Edits and my class prese

Oral Comprehensive Exam Guidelines

A. Basic Guidelines