

Economics 693 (L01) (Research Methods II)

Instructor:	Erica Myers	Lecture Location:	SS 423
Phone:	403-220-7149	Lecture Days/Time:	W 15:30 - 16:45
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Office Hours:	W 14:30-15:30	Winter 2022	

Course Description:

Research Methods (I and II) will focus on developing students' skills in evaluating their own research and that of others. The course will focus on how to choose a research topic, how to develop an appropriate methodology, and how to evaluate the research contributions of others. As part of the course, students are expected to attend both the Wednesday (internal) and Friday (external) the department seminars.

Course Outcomes:

The goal of this course is to provide you with the tools necessary to undertake independent research, beyond the skills developed in your courses field specific courses. In the winter, our focus will be on written and oral communication of a research question and method. Of particular importance will be the following dates when we will be having lectures and workshops (subject to change): January 12th, February 16th, March 16th, and April 6th.

Course Outline:

The course will be divided into two broad sections. In the first section we will focus on the written presentation of a research question and method; in the second section will focus on presenting your research question and method.

Prerequisites/corequisites:

Enrollment in the MA Economics program (course-based and thesis-based)

Required Textbook(s):

None. Readings will be posted on D2L.

Desire2Learn:

This course will make use of the Desire2Learn (D2L) platform. Students who are registered in the course can log on at <http://d2l.ucalgary.ca> through their student centre. Please note that D2L features a class e-mail list that may be used to distribute course-related information. These e-mails go to your University of Calgary e-mail addresses only.

Grade Determination/Assessment:

There are no exams for this course. Students will be evaluated based on their completion of three seminar referee reports and two research reports.

For the seminar reports, students will write reports on three papers presented in the Wednesday and Friday seminars. These reports should evaluate the paper, the presentation, and provide a thoughtful analysis of the research contributions. The reports can be submitted to the instructor at any time during the fall term but all reports must be submitted by April 27th. Late assignments will not be accepted.

Students will prepare two presentations of their research. The first will be a written presentation of their research question, outlining the research, the method, and some of the relevant literature. These will be workshopped in our workshops. It can be an extension of one of the research proposals they submitted this fall, or a new topic. Compared to last semester, one difference is these assignments will be graded on a letter basis rather than pass/fail. I will be especially interested in: 1) the ability to do the study (i.e. the student currently has access to the data), and 2) the detail and soundness of the methodological approach. The second will be a presentation of their research (PowerPoint or other means). This will include a slide deck and a 15-minute presentation in class). The presentations will be organized at the start of the term; the written components will be due April 27th. Late assignments will not be accepted.

Seminar reports (3)	40%
Research communications (2)	<u>60%</u>
	100%

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details

Department of Economics Criteria for Letter Grades. Economics professors use the following criteria when assigning letter grades:

Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	4.00	Outstanding
A	4.00	Excellent-superior performance, showing-comprehensive understanding of subject matter
A-	3.70	Very good performance
B+	3.30	Good performance
B	3.00	Satisfactory performance
B-	2.70	Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies
C+	2.30	All grades below "B-" are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements. Individual programs may require a higher passing grade.

A passing grade on any particular component of the course is not required for a student to pass the course as a whole.

Reappraisal of Grades:

For Reappraisal of Graded Term Work, see Calendar I.2

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

For Reappraisal of Final Grade, see Calendar I.3

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Academic Misconduct:

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior that compromises proper assessment of students' academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

Student committing academic misconduct during the final exam will not receive a passing grade for the course.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, Procedure and Academic Integrity, please visit: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html>

Academic Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act:

Personal information is collected in accordance with FOIP. Assignments can only be returned to the student and will be accessible only to authorized faculty and staff. For more information, see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy>

Copyright Legislation:

See the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy> Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Recording of Lectures:

Recording of lectures is prohibited, except for audio recordings authorized as an accommodation by SAS or an audio recording for individual private study and only with the written permission of the instructor. Any unauthorized electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, their transcription, copying, or distribution, constitutes academic misconduct. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html>.

Important Dates:

Please check: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>

Student Organizations:

Faculty of Grad Studies website: <http://grad.ucalgary.ca/home>

Graduate Students Association: <http://gsa.ucalgary.ca/>

Professional Development for Grad Students

Workshops and resources can be found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/mygradskills/>

Economics Graduate Association: <http://econ.ucalgary.ca/ega/>

Student Support and Resources:

- See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for information on campus mental health resources, the Student Ombuds Office, Student Success Centre, Safewalk, and Emergency Evacuation and Assembly.
- Online writing resources are available at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support>.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them in the MacKimmie Tower.

Notes:

Students are responsible for all assigned material, e.g., supplementary material posted on D2L, regardless of whether or not the material was covered in class.

ECM

2021-12-15