

Economics 791(L01) PhD Research Workshop

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Lecture Location: SS 423
Lecture Days/Time: F 9:30-10:45

Office: SS 428
Office Hours: TBA via Zoom

Fall 2021

Course Description:

The PhD Research Workshop (I and II) is for 3rd and later year PhD students. It will give students a forum to develop their research ideas, practice their presentation skills, and learn professional skills. We will pursue these goals through (i) workshopping research ideas and preliminary findings, (ii) writing and organizational tips to help focus one's research, (iii) developing presentation skills; and (iv) discussing how to become a successful economist. As part of the course students are required to attend the departmental seminar series.

Each student will present their own research. In a typical session, we will hear a presentation from one student, and we will discuss one topic relevant to becoming a successful academic. Each student will present 25-30 minutes, taking questions during and after their presentations. Normally, a student will present the motivation, economic question, contribution to the literature, their approach and (perhaps preliminary) results. During this class presentation I and other students will make comments and ask questions, so the presenter should know their work extremely well to deal with these questions.

Since this student is presenting to the class it is important that the slides and presentation are clear and well structured, and I find this usually involves starting the preparation at least a week in advance to allow for some iteration. If a presentation is unclear or disorganized, the student will be required to repeat the presentation the following week. On the date you present, please arrive a few minutes early to ensure that the smart board is setup and functioning.

The environment will be informal, but I intend to be very tough on presenters much as you would experience in a professional conference or department seminar as a visiting speaker. As a result, I expect you to take your presentations seriously. Attendance is expected and will be taken weekly. If you cannot make it, please let me know and, of course, send your regrets to the speakers. This is important since the workshop relies upon collegiality and reciprocity.

Sign-ups for presentations will be made on a first come first served basis. I will establish a virtual list on D2L for you to sign up on, but the first week will be an introduction to the course. Recall that all third year and above students are expected to present their work, and failure to do so will affect your good standing in the program.

Course Outcomes:

The goal of this course is to develop your professional writing and presentation skills as they pertain to your research. We will be using students' current research in the course, thereby helping students complete the various written components of their degrees.

We will focus a significant portion of the course on writing and research skills as they pertain to completing your PhD degree. As part of this, the course will help students communicate their ideas towards (i) potential advisors and other professionals, (ii) identifying and assessing research contributions as appropriate for professional and research goals, and (iii) organizing a clear and interesting paper and presentation.

Course Outline:

In this course, students will be presenting their written work to colleagues for feedback and analysis. The focus of the fall term will be on developing a clear and concise research question, an appropriate methodology, and presenting this research in a clear manner. We will be using a "writing workshop" format for much of this course wherein individuals will be discussing one another's work in class.

Prerequisites/corequisites:

Enrollment in the PhD Economics program.

Required Textbook(s): None.

Readings will be posted on D2L.

Recommended Textbook(s):

None

Books on Reserve:

None

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:

Students will be graded on a pass/fail basis. Workshop participation and department seminar attendance is required to pass the course.

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.

MST

2021-08-11