

Economics 4339—Economics Honors: Seminar 2 Spring 2026, Tues 3:30-6, HUMN 1B70

Professor McKinnish
Econ 115
terra.mckinnish@colorado.edu
<http://spot.colorado.edu/~mckinnis>

Office Hours

Mon 1:15-2:45, Friday 9:30-11, and by appt

Course Objectives and Structure

The primary objective of this seminar is to provide a framework that will lead to the successful completion and defense of your honors thesis. You will peer-edit portions of your written thesis with your classmates and give practice presentations of portions of your thesis presentation. Because a primary goal of our seminar is to provide a setting in which students give and receive feedback on their research and their written and verbal presentations of that research, *attendance and active attention is mandatory!*

Grades

Your grade will largely be determined based on your honors thesis and defense but can be adjusted based on the quality of your class participation and post-defense assignments. Economics 4339 does not count towards economics major credit hours but only as elective hours toward the total A&S hours required for graduate

Schedule

	In-Class	For Next Week (*in addition to ongoing thesis research*)
Week 1 (Jan 13)	Econometrics Review #1 Mini-lecture: Lit Review	Sign up for Week 2 individual meeting Provide proposal and slides to me and advisor. Recruit outside committee member Begin Lit Review
Week 2 (Jan 20)	Econometrics Review #2 Individual meetings	Lit Review draft
Week 3 (Jan 27)	Econometrics Review #3 Peer-edit Lit Review	Update Methods slides, send to me. Sign up for Week 4 individual meetings.
Week 4 (Feb 3)	Individual meetings	Begin scheduling defense Update Intro+Methods slides Sign up for Week 5 individual meeting
Week 5 (Feb 10)	Individual meetings	“Front-end” written draft (Intro+Lit Review+Methods)

Week 6 (Feb 17)	Peer-edit Front-end drafts Mini-lecture: Descriptive analysis	Revise and turn in Front-end draft Mon Feb 23 Sign up for Week 7 individual meeting Slides with descriptive analysis
Week 7 (Feb 24)	Present descriptive analysis Mini-lecture: Results tables Individual meetings	Slides with preliminary regression results Complete defense scheduling
Week 8 (Mar 3)	Present preliminary results Write abstracts Mini-lecture: Discussions	Prepare practice presentation slides
Week 9 (Mar 10)	Practice presentations	Prepare discussion/conclusions slides Prepare practice presentation slides (if necessary)
Week 10 (Mar 24)	Practice presentations Discussion slides	
	Oral Defenses Tues March 24- Wed Apr 1 Provide thesis document to committee at least 3 days in advance of defense Email defense document to honors office on defense day	
Week 11-12	No Class	
Weeks 13-14	TBA	