

## **Economics 4339—Economics Honors: Seminar 2**

### **Spring 2012, Tues 3:30-6, HLMS 185**

Professor Terra G. McKinnish  
Econ 115  
303-492-6770  
[terra.mckinnish@colorado.edu](mailto:terra.mckinnish@colorado.edu)  
<http://spot.colorado.edu/~mckinnis>

### **Office Hours**

Tues 2-3, Wed 11-12 and 1-2, or by appointment

It is very easy to schedule appointments outside of office hours with me—I am almost always in my office during normal business hours. Just send email or talk to me before or after class to set up an appointment.

### **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. Therefore, the majority of the class time will be spent directly on this objective. You will provide regular status reports regarding your progress on your honors research. You will submit portions of your written thesis to me and the class to receive feedback, and provide feedback on the writing of your classmates. You will also perform practice presentations of your research in preparation for your oral defense, and provide feedback on the presentations of your classmates. 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 is mandatory!*

### **Grades**

Your grade will be based on a combination of your final honors thesis document, your oral defense, class participation, and post-defense assignments. Therefore, while your grade will be correlated with your final honors designation, it can be improved or damaged depending on the quality of your participation in our class activities.

Economics 4339 does not count towards economics major credit hours, but only as elective hours toward the total Arts and Sciences hours required for graduation.

However, this course does provide you with a unique setting in which to pursue and discuss original research with equally skilled and motivated peers.

### **Honors Deadlines**

Tuesday, April 10: Defense copy of thesis due to honors program office

Wed, April 11: Last oral defense date

See class handout or refer to <http://www.colorado.edu/honors/graduation/index.html> for more details

## ***Tentative Course Schedule***

Jan 17: Introduction and Descriptive Statistics

Jan 24: Draft executive summary due in class;

Provide and receive editorial assistance and feedback during class;

Final version due to me Friday, Jan 27

Jan 31: Individual meetings

Feb 7: Class editing of lit review

Feb 14: Class editing and mini-presentation of methods

Feb 21: Class editing and mini-presentation of introductions

Feb 28: Class editing and mini-presentation of results

Mar 6: Abstracts and Conclusions

Mar 13, 20: Practice presentations

**Oral Defenses: Mon, Apr 2-Wed, Apr 11.**

**Provide thesis copy to committee at least 3 days in advance of defense**

**Thesis copy to honors office: Tues, Apr 10**

Apr 3: Final Feedback

Apr 10: No Class

Apr 17: Discussion of Research Extensions; Final thesis copy due for course grade

Apr 24: Presentation of Published Article

May 1: TBA