

Economics 4339—Economics Honors: Seminar 2 Spring 2009, Tues 3:30-6, ECON 5

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

Office Hours

Wed 1:30-3 pm, 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 a practice presentation 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, and class participation. 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 7: Defense copy of thesis due to honors program office

Wed, April 8: Last oral defense date

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

Tentative Course Schedule

Jan 13: Introduction

Jan 20: Draft executive summary, research status report and schedule due in class;

Provide and receive editorial assistance and feedback during class;

Final version due to me Friday, Jan 23

Jan 27: Individual meetings

Feb 3-Mar 3: Weekly status reports; discussion of written excerpts

(lit review, methods, results, introduction)

Mar 10, 17: Practice presentations

Oral Defenses: Mon, Mar 30-Wed, Apr 8.

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

Thesis copy to honors office: Apr 7

Mar 31: Final feedback on written document and slides

Apr 7: Debriefing

Apr 14: What does graduate research look like?

Apr 21: TBA

Apr 28: No Class Meeting