CARLETON UNIVERSITY
Department of Economics

Honours Capstone Seminar
ECON 4905 C – 2018 Winter

Instructor: Susan Bennet
Office: B840 Loeb Building
Email: susan.bennet@carleton.ca
Office Hours: TBD

Lectures: Thursdays, 8:35am-11:25am,
Location: 317 Southam Hall

TA: Hossein Kavand
Office Hours: Thursday evenings, time to be determined.

----------------------------------

Course Objectives and Description:
The objective of this course is to guide you through the creation of an original research paper in
microeconomics. A major research paper is required.

Prerequisite(s): ECON 3900 with a grade of C+ or higher, ECON 3920 with a grade of C+ or higher, and
registration in an Honours Economics program.

Precludes: additional credit for ECON 4890, ECON 4900 (no longer offered), ECON 4901, and ECON 4902.

Students, who believe they have taken a similar background course or courses from another university,
must provide appropriate documentation to the Department of Economics Undergraduate Administrator, Amanda Wright.

Texts:
There is no required text. However, you may find the following sources to be useful:

Press: Princeton and Oxford


Topics:

- How to find a topic for an economics research essay
- How to conduct a literature review
- Where to find data
- Data management and analysis in Stata
- Modelling
- Regression analysis

Evaluation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One-page research idea</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>January 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Description</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>February 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature Review</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>March 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Draft</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>March 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation (Poster)</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>March 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comments on Presentations</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>March 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>April 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A hard copy of each item is due at the beginning of the indicated class.

We will talk about each of these components of your final grade in class, and my notes will be posted after each class on cuLearn. NOTE: Students must submit a first draft of the paper to pass the course. Students will not be allowed to present to the class, or submit their final paper, until they have handed in their first draft. Failure to submit any other course work without a compelling reason accompanied by a doctor’s note or other official documentation will result in a mark of ‘0’.

Grades will be reduced by 10 percentage points for every 24 hours that an assignment is late. Electronic submissions will only be considered with a compelling reason for being unable to come to the lecture to hand it in. All requests for extensions will only be considered with a compelling reason. Medical issues must be accompanied by an appropriate doctor’s note or other official documentation. Any medical issues should be dated at least two days before the assignment is due.

Failure to submit the final paper without a compelling reason will result in a grade of ‘F’. Should you be able to provide a compelling reason to defer your final paper submission you will still receive a mark of ‘F’ until a change of grade has been authorized by the instructor. See Academic 2.3 Standing in Courses/Grading System for the official meanings of these grades, and note that it stipulates that no course grades are final until approved by the Faculty Dean. Note also that course grades may be scaled
upwards or downwards in a rank-preserving manner to better fit the relevant departmental distributional norm.

**Plagiarism:**
Please be aware that plagiarism is a serious offense at Carleton and should be recognized and avoided. For information on how to do so, please see “Pammett on Plagiarism and Paraphrasing” at [www.carleton.ca/economics/courses/writing-preliminaries](http://www.carleton.ca/economics/courses/writing-preliminaries).

**Academic Accommodation:**
You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but are not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your Instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at [carleton.ca/equity/accommodation](http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation).