



Carleton University Department of Economics

Winter 2025

ECON 5029

Methods of Economic Research

## The Instructor

**Instructor:** Minjoon Lee

**Email Address:** minjoon.lee@carleton.ca

(Please include "Econ 5029" in the subject line.)

**Office Location:** LA D892

**Office Hours:** M 10:35 – 11:55 (tentative)

## The Course

**Course Delivery:** In person

**Course Day and Time:** Tu 8:35 – 11:25

**Brightspace Course Page:** <https://brightspace.carleton.ca/d2l/home/283694>

### Course Description

This course is designed to help students produce a research paper. In the lectures, students will learn how to find a good research question, process data, present outcomes, and write a paper. The lectures will also cover various tools for empirical analysis. Students will learn how to use R, a free programming language for statistical analysis.

### Learning Outcomes

Students are expected to learn how to form their own research questions based on a good understanding of the literature on the topic of interest; find suitable data sets and empirical strategies; present their work in presentations and research papers; provide constructive feedback to peers' work.

### Prerequisites

ECON 5020 (ECON 5000 if taken before 2012-2013, ECON 5001 if taken before 2007-2008) and ECON 5027 (ECON 5005 if taken before 2012-2013), or permission of the Department.

### Preclusions

Precludes additional credit for Econ 5006 (no longer offered).

### Course Calendar (tentative)

| <b>Week</b> | <b>Content</b>                         |
|-------------|--|
| 1 (Jan 7)   | How to write a research paper          |
| 2 (Jan 14)  | Data cleaning and preliminary analysis |
| 3 (Jan 21)  | OLS review                             |
| 4 (Jan 28)  | Non-standard dependent variables       |
| 5 (Feb 4)   | Time-series analysis                   |
| 6 (Feb 11)  | Time-series analysis                   |
|             | Winter Break                           |
| 7 (Feb 25)  | <b>Research proposal presentations</b> |
| 8 (Mar 4)   | Identification strategies              |
| 9 (Mar 11)  | Identification strategies              |
| 10 (Mar 18) | Machine-learning for forecasting       |
| 11 (Mar 25) | Machine-learning for forecasting       |
| 12 (Apr 1)  | <b>Research paper presentations</b>    |
| 13 (Apr 8)  | <b>Research paper presentations</b>    |

### **Textbooks and Readings**

#### Texts

This course does not have a required textbook. Some readings may be assigned during the course.

### **Evaluation**

#### Evaluation

| Assignment                     | Date             | Mode of Delivery       | Percentage of Grade |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Research question              | January 26       | Brightspace            | 10%                 |
| Research proposal presentation | February 25      | In-person presentation | 20%                 |
| First draft of research paper  | March 30         | Brightspace            | 15%                 |
| Research paper presentation    | April 1, April 8 | In-person presentation | 15%                 |

|                               |          |             |             |
|-------------------------------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| Referee report                | April 11 | Brightspace | 10%         |
| Final draft of research paper | April 20 | Brightspace | 30%         |
|                               |          |             | Total: 100% |

**In this course, any use of generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT) to produce assessed content is considered a violation of academic integrity standards as per our statement on plagiarism.**

Group work, where the maximum number of members in each team is two, may be allowed depending on the size of the class.

If you need an extension for any of the assignments, please email me as soon as possible to discuss rescheduling. I reserve the right to request a Self-Declaration form or PMC letter of accommodation depending on the length of incapacitation. As it is required that all course evaluations be submitted in order to have good standing in this course, failure to submit an assignment will result in withdrawal or a failing grade for this course. No late submissions will be accepted unless arrangements are made in advance.

Satisfactory Performance Criteria

Students must fulfill all of the course requirements in order to achieve a passing grade (D- or higher).

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

**Plagiarism, Resources and Mental Health, Academic Accommodations**

You are responsible for reading and knowing the information about plagiarism, Carleton University resources, and academic accommodations found [HERE](#).