



Carleton University Department of Economics

Fall 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. I typically respond to emails within 24 hours, except for weekends and holidays.)

Office Location: LA D892

Office Hours: Th 1:35 – 2:55 (tentative)

The Course

Course Delivery: In person

Course Day and Time: M 8:35 – 11:25

Course Location: Available on Carleton Central

Brightspace Course Page: <https://brightspace.carleton.ca/d2l/home/369603>

Course Description

This course is designed to help students produce an economics 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)

Week	Content
1 (Sep 8)	How to write a research paper
2 (Sep 15)	Data cleaning and preliminary analysis
3 (Sep 22)	OLS review
4 (Sep 29)	Non-standard dependent variables
5 (Oct 6)	Time-series analysis
6 (Oct 13)	Time-series analysis
	Reading week
7 (Oct 27)	Research proposal presentations
8 (Nov 3)	Identification strategies
9 (Nov 10)	Identification strategies
10 (Nov 17)	Machine-learning for forecasting
11 (Nov 24)	Research paper presentations
12 (Dec 1)	Research paper presentations

Textbooks and Readings

Texts

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

Students are not required to purchase textbooks or other learning materials for this course.

Evaluation

Evaluation

Assignment	Date	Mode of Delivery	Percentage of Grade
Research question	September 28	Brightspace	10%
Research proposal presentation	October 27	In-person presentation	20%
First draft of research paper	November 23	Brightspace	15%

Research paper presentation	November 24, December 1	In-person presentation	15%
Referee report	December 8	Brightspace	10%
Final draft of research paper	December 15	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](#).