

**ECO 4935 Empirical Research in Economics Seminar
Fall 2021, Michelle A. Phillips**

ECO 4935 meets Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:35-11:30am in MAT 107*

** Students can access lectures in one of two ways: (1) In-person during our scheduled time/room or (2) In pre-recorded videos available on Canvas asynchronously. Each student can decide which option works best for them (and change it at any point) as long as they meet all course deadlines. The 2 options will have the same content and requirements and everyone will remain registered in the same in-person course section. Assignments, discussion board homework, and quizzes are all submitted via Canvas. You can choose to carry out your oral presentations in person (with a Q&A session at the end) or pre-recorded (with a Q&A session on a Canvas discussion forum)¹. You are required to notify me about your preferred presentation method when you submit your Proposal and DA Paper.²*

INSTRUCTOR

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MAT 334. (352) 392-5017

TA

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OFFICE HOURS

Tuesdays noon-1pm via Zoom with Phillips (see Canvas for link)
Wednesdays 3:30-4:30pm in MAT 301A with Mathur
Thursdays noon-1pm via Zoom with Phillips (see Canvas for link)
Or by appointment.

Course Description: This course introduces students to the development and testing of economic models. We will learn about empirical methodologies/statistics (including the use of statistical software) and examine empirical papers. Students will then apply the material learned to test their own economic model. Each student will present his/her work to the class throughout the semester (*in person or prerecorded*). Your classmates will provide feedback for your papers either orally *or through a discussion forum*. *In person student presentations will not be recorded or broadcasted live. Online pre-recorded student presentations will be posted online to Canvas by the student in a discussion forum.* **If you choose to present your papers online (rather than in person) but are not willing to submit a video of yourself presenting your work for your instructor and classmates to watch on Canvas, you should take a different economics elective. Please email me during the first week of class if this is the case so I can help you find a course that better fits your preferences.** Prerequisites: ECO 2013 and ECO 2023

¹ Note: Letters of recommendation are based on performance on papers, discussion boards, homework, and quizzes. The method of lecture delivery you choose will not affect my ability to write you a letter of recommendation.

² This is because online students will provide feedback for online classmates' papers and in-person students will provide feedback for in-person students. Students are allowed to move from in person presentation to prerecorded presentation as long as they notify me via email and post the video by 7am on the day they present. Students are not, however, allowed to move from pre-recorded to in person at the last minute because of the way student comments work for online presentations (it is possible for in person students to comment on an online video but it is not straightforward for an online student to comment on an in person live video).

Readings and Supporting Material

1. “Doing Economics” (Greenlaw). Note: spiral version or paperback version
2. Readings will be available on Canvas. A brief tutorial on how to use Canvas is available here <https://resources.instructure.com/courses/32/pages/canvas-student-tour-videos>

Statistical Program: The empirical analysis required for this course can be done using MS Excel, Stata, R, or other software. I will go over how to do this on Excel and Stata (no prior knowledge is required).

Grading

Your grade will be determined by your performance on the following:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| A. Class participation (quizzes, discussion forums, feedback to classmate’s papers) | 20% |
| B. Proposal (written and presentation) | 20% |
| C. Description and Analysis of Empirical Work (written and presentation) | 30% |
| D. Final Paper (written) | 30% |

Class participation: You will be graded on class participation. Class participation will consist on: quizzes, discussion forum activities, and feedback provided to classmates. Your classmates will email you their Proposal and Description and Analysis (DA) paper. On the day when your classmates’ paper presentations are due, you must come to class (in person or through Canvas discussion forums) and be ready to provide comments or questions for your assigned classmates’ papers to get full credit for class participation³. Constructive comments are an important part of research. Note: Quizzes are open book/notes. You can use any printed material but you cannot work on a quiz with a classmate. While I won’t be using Honorlock to monitor quizzes, I expect you to work on them by yourself. If you don’t, you won’t be adequately prepared for the DA and Final papers.

Note that for in-person student presenters, the Q&A happens right after their presentation but if there is a question they can’t respond to live, they can choose to provide a response for it on the discussion forum by 7pm on the day after they present their paper (without penalty).

The way discussion forums work for online student presentations is the presenters must post their videos before 7am on the day they present. Students providing questions or comments for the presenter have until 9pm that day to post them. The student presenter then has until 7pm of the day after they present to answer all forum questions from their classmates.

You will choose whether you present your papers online or in person when the Proposal and DA papers are due. If you choose to schedule an in-person presentation and do not feel well the day of your presentation or were exposed to someone with an infectious disease, you can submit an online video of your presentation without a doctor’s note as long as you do it by the 7am deadline of the day you present and send me an email notification. While it is possible to move from an in person to an online presentation easily, it is not possible to move from an online to an in-person presentation easily. This is because your classmates will be providing you with comments. It is easy for in-person students to provide comments for either an online or in person presentation, but it is not easy for online students to provide comments for a live in-person presentation.

³ Exception: You will not be assigned a paper to comment on during your paper presentation dates.

Proposal:

Each student will submit a proposal which develops the hypothesis to be tested and describes the manner in which you will test your hypothesis. Important: You need to make sure that your project is feasible. **Please discuss your topic with me by the posted deadline of Sept 19** (the earlier you talk to me, the better). You can do this either by emailing me or attending office hours. A good/feasible proposal requires: (1) Making sure you can answer your question using the tools we learn in class and (2) Having the data required to test your hypothesis (enough variables and observations). You need a minimum of 50 observations for your paper. Your proposal should include: (a) an introduction that motivates the project, (b) a description of your sample, (c) a description of each variable, (d) information on sources you will use for data, (e) for each independent variable you must provide the economic analysis that underlies your prediction about the effect of the independent variable on your dependent variable. If you are struggling to come up with a topic, please email me or attend office hours.

You will present your proposal to the class (in person or by submitting a pre-recorded video presentation⁴).

Your proposal will be distributed to your classmates (you will email it to them) who will read it before you present it in class in order to be able to provide you with constructive criticism. Note: The bulk of your grade is based on the written portion of your proposal, not on how you present it. The main purpose of presenting your work is to engage in a forum discussion with your classmates during which they can provide you with feedback to help improve your paper. However, if you do not show up to your presentation or you do not submit your video on time (or submit a video with a dead link), you will get 0 points for the entire proposal (written part included). Videos must be submitted via Youtube, Vimeo or Canvas. **A sample proposal and rubric is available on Canvas.** These should give you an idea of what is expected. Due date: See “Canvas syllabus course summary” section. **There is a penalty for being late** that is described in the “penalties” section of the Canvas syllabus page.

Description and Analysis of Empirical Work (DA Paper)

Each student will present a complete description and analysis of their empirical results. Important: Doing empirical research and describing your results takes time. The earlier you get started on this, the better. You will not be able to get this done the day before it is due. I highly suggest that you give yourself as much time as you can to test your research question. This paper has the following requirements: (a) introduction, (b) description of your sample, (c) for each variable, indicate how it was constructed and report summary statistics (mean, standard deviation, minimum, maximum), (d) for each independent variable, develop the prediction and discuss whether your results support or refute your hypothesis and whether the variable has a big impact on the dependent variable. Important: Your grade is not affected by whether your hypotheses have been confirmed⁵. As with the proposal, the bulk of your grade will be based on the written portion but you will get 0 points for the entire section if you don't submit a working presentation link (and video) on time or in person during your scheduled day/time. The main purpose of the presentation is to gather feedback from your classmates. **A sample and rubric is available on Canvas.** Due date: See “course summary” syllabus section on Canvas. **There is a penalty for being late** that is described in the “penalties” section of the Canvas syllabus.

Final Paper

You must submit your double-spaced paper to me (electronically on MS Word or PDF format, via Canvas) on the date listed in the “schedule” section. Your font should be a standard font (Arial, Times New Roman, Calibri, etc) of size 12. Your final paper will develop the model and discuss how the data

⁴ The Canvas page has instructions on how to record and submit a video.

⁵ Note that we do not have the tools to address endogeneity in this class but we do mention the possibility of endogeneity in our papers.

were gathered, how the model was tested, and how revised results relate to the model. **A sample final paper and rubric is available on Canvas.** Due date: See “course schedule syllabus section” on Canvas. **There is a penalty for being late** that is described in the “penalties” section. You are welcome to submit the final paper earlier than the deadline, as long as you have already presented the “description and analysis of empirical work” to your classmates and incorporated relevant feedback from that.

Exams: This class does not have exams.

Feedback: You will generally receive feedback for your papers and presentations from me within 2 weeks of their due dates.

Submitting your work: Your Proposal and DA papers must be submitted online (via Canvas) for me to read and via Canvas message for your classmates to read. A video showing how to message all your classmates via Canvas Messenger is available on the Canvas Syllabus page. You must email your paper to your classmates the same day you upload it to Canvas. There’s a 5-point penalty for each day you are late emailing your classmates. I highly recommend that you email it right after you submit to Canvas. If your paper has changed between the time you submit and the time you present, you can send a new draft version to your classmates, but your classmates who have read the older version are not required to read the new version.

Changing your presentation dates: Students are generally not allowed to change their presentation and due dates. Exceptions: valid UF excuses to miss an assignment. Note that for circumstances known ahead of time (like religious holidays) you must notify me during the first two weeks of the term so I can change the schedule. It is very important that you plan your time well so you can meet the deadlines. I do, however, keep 4 slots open during the last possible presentation date for students who can’t meet their deadline. These spots are given out on a first come first serve basis and if you choose to do this there is a 10 point penalty if you do not have a valid excuse. You must let me know if you want to do this via email at least 1 day before your paper deadline.

Office Hours: If the office hours listed on page 1 are not convenient due to class or work conflicts, I will work with you to find a better solution. The easiest way to schedule office hours by appointment is to email me. I usually require at least 24-48 hours advance notice to schedule appointments.

Contacting Me: The best way to contact me is via e-mail. If you haven’t received a response within 2 business days⁶ please assume I didn’t receive your email and re-send it. If you want to discuss your research ideas or papers, you can either email me or attend office hours. I expect to be able to answer most emails within 1 business day, but I may not be able to answer emails sent a few hours before an assignment is due on time.

The following scale will be used to determine your final grade:

⁶ Not counting holidays and weekends.

Name:	Range:	
A	100 %	to 94.0%
A-	< 94.0 %	to 90.0%
B+	< 90.0 %	to 87.0%
B	< 87.0 %	to 84.0%
B-	< 84.0 %	to 80.0%
C+	< 80.0 %	to 77.0%
C	< 77.0 %	to 74.0%
C-	< 74.0 %	to 70.0%
D+	< 70.0 %	to 67.0%
D	< 67.0 %	to 64.0%
D-	< 64.0 %	to 61.0%
F	< 61.0 %	to 0.0%

Course Website: We will be using Canvas. The address is: <http://elearning.ufl.edu/>. You log-in using your Gatorlink ID and password and the course should automatically appear as one of your e-learning options. If it does not, check to make sure you are properly registered for the course. If that is not the issue, contact the UF Computing Helpdesk at: <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/>. Do not contact me about access issues. I cannot help you and the help you do need will only be delayed if you do. If you need an extra copy of any materials made available during class, this is the place to check. Your grades will be made available via this website.

Academic Honesty: You are expected to abide by the University's rules for academic honesty. These are available for your review at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr>. Cheating, plagiarism and any other action that violates these rules will be prosecuted to the fullest extent. I use turnitin. Submitting a research paper that you copied/pasted from a previous research paper you wrote for another class will result in a grade of 0. You can, however, transform the paper from this class into your honors thesis. You can also expand on ideas you have explored in papers for other classes.

Course Evaluation: Students are expected to provide feedback regarding this course by completing online evaluations at <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>

Schedules

Schedule 1 is the general schedule; everyone must meet the Schedule 1 deadlines. To see the due dates for each specific student, go to Canvas to see what group you are assigned to and find your specific due dates on Schedule 2. All papers and presentations are individual assignments. The groups denote students who have the same due dates for their papers and assignments, not students who will work together in a group.

Note: Some dates may change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Schedule 1

MODULE	TUESDAY	THURSDAY	ASSESSMENT AND DUE DATE
Course overview and module 1	Aug 24 Course overview, Syllabus, Scientific Methodology	Aug 26 Overview of Statistics I	Quiz 1 (due Aug 31)
Module 2	Aug 31 Overview of Statistics II	Sept 2 Multivariate Regression, Methodology	Quiz 2 (due Sept 5)
Module 3	Sept 7 Statistical significance, Pollution in baseball, Dummy Variables	Sept 9 Hypothesis Testing, Journal Article 1	Quiz 3 (due Sept 12), Research idea discussion (due Sept 15)
Module 4	Sept 14 Omitted Variables, Multicollinearity, Journal Article 2	Sept 16 Non-Linear Models, Endogeneity, Journal Article 3.	Discuss paper topic with me (last day to do this is Sept 19, but earlier is better), Quiz 4 and Quiz 5 (due Sept 19)
Module 5	Sept 21 Interaction Effects, Journal Article 4, OLS using Excel and Stata	Sept 23 Functional Forms, Journal Article 5,	Quiz 6 and Quiz 7 (due Sept 26)
Module 6	Sept 28 Journal Article 6, Journal Article 7 Work on Proposal	Sept 30 Work on Proposal and submit it (instead of lecture). I will be available via Zoom for the duration of the class if you have any questions.	Proposal (due Sept 30), Quiz 8 and Quiz 9 (due Oct 3)
Module 7	Oct 5 Florida Group ⁷ Proposal Presentation or Video	Oct 7 Gator Group Proposal Presentation or Video	Florida Presentation Comments (due Oct 5), Gator Presentation Comments (due Oct 7),
Module 8	Oct 12 Albert Group Proposal Presentation or Video	Oct 14 Swamp Group Proposal Presentation or Video	Albert Presentation Comments (due Oct 12) Swamp Presentation Comments (due Oct 14),
Module 9	Oct 19 Orange Group Proposal Presentation or Video	Oct 21 Blue Group Proposal Presentation or Video	Orange Presentation Comments (due Oct 19) Blue Presentation Comments (due Oct 21),

⁷ The group denotes a group of students who present or have due dates that are on the same day. The papers and presentations are individual assignments, there are no group projects on this course.

Module 10	Oct 26 Gainesville ⁸ Group Proposal Presentation or Video (with penalty) If no presentation: Work on your paper	Oct 28 Florida Group DA Presentation or Video	Gainesville Presentation Comments, if someone presents this day (due Oct 26) Florida Presentation Comments (due Oct 28)
Module 11	Nov 2 Gator Group DA Presentation or Video	Nov 4 Albert Group DA Presentation or Video	Gator Presentation Comments (due Nov 2), Albert Presentation Comments (due Nov 4).
Module 12	Nov 9 Swamp Group DA Presentation or Video	Nov 11 No lecture (Holiday)	Swamp Presentation Comments (due Nov 9)
Module 13	Tu Nov 16 Orange Group DA Presentation or Video	Th Nov 18 Blue Group DA Presentation or Video	Orange Presentation Comments (due Nov 16), Blue Presentation Comments (due Nov 18)
Module 14	Tu Nov 23 Gainesville Group DA Presentation or Video or work on your paper.	Th Nov 25 No Lecture (Holiday)	Gainesville Presentation Comments (due Nov 23)
Module 15	Tu Nov 30 Work on final paper (office hours instead of lecture during class periods).	Th Dec 2 Work on final paper (office hours instead of lecture during class periods).	
Module 16	Tu Dec 7 Work on final paper (office hours instead of lecture during class periods).	Th Dec 9 Reading day (no class).	Final paper (Due Tu Dec 7)

⁸ If students can't present on their original date, they can present on Oct 26 (Proposal) and Nov 23 (D&A) with a 10 point penalty. If nobody requests this date, the rest of the class will spend those two days working on their papers.

Schedule 2

Group ⁹ Name	Proposal due	Proposal presentation	D&A paper due date	D&A presentation
Florida	Th Sept 30	Tu Oct 5	Th Oct 21	Th Oct 28
Gator	Th Sept 30	Th Oct 7	Tu Oct 26	Tu Nov 2
Albert	Th Sept 30	Tu Oct 12	Th Oct 28	Th Nov 4
Swamp	Th Sept 30	Th Oct 14	Tu Nov 2	Tu Nov 9
Orange	Th Sept 30	Tu Oct 19	Th Nov 4	Tu Nov 16
Blue	Th Sept 30	Th Oct 21	Tu Nov 9	Th Nov 18
Gainesville ¹⁰	Th Sept 30	Tu Oct 26	Tu Nov 16	Tu Nov 23

***** I highly recommend that you browse all of the Paper Requirements on Canvas to fully understand what this class is about and what is required of you before Add/Drop ends. Remember that presenting your work in person or in a prerecorded video for all your classmates to watch/criticize is a requirement of the course. If you cannot meet that requirement, you should take a different economics elective. ****

Instructions for Presentations

A. Instructions for in-person presenters (and discussants¹¹)

Papers are presented in front of the class and followed by a Q&A session. Presenters can answer questions “live” or on the discussion forum. The deadline to answer a question on the discussion forum is the day after the presentation at 7pm. There is a penalty if you show up to class after 9:35am on your presentation day.

B. Instructions for online (prerecorded video) presenters (and discussants)

- While your classmates' video presentations won't be broadcast live, you are required to provide comments to your classmates' presentations during or before the end of the scheduled class day. So, if, for example, there's a presentation on Thursday, October 8, you need to view the presentation and provide comments for it by 11:59pm on Thursday, October 8. The easiest way to be able to do this for every presentation is to log in during the scheduled class time and watch student presentations of that date. If you are presenting, you will present your work via video recordings that you will post before or on the same day when your presentation is due by 7am. You must post a link to your video presentation by 7:00 am on the day when you present. If you are late, there's a penalty. You must reply to your classmates'

⁹ You will be assigned to a group name by your instructor at random. Please check Canvas to see what group you were assigned to. Being on a group doesn't mean you are working with your classmates from that same group, it means you have the same due dates as them. You are not required to provide comments to papers from people who are on your same group but you are welcome to provide them if you wish to do so

¹⁰ If students can't present on their original date, they can present on Oct 26 (Proposal) and Nov 23 (D&A) with a 10 point penalty unless they have a valid excuse (i.e, religious holiday, sickness, official UF travel, etc). If nobody requests these dates, the rest of the class will spend those two days working on their papers.

¹¹ Discussants are responsible for providing professional and constructive criticism to their classmate's research proposal and paper.

comments by 11:59pm on the day after you present. Ex: If you present on Tuesday, Oct 8, you will post your video by Tuesday October 8 at 7am. Your classmates will write comments until Tuesday, Oct 8 at 11:59pm. You have until Wednesday, Oct 9 at 11:59pm to reply to your classmates' comments.

You are required to record yourself (or your voice over powerpoint) for this section of the course. A big component of your grade is being able to present your work as if you were in an academic seminar/colloquium and answering questions about your work. If you are not willing to present in person or submit a video of your presentation for all of your classmates to watch, you will have to drop the class and enroll on a different economics elective.

Instructions for Proposal Presentations Discussants

Each student needs to submit one question or comment for every student presentation assigned to them. Comments you provide for your classmates must be of high quality, the comments themselves will be graded. You are not required to submit questions for presentations happening on the same day as your presentation (but you are welcome to do so if you want to). The comment or question needs to either recommend something (for example: a different variable or data source), politely point out mistakes, or ask for clarification. Saying "I love your paper, good job" is great, but it needs to be accompanied by a comment (rather than just a compliment) about the paper to get credit.

- Have more than one question per presenter in case someone else has your same question. If the same question is asked (or posted) by two different people, whomever asked or posted it first will get credit. It's your responsibility to make sure your question has not been asked already.

- I usually will not comment on your presentation in class or on the discussion forum. You will be getting my comments in written form when you get your proposal back. You will get your proposals back after your present. However, I sometimes give preliminary comments to those who present towards the end so they can start working on their next paper with at least preliminary feedback.

Presentation Feedback

- When I grade your proposal I will let you know which of your classmates' comments you should for sure consider, and which ones you should consider if you have the time to do so. One of the big hurdles with this course is being able to complete the papers within the deadlines.

- I expect you to incorporate the feedback I give you, but this may not be feasible sometimes. If it isn't, it is OK to let me know why it isn't feasible. Just send me an email and explain it to me or add a note at the end of your paper explaining which comments you didn't address and why. You will have points taken off from your paper if you do not address feedback that was recommended without providing an explanation as for why you didn't address it.

- I sometimes misunderstand what students are doing on their papers because I am not familiar with certain topics (for example: sports economics). If that is the case, please let me know. It does not offend me to have students point out that I misunderstood what they were doing. The fact that I am not familiar with a given topic should not stop you from writing about that topic if it is what interests you. I have colleagues who work in different fields (such as sports economics), so I can always consult with them if something isn't clear.

- If I don't highlight a student comment as something I think you should look into, but you think it's a good idea to look into it anyway, please do so by all means.

- This class doesn't work well if students miss the deadlines. Please make sure you give yourself time to complete the assignments. Most assignments cannot be done at the last minute. There are steep penalties for missing deadlines.

Penalties: If you miss the deadline (due date) for submitting your papers (i.e., Proposal, DA and Final Paper), you will be penalized by 50%. If you miss a presentation you will get a grade of 0 for that entire section¹² (whether it is the proposal or description/analysis). If you are late on submitting your paper, your grade will fall by 10% each additional day it is late after the 50% penalty. A written assignment (proposal, description/analysis of empirical work, final paper) is considered late if it is turned in after 11:59 pm on Canvas the day it is due.

- If you upload your paper but fail to send the paper to your classmates or to mention the presentation date on your message, you will have 10 points taken off your paper grade for each day you are late in sending your paper to your classmates.

- If an online presenter fails to upload their video by 7am on the day it is due, they will get 0 points for the presentation and their paper grade. If a presenter uploads a video link that doesn't work, that is equivalent to not uploading a link and will result on the same penalty. Students are not required to post comments for students whose presentation was not posted on time. Presenters are welcome to upload their video at any point prior to their due date (you can post it days in advance if you wish to do so). The penalty is steep because the class doesn't work if you don't post your paper on time. For in-person students the same penalty applies if you show up late for your presentation (or don't show up at all). Everyone presenting on a given day must arrive by 9:30am on that given day, even if they present last. It is disruptive and unfair to your classmates to arrive late.

- Each presenter must then reply to their classmates' comments either live (in person) or by 11:59pm on the next day (on Canvas Discussion forum). In person presenters can respond to comments/questions on the discussion forum or in person. If a presenter fails to reply to all the questions asked by 11:59pm of the next day, they will lose half the points of their presentation score.

- If you do not submit questions for your classmates' papers by the scheduled deadline (which is in class for in class presentations and on a Canvas discussion forum for online students), you will not get points for those comments. Attendance is measured based in large part on presentation comments and you won't be able to get a good grade on the course if you don't have those attendance points. **Note that attendance points are not based on physical attendance, they are based on quizzes, discussion board participation, and comments/questions asked to classmates during their presentations.**

Sick Policy and Missed Assignments/Quizzes

Since you have at least 1 week to complete quizzes and upload your papers, if you miss a deadline, you must provide evidence that you had an excused absence for the 7 days the module was open.

For presentation comments and presentations you only need a valid excuse for 1 day. For an absence that is known ahead of time (i.e., religious holidays), you must notify me during the first two weeks of the term. For absences that are not known ahead of time (sickness or other emergencies), you must notify me as soon as you can (and at most 1 week after the original missed date if possible). Documentation is required for excused absences. Any issues for which documentation cannot be obtained should be directed to the Dean of Students Office. If you miss your presentation and can prove that you had a last minute emergency that prevents you from attending on your presentation date, you must provide a video presentation within 2 days of recuperation.

¹² Entire section means: If you miss the proposal presentation deadline, you get a 0 for the proposal presentation and the proposal. If you miss the DA presentation deadline, you get a 0 for the DA presentation and the proposal. There is no final paper presentation.

If you have a scheduled in-person presentation and do not feel well the day of your presentation¹³ or were exposed to someone with an infectious disease, you can submit an online video of your presentation without a doctor's note as long as you do it by the 7am deadline of the day you present and send me an email notification. While it is possible to move from an in person to an online presentation easily, it is not possible to move from an online to an in-person presentation easy. This is because your classmates will be providing you with comments. It is easy for in-person students to provide comments for either an online or in person presentation, but it is not easy for online students to provide comments for a live in-person presentation.

Please note that there is no attendance policy for lectures since they can be attended in person or virtually. **It is not necessary to e-mail me to let me know why you missed a lecture since you can watch the lectures you miss online. It is necessary to e-mail me when you miss a graded component of the course.**

INTERNET CONNECTIVITY ISSUES

I only offer make-up assignments or quizzes when there are known system-wide outages on Canvas. These are the only outages that I can verify. I cannot verify individual connectivity problems, and thus, cannot accommodate them. This is why I drop quizzes and provide ample time for assignments to be submitted. It is not acceptable to fail to upload your presentation video or paper on time because your internet stopped working. Give yourself time to submit your work on time.

You are responsible for verifying that any online assignment submission has properly been submitted through Canvas. As a best practice, after submitting any assignment, close your browser, reopen Canvas, and check that your assignment properly appears. As an additional best practice, never submit an assignment through the Canvas mobile app. When you send your papers to me and the class via Canvas Messenger, I will send you a message acknowledging I received your message. If you don't hear from me in 24 hours, assume I didn't receive it and resend it.

You must have a strong and reliable internet connection to take online quizzes. When taking online quizzes, some general best practices are:

1. Use a hardwired ethernet connection if possible.
2. If you must use WiFi, you should ensure that you have a strong and stable internet connection. As a rule of thumb, if you have trouble streaming videos, you will not be able to take an online quiz.
3. If you must use WiFi, ask others to refrain from using the internet during your quiz if possible.
4. Public WiFi and Hotspots are not suitable for taking online quizzes.

Note: This class does not use Honorlock and it does not use Proctor U.

If your presentation schedule doesn't work well for you and you can provide proof as to why, email me early on in the term so we can discuss it (within the first 2 weeks of class).

¹³ Or if you are not sick enough for a doctor's note but think you could have something contagious

Some lecture slides, notes or exercises used in this course may be the property of the textbook publisher or other third parties. All other course material, including but not limited slides developed by the instructor, the syllabus, assignments, course notes, course recordings, and examinations or quizzes are property of the University or of the individual instructor who developed them. Students are free to use this material for study and learning. Republishing or redistributing this material, including uploading it to web sites or linking to it through services like iTunes, Reddit, Quizlet, or CourseHero, violates the rights of the copyright holder and is prohibited. There are civil and criminal penalties for copyright violation.

Counseling and Wellness Center and other resources

Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center:

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies. Alachua Crisis Center: 352-264-6785. National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-8255.

CLASS DEMEANOR

Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all. Please be professional on e-mails and communications with me and your classmates.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester. Accommodations should be requested at least 2 days before a presentation or paper deadline (earlier is better). I cannot provide accommodations for you if you let me know you need them the day of a deadline (and I cannot postpone deadlines without a valid reason to miss a deadline).

Covid-19 protocols

This is the protocol as of the writing of this syllabus (8/19/2021). I will email any updates as I receive them (the latest information sent by email is the information you should follow).

The CDC recommends masks for both vaccinated and unvaccinated people in indoor settings. I will have masks available if you do not have one.

FAQs as of 8/17/2021. Please check the website for newest information:

https://coronavirus.uflhealth.org/screen-test-protect-2/frequently-asked-questions/#students_test_positive

What if I test positive?

If you test positive, please start to isolate from others. Call UF Health Screen, Test & Protect disease investigators at 352-273-9790 to learn your next steps.

Will students need to isolate or quarantine if they are a close contact or test positive?

If you are not vaccinated and become a contact to a case or become ill with COVID-19-like symptoms, please answer the screening questionnaire through ONE.UF to schedule a test or call UF Health Screen, Test & Protect for further guidance at 352-273-9790.

Additionally, once fully vaccinated (14 days after the single dose of J&J and 14 days after the second dose of Moderna and Pfizer) you will not be considered a contact to a COVID-19 positive case and no longer need to quarantine if exposed.

How long do I have to quarantine for if I have come in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 and I'm unvaccinated?

The quarantine period is 14 days; however, if you have not developed any COVID-19-like symptoms after 10 days, you can end your quarantine period early if you agree to the following guidelines and action steps:

Get a PCR test through UF Health Screen, Test & Protect (STP) on or after the 9th day of exposure. If you are not a UF student, faculty, staff or affiliate or you are not in the Gainesville area, you may use an outside lab and manually report your results to STP by calling 352-273-9790.

Report any newly developed symptoms to STP.

Stay masked for the full 14 days after exposure at all times when around others including roommates or those who live in your household.

For those unable to comply with these criteria, you must remain in quarantine for the full 14 days.

Will I need to quarantine after I'm fully vaccinated?

Please call UF Health Screen, Test & Protect for guidance or report your exposure on the ONE.UF health screener if you are fully vaccinated and were exposed to a COVID-19 case. You will not be considered a contact if you come in close contact to someone with COVID-19, but you should monitor yourself for COVID-19 symptoms. Maintain monitoring for 14 days following an exposure. Health professions students may be required to follow different protocols. If you are a health professions student at UF Health, please contact the appropriate phone number to answer questions about exposure.

Extended Absences:

If you are out sick for a substantial period of time, and it is unlikely that you can reasonably get caught up in class, you can pursue a medical withdrawal by contacting the UF Care Team (<https://care.dso.ufl.edu/>). I generally recommend this route when a student misses 2+ weeks.

Recording of class:

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in

preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A "class lecture" is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To "publish" means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

Optional: Honors Thesis

College Requirements (note: Please go to the CLAS website to find the most up to date requirements)

Cum Laude	Magna Cum Laude	Summa Cum Laude
3.50 or higher GPA on all courses taken at UF beginning the semester after accumulating 60 credits.	Eligible students must have a 3.50 or higher GPA on all courses taken at UF beginning the semester after accumulating 60 credits and completion of, and faculty evaluation of, a thesis, research project or other creative work. Distinction of magna or summa cum laude may be granted based on faculty evaluation of the thesis, and the department will make the determination whether and what level of distinction will be awarded.	

Economics Requirements:

Cum Laude	Magna Cum Laude	Summa Cum Laude
	Student must earn a 3.30 GPA for all UF economics courses, complete ECO 4935 or ECO 4905 and submit an acceptable thesis.	Student must earn a 3.70 GPA on all courses taken at UF the semester after accumulating 60 credits and a 3.50 GPA for all UF economics courses. Must also complete ECO 4935 or ECO 4905 and submit an acceptable thesis.

By the first week of the semester you graduate, you must contact (e-mail) the honors coordinator to schedule a 20-minute presentation to the Undergraduate Committee of what you propose to do in your honors thesis (note: the committee does not meet in the Summer term, so if you graduate in the Summer, you must present your thesis to the committee in the preceding Spring). This committee will determine whether your thesis is acceptable, so take the committee's suggestions seriously!

If you are graduating in Spring 2022 (or later), you can use your class paper as your thesis. The process is explained in detail here: <https://people.clas.ufl.edu/michellephillips/honors-thesis/>

In the semester when you graduate (or earlier if you wish to do so) you will do the following:

1. Get ready for your thesis committee meeting. During this meeting you will give a 10 minute presentation of your thesis idea. The committee members will give you advice on how to improve your thesis. The deadline to submit your final thesis draft is 4 weeks before the last day of final exams. You are always welcome to submit earlier than that. You submit your final draft by sending an email to the honors thesis coordinator with a PDF file of your final thesis. Note: The format of the committee meeting is to be determined.

2. The committee will read your thesis and give you a pass or fail. You will receive an email from the honors coordinator letting you know whether you passed or failed. Important: You must have received final approval from your department before you submit your Honors thesis or project to the Libraries. Please do not proceed to step 3 until you get an email from the honors thesis committee letting you know that you've passed.

3. If you received a "pass": At this point you have met all of the Departmental requirements that are needed to upload your thesis to the library (assuming you also meet the College and Department GPA requirements). You will upload your thesis to the library (this can be done as soon as it is ready and approved by the committee). The submission deadline to submit your paper to the library is listed on the link below which also includes information on what steps to follow to upload your thesis to the library: <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/etd/honors>

Opportunities for publication: It is difficult (but not impossible) to publish in economics journals. There are some outlets specifically for undergraduate papers in economics. See Canvas for more information.

***If I make any changes to the syllabus, I will announce them via email and will list each change here:
This is syllabus version 1***