

Economic Research in the Community

(ECON 4670)

Prerequisites: Economics 4660

Course description:

This is the capstone course based on Economics 4660 – Statistical Tools for Applied Economics Research. In this course, students will have the opportunity to apply their knowledge and skills to assist organizations in the Utah community. Students will work in small teams on assigned community projects that involve statistical and economic analysis leading up to a professional econometric report.

Course learning outcomes:

1. Provide an opportunity to apply econometric knowledge to a real-world project
2. Provide practical hands-on experience solving and managing an econometric project
3. Develop skills in oral presentations and professional report writing
4. Provide real-world professional experience working with clients

Course overview:

This course is devoted to “doing” econometrics. Small groups of students will work closely with clients on selected analyses. Over the course of this semester, students will identify appropriate statistical strategies, organize and collect relevant data, and prepare meaningful reports and presentations. Although each group will have different assignments and most likely be using different statistical tools, the entire class will benefit from learning about the diversity of issues and discovering commonalities among the clients. During the last month of the semester, the groups will present their results to the entire class.

The projects will generally follow these steps:

1. Project definition and background
2. Data acquisition and preparation
3. Data exploration
4. Data analysis
5. Project completion and recommendations

During the semester the class will be involved in:

1. Lectures and discussions
2. Visits to the community organizations by the student team for client meetings, project information, data collection and other purposes.
3. Project conceptualization and outline of work.

4. Progress meetings, reports, and team evaluations submitted to faculty mentor as well as oral presentations to the class.
5. A final report consisting of an in-class oral presentation and a written final report presented to the sponsoring organization.

Grading:

Mid-semester project conceptualization & presentation: 10%

Weekly progress reports: 30%

Team Presentation & White Paper: 60%

Project concept and evaluation rubrics are:

[Economics 4670 Effectiveness Rubric.docx](#)

[Economics 4670 Presentation Rubric.docx](#)

Course Assignments

Date	Details	Due
Sun Jan 23, 2022	Assignment Progress Report 1	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jan 30, 2022	Assignment Progress Report 2	due by 11:59pm
Wed Feb 2, 2022	Calendar Event ECON 4670-001 Spring 2022 Community Research	2pm to 3pm
	Calendar Event Class Meets Together	2pm
Sun Feb 6, 2022	Assignment Progress Report 3	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 13, 2022	Assignment Progress Report 4	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 20, 2022	Assignment Progress Report 5	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 27, 2022	Assignment Progress Report 6	due by 11:59pm
Wed Mar 2, 2022	Calendar Event Class Meets Together	2pm
Sun Mar 6, 2022	Assignment Progress Report 7	due by 11:59pm
Wed Mar 23, 2022	Assignment Midterm Project Conceptualization & Team Development.	due by 11:59pm
Sun Mar 27, 2022	Assignment Progress Report 8	due by 11:59pm
Sun Apr 3, 2022	Assignment Progress Report 9	due by 11:59pm
Wed Apr 6, 2022	Calendar Event Class Meets Together	2pm
Sun Apr 10, 2022	Assignment Progress Report 10	due by 11:59pm
Sun Apr 17, 2022	Assignment Progress Report 11	due by 11:59pm
Wed Apr 20, 2022	Calendar Event Class Presentations	2pm to 4pm
	Assignment Team Presentations	due by 11:59pm
Sun May 1, 2022	Assignment Team White Papers Due	due by 11:59pm