

# 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:**

Project conceptualization and team development: 15%

Informal progress reports and presentations: 10%

Team Presentation & White Paper: 75%

Project concept and evaluation rubrics are:

[Effectiveness Rubric.docx](#)

[Economics 4670 Presentation Rubric.docx](#)

Course Summary:

Date	Details	
Wed Jan 20, 2021	Calendar Event <a href="#">ECON 4670-001 Spring 2021 Community Research</a>	2pm to 3pm
Wed Feb 3, 2021	Calendar Event <a href="#">ECON 4670-001 Spring 2021 Community Research</a>	2pm to 3pm
Wed Feb 17, 2021	Calendar Event <a href="#">ECON 4670-001 Spring 2021 Community Research</a>	2pm to 3pm
Sun Feb 21, 2021	Assignment <a href="#">Informal Progress Report</a>	due by 11:59pm
Wed Mar 17, 2021	Calendar Event <a href="#">ECON 4670-001 Spring 2021 Community Research</a>	2pm to 3pm
Sun Mar 21, 2021	Assignment <a href="#">Project Conceptualization &amp; Team Development.</a>	due by 11:59pm
Wed Apr 14, 2021	Calendar Event <a href="#">ECON 4670-001 Spring 2021 Community Research</a>	2pm to 4pm
	Assignment <a href="#">Team Presentations (20 min ea)</a>	due by 11:59pm
Mon May 3, 2021	Assignment <a href="#">Team White Paper Due</a>	due by 11:59pm