

Economics 490.11: Seminar in Applied Economics (Public Economics & Policy)

Instructor: Professor Terry Moon (Email: tsmoon@mail.ubc.ca)

Tentative Schedule:

- 2024-01-08: (lecture 1) Introduction and Course Overview
- 2024-01-10: (lecture 2) How to do research & write a thesis (Part I)
- 2024-01-15: (lecture 3) Linear Regression, Interpretations, Sources of Bias, Fixed Effects Model and Difference-in-Differences Design
- 2024-01-17: (lecture 4) Stata Session
- 2024-01-22: (lecture 5) Research Paper Example 1
- 2024-01-24: (lecture 6) Research Paper Example 2
- Assignment 1 (Research Question, Motivation, & Literature Review) Due by 01/29 09:00 am (PST) via email
- 2024-01-29: Sharing Research Question (1-1 meeting) (5 students, 10 minutes each)
- 2024-01-31: Sharing Research Question (1-1 meeting) (5 students, 10 minutes each)
- 2024-02-05: Sharing Research Question (1-1 meeting) (5 students, 10 minutes each)
- 2024-02-07: Sharing Research Question (1-1 meeting) (5 students, 10 minutes each)
- 2024-02-12: (lecture 9) How to do research & write a thesis (Part II)
- 2024-02-14: (optional) 1-1 Meetings
- 2024-02-19 & 02-21: Break
- Assignment 2 (Empirical Strategy & Data Sources) Due by 02/26 09:00 am (PST) via email
- 2024-02-26: Sharing Empirical Design (1-1 meeting) (5 students, 10 minutes each)
- 2024-02-28: Sharing Empirical Design (1-1 meeting) (5 students, 10 minutes each)
- 2024-03-04: Sharing Empirical Design (1-1 meeting) (5 students, 10 minutes each)
- 2024-03-06: Sharing Empirical Design (1-1 meeting) (5 students, 10 minutes each)
- 2024-03-11: (optional) 1-1 Meetings
- 2024-03-13: (optional) 1-1 Meetings
- Assignment 3 (Results, Interpretations, & Policy Implications) Due by 03/18 09:00 am (PST) via email
- 2024-03-18: Sharing Preliminary Results (1-1 meeting) (5 students, 10 minutes each)
- 2024-03-20: Sharing Preliminary Results (1-1 meeting) (5 students, 10 minutes each)
- 2024-03-25: Sharing Preliminary Results (1-1 meeting) (5 students, 10 minutes each)
- 2024-03-27: Sharing Preliminary Results (1-1 meeting) (5 students, 10 minutes each)
- 2024-04-01: Presentations (5 students, 15 min each)
- 2024-04-03: Presentations (5 students, 15 min each)
- 2024-04-08: Presentations (5 students, 15 min each)
- 2024-04-10: Presentations (5 students, 15 min each)
- Final Paper (along with data and code) TBD via email

Paper Format: Maximum page number (12 pages from Title to Conclusion): double-spaced, 1 inch margin, page number

1. Title page (1 page): Title, Author, Abstract, Acknowledgements
2. Introduction (3 page): (1) Research question, (2) Motivation, (3) Literature Review, (4) Contributions, (5) Empirical Strategy & Data, (6) Economic Interpretations, (7) Policy Implications, and (8) Outline
3. Institutional Setting (1 page): Description of the institutional setting and/or the policy reform you will exploit for empirical analysis
4. Empirical Strategy & Data Sources (3 page): Description of (1) the main empirical design and econometric model you will use to analyze data, and (2) the main data sources and relevant analysis sample
5. Results & Economic Interpretations (3 page): Summary of key findings and interpretation of the main coefficient estimates (their signs and magnitudes)
6. Policy Implications & Conclusion (1 page): Policy implications of your key findings & Conclusion
7. References
8. 3 (min) – 5 (max) Tables: One table per page
9. 3 (min) – 5 (max) Figures: One figure per page

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Presentation Format: 10-minute Presentation, followed by 5-minute Q&A

1. Introduction (2 min): Research question, motivation, and contribution
2. Institutional Setting, Empirical Strategy & Data Sources (4 min)
3. Results, Interpretations, and Policy Implications (4 min)