

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

Economics 730
Research Seminar
Fall 2009
TTh 10:30-11:45

Professor Theresa Greaney
Saunders Hall 529
Office hrs: TBA
Office phone: 956-7521
E-mail: greaney@hawaii.edu

Course Description: This course is intended to guide you in your transition from being a consumer of economic research to being a producer of economic research. The course will take you through many of the stages involved in producing a research product, including selecting a topic, reviewing the literature, writing a research proposal, conducting and presenting your research. The course objective is to have you make significant progress in producing your third-year research paper, which is due by May, 2010. This paper is expected to be a high-quality research product that is publishable in an academic journal. You also must present your paper in a brown bag seminar or workshop in the Spring 2010 term and submit a PDF version of your accepted paper to the economics office to fulfill your 3rd year research paper requirement.

Prerequisites: Students should have successfully completed the first 2 years of the PhD program
in economics.

Course Materials: Articles and handouts provided in class are required reading for this course. In addition, students are strongly encouraged to read the following books:

1. A Guide for the Young Economist, Thomson, 2001, The MIT Press.
2. Economical Writing, McCloskey, 2000, Waveland Press, Inc.

Course Requirements and Evaluation Procedures: You must register for this course with the credit/no credit grade option. To receive credit for this course, you must fulfill the following:

1. **Attend all class meetings**, and be prepared to participate in class discussions by having read the assigned papers in advance. Remember, this is not a lecture course (i.e., consumer course), this is a research seminar (i.e., producer course).
2. **Write a critical evaluation** of a published paper that is related to your planned area of research, and present your evaluation to the class. This evaluation will be an expanded version of a referee report, with a page limit of 5 double-spaced pages.
3. **Write a research proposal** that identifies a promising research question, reviews the relevant literature, outlines a research methodology that you will use to address your research question, and outlines a research plan and timeline to complete the project.
4. **Set up your 3rd-year research paper review team** by securing a faculty advisor and two additional faculty readers for your paper. You must obtain their signatures on the appropriate form and submit it to the Graduate Chair (me) by the end of this term for approval.
5. **Attend at least 75% of department seminars** held during the term. Econ. 730 is scheduled to meet twice per week, but usually will only meet once per week with the expectation that you attend the department seminar and pursue your own research to make the best use of your time.

APPROXIMATE SCHEDULE

<u>Week (Tues. date)</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Deadlines</u>
Aug. 25	Introduction, course organization, topic selection	
Sept. 1	Referee reports	
Sept. 8	Referee reports, cont.	1-page trial referee report due
Sept. 15	Presentation techniques	Paper selections due (bring copies or send pdf)
Sept. 22		
Sept. 29	Referee reports #1, 2	All referee reports due
Oct. 6	Referee reports #3, 4	
Oct. 13	Referee report #5, 6	
Oct. 20		
Oct. 27	Forum on dissertation proposals	
Nov. 3		Proposals due
Nov. 10 (Wed. holiday)	Proposals #1, 2	
Nov. 17	Proposals #3, 4	
Nov. 24 (Th/Fr holiday)	Proposal #5, 6	
Dec. 1	Course Wrapup NOTE: Submit 3 rd year research paper to your advisor and readers by May, 2010.	
Dec. 8		
