

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

2016-2017 Second Term

ECON2901 Guided Study in Current Economic Problems I

Teacher: KO Kwan Wai

Office Hours: Fridays, 3:30 p.m.–5:30 p.m. or by appointment (ELB 1002)

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1. Course description

This course aims to develop knowledge and skills in doing economic research. The course is divided into two parts. The first part includes workshops which help students improving generic skills such as research skills, writing skills and oral presentation. The second part involves classroom discussion and student presentations.

2. Learning Outcomes

Throughout all teaching and learning activities, students are expected to learn how to conduct a research project and learn the basics of what makes a good paper and a good presentation.

3. Course Structure

Week	Date	Tasks
Week 1	Jan 13, 2017	Introduction /Form Groups
Week 2	Jan 18, 2017	*Workshop: Research Methodology (ELB LT2)
Week 3	Jan 25, 2017	*Workshop: Research Methodology & Poster Presentation (ELB LT2)
Week 4	Feb 1, 2017	Chinese New Year
Week 5	Feb 8, 2017	<i>Brainstorming</i>
Week 6	Feb 15, 2017	Workshop: English Oral Skill Practice <i>Brainstorming</i>
Week 7	Feb 22, 2017	Workshop: English Oral Skill Practice <i>Brainstorming</i>
Week 8	Mar 1, 2017	Proposal Presentation
Week 9	Mar 8, 2017	Proposal Presentation
Week 10	Mar 15, 2017	Workshop: English Writing Skill Practice <i>Consultation on Presentation</i>
Week 11	Mar 22, 2017	Workshop: English Writing Skill Practice <i>Consultation on Presentation</i>
Week 12	Mar 29, 2017	In-class Poster Presentation
Week 13	Apr 5, 2017	In-class Poster Presentation
Week 14	Apr 12, 2017	In-class Poster Presentation
Week 15	Apr 19, 2017	Poster Presentation, ELB Lobby

* **Bring your own computer.**

4. Assessment

Workshops	20%
Attendance*	Compulsory
Participation	12%
Brainstorming meeting	2%
Proposal presentation	6%
Classroom discussion	4%
In-class poster presentation	15%
Poster presentation (ELB Lobby)	13%
Final paper	40%
Total	100%

*Two marks will be deducted for each absence from the class without my approval.

5. Group Paper

Final papers are due on **May 9 by 5 pm**. You must put a hard copy into my mailbox on the 9th floor and upload a soft copy to Blackboard by the specified date and time. Submission after the deadline will carry an automatic penalty of 50% of the grade on the paper per week or part of each week.

The final paper runs **no more than 15 pages** (excluding graphs and tables). It must be double-spaced with font size 12 (not smaller). All papers must have a cover page that clearly shows all members' names and their student numbers, course number and section, date, and a title. Everything counts when determining a paper's grade, such as ideas, organization, presentation, style, spelling, references and so on.

All references (including your textbooks and web references) you have used and cited in the paper should be included. All the data you used in tables and graphs must list sources. To list your references, **you are required to follow one of the styles: MLA, APA, Chicago or American Economic Review or Journal of Economic Literature. Five marks will be deducted if do not provide the above formatted citation.**

6. eLearning system

This course utilizes Blackboard for course management and posting of relevant materials. Students are required to **check Blackboard regularly for additional information, and the presentation schedule.**

7. Peer Evaluation

To deter free-riding, each student will assess the contribution of his/her fellow group members. The peer evaluation form can be downloaded from Blackboard by the end of the term.

8. Academic honesty

You must not plagiarize and this paper must not be submitted in any other course. The Chinese University of Hong Kong values academic honesty. All students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offence (see <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/> for more information).

Your final report needs to be submitted to VeriGuide (Chinese University Plagiarism Identification Engine) to check for academic honesty. Please login <https://veriguide1.cse.cuhk.edu.hk/cuhk/> with your CWEM ID, and submit the soft copy of your paper there. **After submitting, an acknowledgment receipt with a declaration statement in PDF will be sent to your CWEM email account. Please sign and hand it in together with your hard copy of your paper. Please make sure you submit the paper to VeriGuide by the deadline.**