

ECON 4901A  
Guided Studies in Current Economic Problems II  
First Term, 2017-2018  
Course Outline

Instructor: Dr. Xiaoxuan Meng  
Research areas: Industrial Organization and Applied Microeconomic Theory  
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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

ECON 4901 is divided into two parts. The first part contains two workshops that focus on research methodology and use of economic data. The second part involves lectures (conducted in English), classroom discussion, and presentation of research projects. With this format, students are expected not only to gain basic knowledge in the design of an appropriate research project but also to improve their public speaking and overall writing abilities.

### **GRADING**

#### **Part 1: STOT Workshops (20 marks)**

- (i) To encourage students to attend the STOT workshops, attendance is counted as a part of the course assessment. A total of 4 marks are assigned to the student's attendance.
- (ii) To encourage students to better understand the materials covered in the STOT workshops, assignments are given and graded. A total of 16 marks are allocated to the STOT-workshops assignments  
Week 2: Research Methodology (lecture)  
Week 3: Research Methodology (laboratory)

#### **Part 2: Research Project (80 marks)**

Attendance: 5 marks  
Class participation: 10 marks  
Presentation: 25 marks  
Paper: 40 marks

Students are required to submit both hardcopy and softcopy of their paper to the instructor.

### **COURSE SCHEDULE**

Content	Date	Time	Venue
Introduction	6 Sept, 2017	9:30-11:15 a.m.	ELB 204
Research Methodology (Theory)	15 Sept. 2017	6:30pm – 8:15pm	ELB LT1
Research Methodology (Lab)	20 Sept. 2017	6:30pm – 8:15pm	ELB 916
Consultation	20 Sept, 2017	9:30-11:15 a.m.	ELB 204
Consultation	27 Sept, 2017	9:30-11:15 a.m.	ELB 204
Consultation	4 Oct, 2017	9:30-11:15 a.m.	ELB 204
Consultation	11 Oct, 2017	9:30-11:15 a.m.	ELB 204
Consultation	18 Oct, 2017	9:30-11:15 a.m.	ELB 204
Consultation	25 Oct, 2017	9:30-11:15 a.m.	ELB 204
Consultation	1 Nov, 2017	9:30-11:15 a.m.	ELB 204
Presentation and Discussion	8 Nov, 2017	9:30-11:15 a.m.	ELB 204
Presentation and Discussion	15 Nov, 2017	9:30-11:15 a.m.	ELB 204

Presentation and Discussion	22 Nov, 2017	9:30-11:15 a.m.	ELB 204
Presentation and Discussion	29 Nov, 2017	9:30-11:15 a.m.	ELB 204

## **FINAL PAPER**

Due by **5 p.m. on 16 December, 2017**. Students are required to submit both hardcopy (by hand or mailbox drop-off) and softcopy (via VeriGuide) of their paper to the instructor. Late submission incurs a 20% reduction.

The final paper should be between 12 and 20 pages in length (excluding tables, figures, and references). To ensure consistency, the main text of the paper should comply with the following format:

Font: Times New Roman

Font size: 12 point

Margin: 1 inch all around

Spacing: 0pt before, 0pt after, double line spacing

## **ACADEMIC HONESTY**

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>.

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign on the declaration.

For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.

All STOT sections should follow strictly with this course assessment scheme. The range of grade distributions for the students' performance in each section should have reasonable variations. Moreover, the grade distribution should be in line with the guidelines set forth by the Registration and Examination Section.