

Term Report Guidelines – Empirical Finance (Spring, 2025)

Important Dates:

Term report proposal – oral: May 28, 2025 (Wed)
Term report proposal – revised proposal upload: May 30, 2025 (Fri)

Term report – oral presentation: June 18, 2025 (Wed)
Term report – final report submission: June 25, 2025 (Wed)

Report Submission Deadline: June 25th, 2025 (Wed, by 11:59pm). Please upload your report files to the designated area on the course portal by the deadline. **Late submissions will not be accepted under any circumstances.**

Report File Requirements

You are required to submit your report in **two (or more) separate files**.

- **File 1 – Main Report (PDF Format)**
 - ◆ This file should include the complete report: text, tables, and figures.
 - ◆ File format: PDF. **Do not compress or zip your files.**
 - ◆ File name: proj_113xxxx_text.pdf (replace 113xxxx with your own student ID)
- **File 2 – Appendix/Data Files**
 - ◆ This file should include the data and supporting materials used in your analysis.
 - ◆ Accepted formats: .xlsx, .txt, .prn, .pdf, etc.
 - ◆ File name: proj_112xxxx_app1.pdf (change the extension to match your actual file format)
 - ◆ If you are submitting multiple appendix/data files, use sequential naming: proj_113xxxx_app2.pdf, proj_113xxxx_app3.xls, etc.
 - ◆ You may choose to upload only a subset of your sample data, if appropriate.

Academic Integrity

- This term project must be conducted independently.
- You must cite all sources used, and clearly identify any work not originally your own (e.g., if you use a classmate's codes.).
- Submitting a project that is **duplicated from another course, your thesis, or any other previous work, or that includes plagiarized content**, will result in a **grade of zero**. Such submissions are **strictly prohibited, even if they are modified versions of previously completed work**.
- It is not recommended to use data from your RA work or thesis unless you have obtained explicit written permission from your advisor, which must be attached to the submission.

Formatting Guidelines for the Term Report

- Title Page Requirements:
The first page of your report should include the following:
 - ◆ The title of your study
 - ◆ Your full name (as the author)
 - ◆ An abstract of no more than 120 words
 - ◆ A list of keywords (maximum of 5)
- Formulae:
All displayed formulae (i.e., equations set on separate lines) should be numbered consecutively, aligned to the right-hand margin.
- References:
The reference list should appear at the end of the main text, following any appendices but before tables and figures.
 - ◆ References must be listed in alphabetical order by the author's last name.
- Tables/Figures:
Tables/Figures should be numbered consecutively and presented on separate pages from the main text.

Structure of the Main Report

The main text of your term report should include, but is not limited to, the following sections:

1. Motivation and Background

Introduce the motivation for your study. Discuss relevant background information and how your work relates to findings in the existing literature.

2. Research Theme, Questions, and Hypotheses

- Clearly state the theme of your study, your research questions, and the hypotheses to be tested.
- When presenting your research questions, make sure to clearly identify the variables and the conditions under which they are examined.
- A research hypothesis should specify an expected relationship (positive, negative, or none) between variables, under defined conditions.
- Where possible, connect your hypotheses to prior studies in the literature to provide context and justification.

3. Data Description

- Describe the data used in your analysis.
- Clearly specify the sample subjects, the sample period, and any important characteristics of the dataset(s).

4. Methodology

- Explain the research methods employed in your study.
- If your study involves regressions, you should:
 - Specify the type of model used (e.g., linear, logit, probit).
 - Define the dependent variable, key explanatory variable(s), and any control variables.
 - Discuss any concerns related to endogeneity, sample selection bias, autocorrelation, heteroscedasticity, or the need for clustered standard errors.
- If your study involves portfolio sorts, you should:
 - Explain your sorting criteria (e.g., size, book-to-market ratio).
 - Specify the formation period, holding period, and rebalancing frequency.

5. Results and Discussion

- Present and interpret your empirical findings.
- Relate your results back to your stated hypotheses and the literature.
- Discuss any financial or economic implications that stem from your findings.

6. Conclusion

- Provide a concise summary of your key findings and discuss the contributions of your study.

7. Tables and Figures

- Present all tables and figures in a clear and organized format.
- Be sure to reference them appropriately in the main text.

8. References

- Include a complete list of all cited sources, formatted consistently and listed alphabetically by author's last name.

Instructions for Term Project Proposal – May 28, 2025

1. Proposal Presentation

Each student will have **8 minutes** to present their research proposal. Your presentation should clearly cover the following components:

- a) **Research Questions** - Clearly state your research questions and cite relevant literature to provide context and motivation.
- b) **Testable Hypotheses** - Specify the hypotheses you intend to test. Clearly define the expected relationships between the key variables of interest.
- c) **Expected Empirical Results** - Briefly describe the types of results you anticipate based on theories or prior studies.
- d) **Data and Methodology** - Indicate the data sources. Describe the econometric or analytical methods you intend to apply.
- e) **Preliminary Results** (if available) - Share any descriptive statistics or early findings from your data.

2. Proposal Submission

- a) Hard Copy Submission - Please submit a printed copy of your PowerPoint slides (maximum of 10 ppt slides) right before your scheduled presentation on **May 28**.
- b) Online Submission - Upload your finalized PowerPoint slides in PDF format to the course portal by **May 30**.

The proposal presentations will be given in the following order.

#	May 28 (Wed)		
1	1137414	吳旻樺	Min-Hua Wu
2	1133958	王新福	Christopher Ongko
3	1102432	謝忠志	Chung-Chih Hsieh
4	1133952	馬文	Marvin Gratza
5	1102609	張道凱	Dao-Kai Chang
6	1133954	麥黎瓊	Mai Le Quynh

Instructions for Term Report Presentation – June 18, 2025

Term Report Presentation

- Each student will have **20 minutes** to present their report using PowerPoint slides. Your presentation should clearly address the key components outlined in the **Structure of the Main Report** section (e.g., motivation, data, methods, results, and conclusions).
- Please submit a printed copy of your PowerPoint slides immediately before your scheduled presentation.
- As part of the participation requirement, each student is expected to ask **at least three questions in total** during the Q&A sessions following their classmates' presentations

The term report presentations will be given in the following order.

#	June 18 (Wed)		
1	1133954	麥黎瓊	Mai Le Quynh
2	1102609	張道凱	Dao-Kai Chang
3	1133952	馬文	Marvin Gratza
4	1102432	謝忠志	Chung-Chih Hsieh
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