Senior Thesis Research Group (ECON 5900)

Fall 2019

Major Assignment 3: Rough Draft

This assignment is due on Friday, November 8 at 5pm. You *must* submit your proposal in Microsoft Word format. Submit your paper by email to Bobby (rbdominy@uga.edu).

Remember: This is one of three major assignments that must be submitted on time. A late assignment will result in a reduction of your course grade by one letter grade; no exceptions. You must discuss any modifications to the due date with us well in advance.

Details

Your rough draft is intended to be a first version of the final paper for this course. Hence, it should adhere to the formatting guidelines laid out in the [Senior Thesis Handbook](#) (which are copied below). There is no specific requirement as to structure. However, you might consider having the following sections:

- Introduction
- Research Method
- Data
- Results
- Interpretation and Limitations
- Conclusion

As a general rule, it is a good idea to emulate the structure, style, and format of the academic articles you have been reading for reference.

Assessment and Peer Feedback

Once we have received your rough drafts, we will redistribute them amongst the class. Each of you will be responsible for providing detailed comments on two of your peers' papers. You should do the assessment based on the Thesis Evaluation Form, which is included below. Specifically, you should:

- Make comments on the text itself, either using "Track Changes" in Word, or directly on a printed copy. Mark places where you find typos, formatting errors, or find the text confusing or unclear.
- Write a brief summary of your comments and specify, for each of the assessment areas ("competencies") included in the Evaluation Form areas where the paper is strong, and where it could improve.
- Assign a score for each competency in the Evaluation Form.

NOTE: We are not grading you based on the grade your classmates give to you. We just want your classmates to help you improve on your work before the final draft arrives on our desks. This means that the constructive criticism you provide your classmates will help them improve their final grade.

You should return your assessments to **Bobby** by November 15. The final paper is due Friday November 22.

Thesis Format

Citation Style

You will use the Turabian author-date style. The *Turabian Manual* is a recommended text for this course, but not a required one. You'll find a free online quick guide to the style [here](). Also, many of the databases you'll be using in Galileo to locate research articles have citation generators associated with them.

Title Page

This page is not numbered. Place the title about a third of the way down, centered on the page. Under the title, type "Prepared for" (followed by your faculty advisor's name), the course name, and the semester, then "Prepared by" (your name), followed by your UGA e-mail address and the date. See the sample title page below.

Abstract Page

The abstract is one paragraph no more than 150 words long. It includes the scope of the paper and its argument, and it occupies the second page by itself. The label "Abstract" should be centered above the paragraph. It is not a substitute for the introduction.

Text

This whole section should be a **maximum** of 20 pages (unless you are writing an Honors thesis). The recommended length is 15 pages.

Use 12-point Times New Roman font, and one-inch margins on all four sides. Create a right-hand header made up of a shortened version of your title and the page number. Do not leave single lines of paragraphs at page ends or beginnings. Repeat the entire title at the top of the first page of text; leave extra space between it and the first line of the text.

Your paper should be divided into sections and each section should have a descriptive title. Do not leave sections headings alone at the bottom of a page.

Tables and Figures

First, know the difference. Tables are rows and columns of data. Figures are pictures, either graphical representations of data or other visual images.

As a rule, all tables and figures should be your own. Don't cut and paste from other papers, even with proper attribution.

Introduce tables and figures before inserting or appending them.

- "Table 1 is a list of OEDC countries by GINI coefficient of income inequality."

Assign each table or figure a number and a name, centered, with the following format:

- "Figure 3: Healthcare Spending as a Percent of GDP"

Number tables separately from figures, e.g.: Table 1, Figure 1, Figure 2, etc.

Add a source line, left-aligned, below the table or figure with the following format:

- "Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov"

Do not include the source of the table/figure in the bibliography unless you cite the source elsewhere in text.

References

This list should be introduced with the heading "References," centered on the page. It should be formatted according to the Turabian author-date style. It should include only references cited in the paper.

Sample Title Page

Title

Prepared for

[advisor's name]

Economics 5900

Fall 2018

Prepared by

[your name]

UGA email address

Date

Appendix 2: Thesis Evaluation Form

Student: **Advisor:**

Date:

Assessment scoring

Score	Interpretation
1	below departmental standards
2	meets departmental standards
3	above departmental standards
4	substantially above departmental standards
N/A	Not applicable to this assessment

Competency	Mastery	Comments
Use economic concepts to organize an argument. **Score:**	The research question is tractable and sufficiently motivated.	
	The thesis statement is clear and is supported by the rest of the paper.	
	The writer accurately describes relevant economic principles and correctly applies them to support the thesis.	

Competency	Mastery	Comments
Address relevant scholarly literature on the topic. **Score:**	The writer discusses relevant economics research to provide a context for the analysis.	
	The writer refers to the secondary literature to support positive statements and/or to address issues that fall outside the scope of the writer's analysis.	
	The writer accurately describes policies, history, and/or institutions that are relevant to answering the research question.	
	The writer addresses alternative arguments or results found in the literature.	

Competency	Mastery	Comments
Use and interpret economic data.	The writer uses economic data as evidence to back up claims.	

		Comments
	The writer describes the data and articulates how the analysis addresses the research question.	
Score:	The writer discusses any limitations of the data and how those limitations affect any conclusions.	

Competency	Mastery	Comments
Understand and apply economic models. **Score:**	The writer correctly applies economic models to draw conclusions.	
	The premises of the model are described accurately, and the writer's conclusions follow logically from those premises.	

Competency	Mastery	Comments
Express ideas in clear, correct, discipline-specific prose.	The tone is clear and straightforward. The prose is free of major editing errors, and typos are rare.	
	The paper develops a thesis-driven argument. It is divided into sections that are labeled and that form a logical structure.	
Score: .	The writer uses correct and consistent citation practices. Tables and figures are correctly formatted, labeled, and sourced. The "References" page is correctly formatted and accurately reflects the literature cited in the paper.	

Grade:

First revision	
Second revision (if relevant)	
Final letter grade	

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	F
(93-100)	(90-92)	(87-89)	(83-86)	(80-82)	(77-79)	(70-76)	< 70