

## **ECON 490: *Notice of Revised Course Policies***

### **Professional Conduct**

Students who are disruptive during class, disrespectful in their interactions with other students during class, or unprofessional in interactions with peers or the professor in any setting including class, office hours, and verbal or electronic communication including email, or otherwise impede the ability of others to learn, will face possible deductions to the weekly activity component of their grades.

Students who violate these guidelines will receive formal notice from the professor via email documenting the date and nature of the incident. The email subject line will read "ECON 490: Professional Conduct Notice." For the first violation, students will face a loss of 5 percent of their overall possible Weekly Activities score. Subsequent violations will face escalating penalties in addition to prior penalties: for the 2nd violation, students will face a penalty of 20 percent, for a total deduction to their overall Weekly Activity score of 25 percent (5 percent for the first violation and 20 percent for the second). For the third violation, students will face an additional penalty of 25 percent, and in the event of a fourth violation, students will be penalized the remaining 50 percent of their overall Weekly Activity score. As an example, a student who incurs 4 violations loses 100 percent of their possible Weekly Activity score, meaning that they can earn no more than an 80 percent in the class overall (i.e., if they score 100 percent on all other grade categories and a 0 percent for the Weekly Activity category which counts for 20 percent of their final grade, they will have an 80 percent in the class overall).

### **Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy**

Some assignments will directly prompt students to use AI, in which case students are encouraged to use AI. However, when a given assignment asks for a student's own writing, all writing should be entirely in that student's own words. In particular, for all capstone assignments, including the proposal, outline, final presentation, and final paper, all writing everywhere in these assignments should be entirely in the student's own words. No writing anywhere in any of the four capstone assignments should be copied and pasted, or taken with only light changes (i.e., simply changing 1-2 words per sentence or other very minor edits) from AI sources including ChatGPT, Claude, and any other LLM-like resource.

In the event that the professor believes that a student has directly copied and pasted output from an AI into a capstone assignment or used such text with only minor or superficial changes, without providing attribution or citation, the professor reserves the right to convert that assignment to a written exam format. The professor may exercise this right if ANY of the following conditions holds: 1) there is substantial and reasonable suspicion based on stylistic inconsistencies, 2) inconsistencies with prior written work submitted by that student, or 3) there is wording highly similar to typical AI outputs including output generated by the professor.

Students will be given a written exam based on their assignment submission, and they will be graded on the basis of this exam for the relevant capstone assignment. The student will be notified of this decision via email and will then have 7 days to take an in-person, short question and / or essay-based written exam covering the contents of that particular assignment. The exam questions will assess mastery of the written portion of the relevant capstone assignment, to confirm that the student has in fact written the material they have submitted. Students failing to take the exam within 7 days of being contacted by the professor will automatically receive a 0 for that capstone assignment. Students will not be provided with a list of questions beforehand; any written content included with the student's submission will be considered relevant for inclusion as a possible exam question. The written exam will strictly cover the same content topics as those submitted in the relevant capstone assignment and will not introduce new or unrelated material. Students will be provided with a copy of their data analysis output and works cited list. Students requiring accommodations under university policy or facing exceptional circumstances will receive consideration according to standard university guidelines.

## **Responsibility for Course Materials**

Students are responsible for reviewing all course material, including lecture slides, handouts, Canvas announcements, and emails from the professor. Students are expected to carefully review all assignments and the requirements and guidelines for those assignments. Failing to attend class, or failing to pay attention during class, does not excuse students from this responsibility. Failing to be aware of course policies, assignment requirements, etc. is not an acceptable justification for failure to follow those policies.

All lecture material including slides, R coding material, reading activities, and other materials will be posted to Canvas and organized via “Weekly Overview” pages posted to the course Modules page. All assignments for this class will have a dedicated Canvas Assignments page. I am always happy to answer questions that you have about course material or assignment requirements, either via email or during office hours. Students with documented accommodations or emergency situations should notify me as soon as possible in the event that there is a situation which prevents their access to relevant course material.