

# AREC 570/ECON 530 Syllabus Fall 2017

## Course Information:

Course Title: Methodology of Economic Research  
Meeting: MWF 1:00 – 1:50 PM  
Location: Animal Science Building Room 33

## Instructor: Jude Bayham

Office: B303 Clark Building  
Phone: 970-491-2836  
Email: jbayham@colostate.edu  
Office Hours: Mon and Wed 2:00 –3:00 PM and by appointment

**Course Description:** We will study the philosophical foundations of science and research. You will develop skills for planning, performing, reporting, and evaluating economic research. My goal with this course is to make you think critically about the research process. As is the case with most subjects, students tend to learn best by putting the concepts into practice. We will read about research methodology. You will then analyze the logic and reasoning of other's research as well as develop your own research project.

## Course Materials:

Ethridge, Don (2004) Research Methodology in Applied Economics. Wiley-Blackwell. ISBN: 978-0-8138-2994-4.  
<http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0813829941.html>

**Course Website:** I will use Canvas for communicating and updating information, assignments, and posting relevant online materials. I will also maintain a class schedule in google sheets that will contain reading assignments and due dates.

**Course Expectations:** You are expected to check their CSU email regularly for course-related information, readings, and possibly assignments. Replies and correspondence will only be sent to @colostate.edu addresses. I can best be reached by email, and I will try to respond promptly. When many students have the same kind of question, I may reply to the entire class or post documents to the class website.

**Project:** You will write and revise a research paper (PhD students) or a research proposal (MS students). You are free to choose your research topic but IT MUST BE APPROVED BY INSTRUCTOR. You may select a research topic you are already using for another class if you specifically obtain permission from your other instructor. Ideally, the research project will be a chapter in your dissertation or a foundation for your thesis. The research project will be broken out into five parts so that I can monitor your progress throughout the course.

- Part 1 Research Question: develop a clear and appropriate research question
- Part 2 Introduction and Literature Review: write the introduction and literature review section of your project
- Part 3 First Draft: complete the first draft of the project containing all required sections
- Part 4 Review: write a formal review of a classmate's project.
- Part 5 Final Draft: complete the final draft of the project including a formal response to the reviewer

**Participation:** You are expected to read the assigned material, participate in discussions during class, and complete any additional assignments. I will post the readings on a shared google drive or on the course page in Canvas. I will assign a TBD number of short writing assignments. The writing assignments will ask you to apply the techniques discussed in class to analyze some aspect the research process.

**Course Outline and Content:**

- Research Methodology Foundations
- Research Project Design
  - Planning
  - Developing Economic Research Questions
- The Writing Process:
  - Introduction
  - Literature Review
  - Theory
  - Data (maybe a short detour on data management and collection)
  - Empirical Model
  - Conclusion
- The Publication Process:
  - Selecting a Journal
  - Reviewing Research
- Ethics in Research

## Grading:

Participation	15%
Project:	
Research Question	10%
Introduction and Literature Review	10%
First Draft	20%
Review	15%
Final Draft	10%

Grades will be updated throughout the semester on Canvas. Grades will be based on the following scale:

Letter	% Range
A	[93,100]
A-	[90,93)
B+	[87,90)
B	[83,87)
B-	[80,83)
C+	[77,80)
C	[70,77)
D	[60,70)
F	[0,60)

## Principles of Community

The Principles of Community support the Colorado State University mission and vision of access, research, teaching, service and engagement. A collaborative, and vibrant community is a foundation for learning, critical inquiry, and discovery. Therefore, each member of the CSU community has a responsibility to uphold these principles when engaging with one another and acting on behalf of the University.

- **Inclusion:** We create and nurture inclusive environments and welcome, value and affirm all members of our community, including their various identities, skills, ideas, talents, and contributions.
- **Integrity:** We are accountable for our actions and will act ethically and honestly in all our interactions.
- **Respect:** We honor the inherent dignity of all people within an environment where we are committed to freedom of expression, critical discourse, and the advancement of knowledge.
- **Service:** We are responsible, individually and collectively, to give of our time, talents, and resources to promote the well-being of each other and the development of our local, regional, and global communities.
- **Social Justice:** We have the right to be treated and the responsibility to treat others with fairness and equity, the duty to challenge prejudice, and to uphold the laws, policies and procedures that promote justice in all respects.

## **Mental Health statement**

Need Help? CSU is a community that cares for you. If you are struggling with drugs or alcohol and/or experiencing depression, anxiety, overwhelming stress or thoughts of hurting yourself or others please know there is help available. Counseling Services has trained professionals who can help. Contact 970.491.6053 or go to <http://health.colostate.edu>. If you are concerned about a friend or peer, tell someone at by calling 970.491.1350 to discuss your concerns with a professional who can discreetly connect the distressed individual with the proper resources (<http://supportandsafety.colostate.edu/tellsomeone>). Rams take care of Rams. Reach out and ask for help if you or someone you know is having a difficult time.

Sexual Assault and Violence Elimination CSU's Student Sexual Harassment and Violence policy, following national guidance from the Office of Civil Rights, requires that professors follow CSU policy as a "mandatory reporter" of any personal disclosure of sexual harassment, abuse, and/or violence related experiences or incidents shared with the professor in person, via email, and/or in classroom papers or homework exercises. These disclosures include but are not limited to reports of personal relational abuse, relational/domestic violence, and stalking. While professors are often able to help students locate appropriate channels of assistance on campus (e.g., see the CSU Health Network link below), disclosure by the student to the professor requires that the professor inform appropriate CSU channels to help ensure that the student's safety and welfare is being addressed, even if the student requests that the disclosure not be shared.

For counseling support and assistance, please see The CSU HEALTH NETWORK, which includes a variety of counseling services that can be accessed at: <http://www.health.colostate.edu/>. And, The Sexual Assault Victim Assistance Team is a confidential resource for students that does not have a reporting requirement and that can be of great help to students who have experienced sexual assault. The web address is <http://www.wgac.colostate.edu/need-help-support>.