

# AREC 570/Econ 530 Syllabus Fall 2019

## Course Information:

Course Title: Methodology of Economic Research  
Meeting: MW 1:00 – 1:50 PM  
Location: Online [Join Teams](#)

## Instructor: Jude Bayham

Phone: 970-491-2836  
Email: [jbayham@colostate.edu](mailto:jbayham@colostate.edu)  
Office Hours: By appointment ([Schedule Meeting](#))

**Course Description:** We will study the philosophical foundations of science and research with particular emphasis on the field of economics. 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 proposal.

## 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>

Additional readings shared through Google Drive accessible via Canvas.

**Course Website:** Canvas will serve as the portal for accessing course materials. Readings, class schedule, and other material will be posted in CSU Google Drive, which means you will need to use your CSU email address to login to google in order to access the material.

**Course Expectations:** You are expected to check Canvas and your CSU email regularly for course-related information, readings, and possibly assignments. Replies and correspondence will only be sent to @rams.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.

**Proposal:** You will write and revise a research proposal on a topic of your choice. 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 proposal will be a chapter in your dissertation or a foundation for your thesis. The research proposal will be broken out

into five parts so that I can provide feedback throughout the proposal.

- Part 1 Research Idea Pitch: 3-minute presentation of the research idea (elevator pitch)
- Part 2 Research Question and Outline: develop a clear and appropriate research question; outline the paper/proposal
- Part 3 Introduction and Literature Review: write the introduction and literature review section of your proposal
- Part 4 First Draft: complete the first draft of the proposal containing all required sections
- Part 5 Review: write a formal review of a classmate's proposal.
- Part 6 Paper/Proposal Presentation: 15-minute presentation of research findings
- Part 7 Final Draft: complete the final draft of the proposal including a formal response to the reviewer

**Participation:** You are expected to read the assigned material, participate in discussions during class meetings online, 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. I will also assign someone to lead the discussion for a select number of reading assignments. In this role, you will prepare questions to guide the discussion having read the article.

### **Course Outline and Content:**

- Research Methodology Foundations
- Research Project Design
  - Planning a project
  - Developing Economic Research Questions
- The Writing Process:
  - Introduction
  - Literature Review
  - Theory
  - Data
  - Empirical Model
  - Conclusion
- Other Aspect of Research:
  - Presenting
  - Selecting a Outlet or Funding Opportunity
  - Reviewing Research and Responding to Reviews
  - Ethics in Research (Institutional Review Board)

- Ethics in Research

**Grading:**

Participation	25%
Proposal:	
Research Pitch	5%
Research Question	5%
Introduction and Literature Review	10%
First Draft	15%
Review	10%
Presentation	5%
Final Draft	25%

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.

## **Need Help? Rams Take Care of Rams**

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 by calling 970.491.1350 (or visit <http://safety.colostate.edu/tell-someone.aspx>) to discuss your concerns with a professional who can discreetly connect the distressed individual with the proper resources. Rams take care of Rams. Reach out and ask for help if you or someone you know is having a difficult time.

## **Title IX: Sexual Assault, Sexual Violence, Sexual Harassment:**

CSU's Discrimination, Harassment, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking, and Retaliation policy designates faculty and employees of the University as "Responsible Employees." This designation is consistent with federal law and guidance, and requires faculty to report information regarding students who may have experienced any form of sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, relationship violence, stalking or retaliation. This includes information shared with faculty in person, electronic communications or in class assignments. As "Responsible Employees," faculty may refer students to campus resources (see below), together with informing the Office of Support and Safety Assessment to help ensure student safety and welfare. Information regarding sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, relationship violence, stalking and retaliation is treated with the greatest degree of confidentiality possible while also ensuring student and campus safety.

Any student who may be the victim of sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, relationship violence, stalking or retaliation is encouraged to report to CSU through one or more of the following resources: -Emergency Response 911 -Deputy Title IX Coordinator/Office of Support and Safety Assessment (970) 491-1350 -Colorado State University Police Department (non-emergency) (970) 491-6425

Please Visit: <http://oeo.colostate.edu/title-ix-sexual-assault> for more information.

## **Service Animals in the Classroom**

This course will follow all of the policies regarding service animal access to the classroom.

The full university policy may be found here: <http://policylibrary.colostate.edu/policy.aspx?id=747>.

**POLICY STATEMENT** The University will not discriminate against individuals with disabilities who use service dogs, nor, subject to the terms of this Policy, deny those persons access to programs, services and facilities of the University. In addition, only under certain limited conditions as stated in this policy, the University may permit an individual with a documented disability to have an Emotional Support Animal in a University residential facility. Pets are not permitted in any University building, including residence halls, except for the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and other veterinary facilities in accordance with their rules and policies, or when otherwise specially allowed with advance approval from Environmental Health Services for bona fide academic or University business purposes.

**Service Dogs** Subject to some limitations, a service dog may accompany an individual with a disability throughout campus, such as in classrooms, recreational facilities and campus residences. It is strongly encouraged, but not required, that a service dog be identifiable to others through a visible signifier (e.g., vest or harness). Individuals with a disability who require a service dog in the classroom should contact Resources for Disabled Students (RDS) for assistance with accommodations.

**Emotional Support Animals** An emotional support animal (ESA) is one that alleviates one or more identified symptoms or effects of a person's disability. ESAs are not permitted in university buildings, except in the rare situation where use of an ESA in University housing is approved in advance by the University upon the submission of appropriate documentation, as set forth in this policy.

ESAs are not permitted in non-residential buildings such as classrooms, laboratories, business offices, recreational facilities, dining halls, or the Lory Student Center; they are limited to the disabled individual's residence in a University residence hall, apartment, or other housing unit, and permitted only with prior approval.

**Plagiarism and Academic Integrity** We take the issue of academic integrity very seriously in this course. You are expected to do your own work and to not access notes or the web during an exam, copy from someone else's exam or to provide exam answers to another student during an exam. We reserve the right to proctor all exams and will take actions to ensure that all students are following this policy.

**Plagiarism** "Plagiarism includes the copying of language, structure, ideas, or thoughts of another, and representing them as one's own without proper acknowledgment. Examples include a submission of purchased research papers as one's own work; paraphrasing and/or quoting material without properly documenting the source" (CSU Policies and Guiding Principles, 2017-2018).

Our motivation for rigorously enforcing a no-plagiarism policy is twofold: First, plagiarism

is a form of theft. Taking someone else's words or ideas without attribution is stealing someone else's work. Second, copying someone else's work does not fulfill the purpose of the assignment, which is for you to develop critical thinking and analysis skills. You demonstrate this by presenting your own, new, synthesis and analysis in your writing. Simply copying or paraphrasing from source materials does not demonstrate this, however insightful the source(s) may be. Good writing generates new knowledge. This should be your goal in this class, in other courses at CSU and in your career after you leave here.

In this course all written work will be spot checked for plagiarism issues by both instructors and originality checking software such as VeriCite. If you are caught plagiarizing materials you will receive a 0 for the assignment/exam/project, and depending upon the severity of the offense, an F in the course. All examples of plagiarism or academic dishonesty and will be reported to the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct Services for additional disciplinary action as outlined in the student handbook under the heading "academic integrity/Misconduct" <http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/policies/students-responsibilities/>.

### **Canvas Email System Utilization**

Using the University's systems or networks for personal gain; for example, by selling access to your eID or to university systems or networks, or by performing work for profit with university resources (e.g. selling your notes or promoting a personal agenda) in a manner not authorized by the University is strictly forbidden within the CSU Code of Conduct and also CSU's policy for Acceptable Use for Computing and Networking Resources. All cases of this type of code violation will be reported to the Office of Conflict Resolution and Case Management and dealt with following CSU legal counsel guidance.