

Course Outline

EE439 Seminar in Monetary and Financial Economics

Semester 2/2024 (January 20 – May 14, 2025)

Number of Credit: 3

Prerequisite: Having completed at least two 400-level (or the above level) courses in the field of Monetary and Financial Economics.

We assume that students have strong interest in conducting research in the area of monetary and financial economics. Students should have no trouble with basic econometrics (e.g. multivariable OLS).

Course Description: Seminar and research on topics in Monetary and Financial Economics under the supervision of the lecturer.

Course Objectives:

The main objective of this course is to get students to think critically and research systematically on the current issues in monetary and financial economics, which may include central banking, financial markets, capital flows and exchange rate, and selected topics on financial crises. Students are expected to proactively read on current issues, dynamically participate in class discussion, and conduct your own independent research. The course is designed such that students would apply economic theories and quantitative analyses to real-world questions of modern-day monetary and financial economics. The ultimate goal of the course is to effectively transition students into a role of an active monetary and/or financial economist.

The objective of this class is to help students develop applied research skills that will be valuable in their future professional and/or academic lives. The topics covered in your research can be vary widely, including macroeconomics and Finance, financial institutions and markets, monetary and fiscal policy, international trade and finance, foreign currency markets, world commodity markets, employment and wages, housing sales and prices, and forecasting. Every effort is made to match students with areas to cover that are consistent with their research interests and professional aspirations.

Specific applied research skills that will be developed or strengthened in the class include:

- Strong knowledge of closely-followed macroeconomic and financial statistics and ability to interpret them.
- Agility in using computer programming to manipulate data (e.g. to make charts, perform computations)
- Basic proficiency in a widely-used econometric software packages, Eviews, Stata, Matlab, R-studio which will be used to manipulate data and run basic time-series analyses.
- Ability to express your ideas clearly and persuasively in writing
- Ability to make top-notch presentations and answer questions under pressure
- Ability to work productively in a team -- including giving feedback to others and getting and using feedback from others to improve your own work
- Experience in producing your own analysis of a topic of current interest in macroeconomics, finance, or international economics, which can serve as an example of your work for prospective employers or graduate-school applications

Course literature

Course material is provided on google classroom. Suggestions for research topics and information about the paper, presentation, and discussion will be presented and discussed in the introductory meeting.

Additional course information

- Attendance during the introductory lecture is strongly recommended.
- The research paper has to be written individually and discussion paper should be presented individually or in groups of two students. Group work is encouraged.
- Students are required to be present during all presentations and discussions.
- All students are requested to participate actively in all discussions.

Class Time and Logistic	
Class day:	Saturday
Class time:	09.00 – 12.00 hrs.
Venue:	Room 202, Faculty of Economics
Teaching Materials Platform:	Google classroom (code to join) x4nsfjj

Instructor:**Instructor:****Name:** Assistant Professor Dr. Wasin Siwasarit**Office Hours:** Thursday 13.30-15.30 or Saturday 13.30-15.00 or
by appointment**Email:** Wasin@econ.tu.ac.th**Office Room:** 455**Expected Learning Outcomes****1. Morality and Ethics**

Applicability	Expected Learning Outcomes	Evaluation Method
●	1. Students demonstrate integrity.	Leading discussion /research paper
○	2. Students prioritize social and public benefits over personal ones.	Leading discussion /research paper
●	3. Students are punctual and comply with the code of conduct of the institution and society at large.	Leading discussion /research paper
●	4. Students are responsible and accountable to society, the nation, and the subject of economics.	Leading discussion /research paper
○	5. Students realize the cultural and environmental value of a sustainable society.	

2. Knowledge

Applicability	Expected Learning Outcomes	Evaluation Method
●	1. Students know and understand modern economics principles and theories, and are up to date with new developments.	Leading discussion /research paper
●	2. Students know and understand Thai and global economic structure and the importance of major international economic events.	Leading discussion /research paper
●	3. Students know and understand the instruments of economic analysis.	Leading discussion /research paper
●	4. Students know and understand applied fields in economics, including monetary, public, international, business, natural resource, and environmental, industrial, agricultural, cooperative, political, developmental,	Leading discussion /research paper

Applicability	Expected Learning Outcomes	Evaluation Method
	and entrepreneurial economics as well as agribusiness.	
○	5. Students are informed about related fields including sociology, business administration, education, law policy, and science.	

3. Intellectual Development

Applicability	Expected Learning Outcomes	Evaluation Method
●	1. Students have developed individual critical thinking.	Leading discussion /research paper
●	2. Students are sufficiently trained in research skills.	Leading discussion /research paper
●	3. Students demonstrate an ability to analyze and synthesize data, as well as appropriately integrate economics concepts to understand the causes of current economic problems in Thailand. Based on analysis and synthesis, students demonstrate an ability to propose policy guidelines to resolve problems.	Leading discussion /research paper

4. Interpersonal Skills and Responsibilities

Applicability	Expected Learning Outcomes	Evaluation Method
●	1. Students are responsible for assigned tasks and work in groups effectively.	Leading discussion /research paper
●	2. Students have problem-solving skills.	Leading discussion /research paper
○	3. Students show leadership skills and team spirit.	Leading discussion /research paper
●	4. Students are always improving themselves.	Leading discussion /research paper
●	5. Students have good interpersonal skills, adapt, and work under different conditions.	Leading discussion /research paper

5. Quantitative Analysis, communication, and information technology

Applicability	Expected Learning Outcomes	Evaluation Method
●	1. Students select and apply appropriate statistical and mathematical methods for data processing, interpretation, conclusions, and recommendations to resolve problems.	Leading discussion /research paper
●	2. Students communicate effectively and select appropriate presentation methods.	Leading discussion /research paper
●	3. Students use information and communication technologies appropriately to gather data as well as process, interpret, and present results.	Leading discussion /research paper

Remark: ● Primary expected outcome ○ Secondary expected

Some Useful References

Becker, H. *Writing For Social Scientists* (University of Chicago Press, 1986).

Booth, W. and M. Gregory *The Harper and Row Rhetoric: Writing As Thinking/ Thinking As Writing* (Harper &Row, 1987).

Graves, R. and A. Hodge. *The Reader Over Your Shoulder* 2nd Edition, (Random House, 1979).

Horner, W.; S. Webb and R. Miller. *Harbrace College Handbook* 12th Edition (Harcourt Brace, 1994).

Mc Closkey, D. *Economical Writing* (Waveland Press, 1999).

----. *The Rhetoric of Economics* (University of Wisconsin Press, 1985).

Pindyck, R. and D. Rubinfeld. *Econometric Models and Economic Forecasts* 4th Edition (Irwin, McGraw Hill, 1998).

Turabian, K. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 7th edition (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007).

Strunk, W. and E. B. White. *Elements of Style* 3rd Edition (Macmillan, 1979).

Thomson, W. *A Guide for the Young Economist: Writing and Speaking Effectively about Economics* (MIT Press, 2001).

Williams, J. *Style: Ten Lessons in Clarity and Grace*, 2nd Edition (Scott, Foresman, 1985).

Wyrick, T. *The Economist's Handbook: A Guide To Research and Writing* (West Publishing, 1994).

Grading Criteria:

Seminar	30%
Leading discussion (2 persons/group) (overall understanding / presentation skills)	15%
Participating in class discussions	15%
Research Paper	70%
Proposal	10%
1st Result Presentation	10%
Final Presentation (Overall understanding of issue / discussion of methods and results / presentation skills, Q&A)	20%
Final draft	30%

Grade assignments follow the Thammasat grading system.

Tentative Class Schedule:

week(Week)	Topic / Content
week 1: 25 January 2025	Introduction
week 2: 1 February 2025	Recap: Econometrics 101 for the research paper (Computer Lab)
week 3: 8 February 2025	Brainstorming on your research questions Leading discussion (2 papers)
week 4: 15 February 2025	The role of economic models in empirical research, testable hypotheses Leading discussion (2 papers)
week 5: 22 February 2025	Brainstorming on economic models Leading discussion (2 papers)
week 6: 1 March 2025	Finding data (Computer Lab) Leading discussion (2 papers)
week 7: 22 March 2025	Finding and formatting data; econometric modeling (Computer Lab) Leading discussion (2 papers)
week 8: 29 March 2025	Finding and formatting data; econometric modeling (Computer Lab) Leading discussion (2 papers)
week 9: 5 April 2025	1st Result Presentation

week(Week)	Topic / Content
week 10: 19 April 2025	Leading discussion (2 papers)
week 11: 26 April 2025	Brainstorming on your research output
week 12: 3 May 2025	Brainstorming on your research output
week 13: 10 May 2025	Final Presentation
Submit the final paper: June 5, 2025	