ECO 405: Seminar in Economics
Syllabus

John Jay College of Criminal Justice-City University of New York
Instructors: Professors Jay Hamilton & Cathy Mulder
Fall 2015

Class Meeting Time: Tuesdays & Thursdays 12:15-1:30
Room: 3.78 New Building

Professor Hamilton
Office: 3501 North Hall, 445 West 59th Street, New York, NY 10019
E-mail: jhmailton@jjay.cuny.edu
Phone: (212) 237-8093
Office Hours: By appointment, but I am often in my office for drop-in consultation.

Professor Mulder
Office: 3505 North Hall, 445 West 59th Street, New York, NY 10019
E-mail: cmulder@jjay.cuny.edu
Phone: (212) 484-1309
Office Hours: By appointment, but I am often in my office for drop-in consultation.

Course Description:
This seminar is a culmination of the economics major. In this course students will synthesize the various topics and techniques acquired in previous economics courses into the production of a significant research project. The project will include substantial analysis, policy recommendations and oral & written presentations. Students will engage in extensive peer review.

Instructional Objectives:
1. Students will choose wisely among several topics for in-depth research
2. Students will employ analytical and quantitative skills to research topics in economics
3. Students will lead detailed discussions of economic topics
4. Students will engage in peer-review
5. Students will demonstrate professional presentation skills: production of clear visual aids, clear oral summaries and responsiveness to questions

Texts:

Grading
Assignments – 5%
In-class essay – 5%
Proposal Paper 5% (Students may change their topic, but they must submit a second proposal paper by 10/15/15.)
Proposal Presentation 5%
Bibliography and Outline – 5%
Update Presentation – 5%
Draft – 5%
Peer-Review - 5%
Final Presentation 25%
Final paper – 35%
**Grading Details**

**Exercises:**
Periodically you will be assigned exercises from your textbook and elsewhere; directions will be provided.

**In Class Writing Assignment:**
You will be given an article from the NY Times or other periodical to assess in writing during class. There is no make-up for this assignment, so be sure to be in class.

**Research Project:**
Students will produce a major research project examining an Economic issue. The project should be conducted with a high degree of collaboration with the instructors. The final paper should be approximately 20-pages. Students must include references to scholarly articles. Students will engage in peer-review. Students will give a twenty minute presentation on their research in class at the end of the semester. More details, including expectations and grading, will be explained during “Research Workshops” throughout the semester.

**Proposal Presentations Grading Rubric:**
Each presentation will be 5 minutes with an additional 10 minutes of discussion.
1 percentage point for each of the following:
- Clear statement of topic
- Clear statement of the reason for your topic selection
- Clear diction and delivery – NO READING – you may use notes
- Ability to engage in discussion about the topic
- Attending and participating in all the other presentations

**Proposal Paper grading rubric:**
1 percentage point for each of the following:
- Clear statement of topic
- Clear statement of the reason for your topic selection
- Clear statement on how your topic fits with your education in Economics
- At least one page of writing
- Proper grammar and organization

**Bibliography and Outline Rubric**
To be determined

**Update Presentation Rubric**
Each presentation will be 10 minutes with an additional 5 minutes of questions and answers.
1 percentage point for each of the following:
- Clear report of the information sources found
- Clear summary of one peer-reviewed journal article
- Clear diction and delivery – NO READING – you may use notes
- Ability to engage in discussion about the topic
- Attending and participating in all the other presentations

**Draft**
1 percentage point deduction for each calendar day the draft is late

**Peer-Review**
1 percentage point deduction for each calendar day the Peer-Review is late
College Policies

Academic Integrity Policy
For the entire policy on academic integrity please go to:
http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/academic-integrity

Plagiarism is the act of presenting another person’s ideas, research or writings as your own. The following are some examples of plagiarism, but by no means is it an exhaustive list:

• Copying another person’s actual words without the use of quotation marks and footnotes attributing the words to their source
• Presenting another person’s ideas or theories in your own words without acknowledging the source
• Using information that is not common knowledge without acknowledging the source
• Failing to acknowledge collaborators on homework and laboratory assignments

Internet plagiarism includes submitting downloaded term papers or part of term papers, paraphrasing or copying information from the Internet without citing the source, and “cutting and pasting” from various sources without proper attribution.

(From the John Jay College of Criminal Justice Graduate Bulletin, p. 89)

Students who are unsure how and when to provide documentation are advised to consult with their instructors. The Library has free guides designed to help students with problems of documentation.

We will use Turnitin.com. Class ID: 10455102 Password: Graduate

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policies
Qualified students with disabilities will be provided reasonable academic accommodations if determined eligible by the Office of Accessibility Services (OAS). Prior to granting disability accommodations in this course, the instructor must receive written verification of a student’s eligibility from the OAS which is located at L66 in the new building (212-237-8031). It is the student’s responsibility to initiate contact with the office and to follow the established procedures for having the accommodation notice sent to the instructor.

Incomplete Grade Policy
An Incomplete Grade will only be assigned in exceptional circumstances. See the College Bulletin for full details.

Extra Work Policy
No extra credit assignments will be available to any student at any time during or after this course. In exceptional circumstances students may receive substitute assignments at the discretion of the instructor.

Co-curricular Research Opportunities

• The Omar Azfar Annual Award for Best Writing on Economics and Corruption is a $1,000 award to the John Jay Student that submits the best paper on the economics of corruption. More information to follow.
• Celebrating Student Research and Creativity Week takes place in the spring semester. John Jay students from all majors get to showcase their research in presentations, scholarships and poster board sessions. Submissions will be due in early March.
# Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>What</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>Topic/Activity/Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 27</td>
<td>Introductions</td>
<td>Prof. Hamilton</td>
<td>Setting expectations for the class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 1</td>
<td>Writing Workshop</td>
<td>Prof. Mulder</td>
<td>Reading: Hacker TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 3</td>
<td>Research Workshop: Proposal Papers and Proposal Presentations</td>
<td>Prof. Hamilton</td>
<td>Be prepared to discuss your ideas on possible topics.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 8</td>
<td>Research Workshop</td>
<td>Prof. Mulder</td>
<td>Reading: Hacker TBA, Exercises TBA.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 17</td>
<td>Proposal Presentations</td>
<td>Student A, Student B, Student C, Student D</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 24</td>
<td>Proposal Presentations</td>
<td>Student E, Student F, Student G, Student H</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 29</td>
<td>Writing Workshop</td>
<td>Prof. Mulder</td>
<td>Reading: Hacker TBA, Exercises TBA.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 1</td>
<td>Proposal Presentations</td>
<td>Student I, Student J, Student K</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 6</td>
<td>Proposal Papers Due, Editing Workshop</td>
<td>Prof. Hamilton</td>
<td>We will edit each other’s Proposal Papers in class.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 13</td>
<td>Writing Workshop</td>
<td>Prof. Mulder</td>
<td>Reading: Hacker TBA, Exercises TBA.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 15</td>
<td>In-Class Essay, Last day to submit alternative proposal paper</td>
<td>Prof. Hamilton</td>
<td>In-class Essay, Be prepared to write!</td>
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<td>Oct. 20</td>
<td>Writing Workshop</td>
<td>Prof. Mulder</td>
<td>Reading: Hacker TBA, Exercises TBA.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 22</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Prof. Hamilton</td>
<td>We are holding this day to make adjustments as needed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 27</td>
<td>Writing Workshop, Bibliography &amp; Outline Due</td>
<td>Prof. Mulder</td>
<td>Reading: Hacker TBA, Exercises TBA.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 29</td>
<td>Research Updates</td>
<td>Student H&lt;br&gt;Student G&lt;br&gt;Student F&lt;br&gt;Student E</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 3</td>
<td>Writing Workshop</td>
<td>Prof. Mulder</td>
<td>Reading: Hacker TBA&lt;br&gt;Exercises TBA.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 5</td>
<td>Research Updates</td>
<td>Student K&lt;br&gt;Student J&lt;br&gt;Student I&lt;br&gt;Student A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 10</td>
<td>Writing Workshop</td>
<td>Prof. Mulder</td>
<td>Reading: Hacker TBA&lt;br&gt;Exercises TBA.</td>
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<td>Nov. 12</td>
<td>Research Updates</td>
<td>Student D&lt;br&gt;Student C&lt;br&gt;Mirza Baig</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 17</td>
<td>Writing Workshop&lt;br&gt;Drafts Due</td>
<td>Prof. Mulder</td>
<td>Reading: Hacker TBA&lt;br&gt;Exercises TBA.</td>
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<td>Nov. 19</td>
<td>Presentation Workshop</td>
<td>Prof. Hamilton</td>
<td>The Dos and Don’ts of PowerPoint.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 24</td>
<td>Writing Workshop&lt;br&gt;Peer-Reviews Due</td>
<td>Prof. Mulder</td>
<td>Reading: Hacker TBA&lt;br&gt;Exercises TBA.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 1</td>
<td>Research Presentations</td>
<td>Student K&lt;br&gt;Chrsitina Bouquet&lt;br&gt;Student I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 3</td>
<td>Research Presentations</td>
<td>Student A&lt;br&gt;Student D&lt;br&gt;Student C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 8</td>
<td>Research Presentations</td>
<td>Mirza Baig&lt;br&gt;Student E&lt;br&gt;Student F</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
<td>Research Presentations</td>
<td>Student G&lt;br&gt;Student H</td>
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<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Final Examination Period</td>
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<td>TBD</td>
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*The Agenda is subject to change with prior announcement from the instructors.*