Guidelines for Econometrics Paper/Project

Proposal Due: March 25th

Paper and Presentation Due: May 13th

Please note that overall, this is worth 20% of your grade. Do not take this assignment lightly.

Paper/Proposal__________ Presentation__________

The Proposal:

By March 25th, you must know the topic, literature availability, and data availability for your project. To make sure that this is being carried out, you must turn in the following:

1. A one-paragraph discussion of what you are trying to research
2. A list of hypotheses you will be testing
3. A list of no fewer than 5 sources that have researched this topic
4. Either a copy of the actual data that you will be using or a link to a website that has this data

Late proposals will knock 10% off your grade each class that it is late. No exceptions.

Obviously, this proposal cannot be done in an hour the night before it is due. I would get started on this immediately.

The Paper:

The following sections must be included in your paper:

1. Title
2. Abstract
3. Introduction
4. Literature Review
5. Theory
6. Data
7. Results
8. Conclusions
9. References/Sources

The paper must be 10-15 pages typed, double-spaced with font size 10-12 and margins 1 inch wide on the top, bottom, left, and right.
You must also attach and turn in a photocopy or printout of all raw data as well as a STATA log file that you used to obtain your results.

_Late papers will not be accepted. In other words, a paper that is not turned in by May 13\textsuperscript{th} will be recorded as a 0 for this part of your grade._

**The Presentation:**

You have 2 choices here.

1. 5-10 minute oral presentation
2. Poster presentation

_You must be prepared to present on May 6\textsuperscript{th}._

**Choosing a Topic:**

There are really 3 ways you can go about this:

1. Choose a topic that is interesting to you and then go find data and the appropriate literature.
2. Read a few journals and find a topic that is interesting and then search for the data.
3. Look through some available data and choose an interesting topic among the data, then find appropriate literature related to this topic.

**Finding Literature:**

1. The CSUS Library
2. The CSUS Library website – [http://www.library.csus.edu/](http://www.library.csus.edu/)
3. Search the web
4. Browse through Economic journals/magazines
5. JSTOR and ECONLIT
6. Newspapers
Finding Data:

1. Collect it yourself
2. Get in online

Macro/Regional Data:

http://www.bea.doc.gov/
http://www.bls.gov/
http://www.cbo.gov/
http://www.lib.virginia.edu/socsci/nipa/

Other Data:

http://www.econ-datalinks.org/
http://odwin.ucsd.edu/idata/
http://www.census.gov/
http://rfe.wustl.edu/Data/OtherUS/index.html
http://www.oir.csus.edu/

There are many, many other sites!

3. Find it in a journal or book.

Don’t Forget About:

1. using several independent variables
2. dummy variables
3. various specifications/functional forms
4. summary statistics
5. looking for outliers
6. hypothesis testing – single coefficients
7. hypothesis testing – multiple coefficients
8. multicollinearity
9. autocorrelation
10. heteroskedasticity
11. omitted variables
12. irrelevant variables
13. etc.
14. etc.