

ECONOMICS 145 Economic Research Methods

Spring 2010

Assignment 2 Research Proposal

Due date: 2/18/2010 in class

Instructions:

The proposal should be roughly three pages long. With all the appropriate information included, it should not be shorter than two and a half pages.

Your proposal must contain the following elements:

1. Motivation and statement of your research problem/question
 - Explain why the issue at hand is important, citing numbers/fact if possible.
2. A brief survey of the literature.
 - Summarize the most relevant scholarly articles (journal articles) very briefly
3. The economic theory and economic analysis (with citations when possible) about the problem
4. The construction of the data, with descriptions and sources. You need to be as specific as possible.
5. Methodology
 - You do not need to be too specific yet. However, you do need to specify your dependent variable and potential independent variables.
 - Also, according to the theory you stated in section 3, formulate the hypothesis that you'll be testing.
6. References

Some reminders:

1. You will present your proposal in class, so please make sure you do a good job on this.
2. You may not be able to make your proposal as specific as you wish. In any case, you should still try to do your best. View the proposal as a game plan or road map to your project. The better plan you have, the easier it is to carry it out.
3. If you finished your proposal early, I would be more than willing to take a look at it and provide feedback. Please email the file to me if you want me to look over it.