



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY

ECONOMICS

Econ 493: Seminar

FALL 2016

Faculty: J. Rosborough (Coordinator)
C. Christian
Z. Özkök
T. Leo

Lectures
Fridays: 2:15pm – 5:00pm
Schwartz 289

Description of the Course

This is a seminar course designed to introduce students to current research issues in various fields of Economics. Students will be expected to read and critically analyze significant historical or recent research papers, and/or to complete assignments related to these readings. They will also be exposed to the art of presenting research findings, as department faculty and visiting speakers will present some of their latest research. In 2016, students will be exposed to topics ranging from dynamic time-consistency problems to economic history and empirical work.

Objectives and Learning Outcomes

The course has two main objectives:

- (1) To expose students to recent research issues in various fields of Economics, thereby enabling them to craft interesting and relevant research questions of their own; and
- (2) To prepare students for graduate study by demonstrating the steps for the successful completion of an independent research project, from the development of an idea to the written and verbal presentation of results.

Prerequisite

Permission of one of the instructors.

COURSE SCHEDULE



Sept. 9: J. Rosborough (part I)

- **Lecture: Security of Property Rights and FDI**

Sept. 16: Visiting Speaker - **Marina Adshade (UBC)**

Sept. 23: J. Rosborough (part II)

- Assignment #1 Presentations (Students) & Public Seminar (Rosborough)

Sept. 30: Visiting Speaker – **Dozie Okoye (Dalhousie University)**

Oct. 7: *Fall Study Day – No Class*

Oct. 14: C. Christian (part I)

- **Lecture: Causality in Economic History**

Oct 21: C. Christian (part II)

- Assignment #2 Presentations (Students) & Public Seminar (Christian)

Oct 28: Z. Özkök (part I)

- **Lecture: Education Financing and Related Issues**

Nov 4: Z. Özkök (part II)

- Assignment #3 Presentations (Students) & Public Seminar (Özkök)

Nov 11: *Remembrance Day – No Class*

Nov 18: Visiting Speaker – **Craig Brett (Mount Allison University)**

Nov 25: T. Leo (part I)

- **Lecture: Nonparametric Econometrics and the Rationale for its Application in Economics**

Dec 2: T. Leo (part II)

- Assignment #4 Presentations (Students) & Public Seminar (Leo)

Evaluation

Your grade for the course will be determined by the following weighting scheme:

- Class Assignments 80%
- SSHRC Proposal 10%
- Class Participation 10%

This course has no examinations. You are expected to attend all lectures.
