

## ECON 396: INVESTMENT, CAPITAL, AND FINANCE

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<b>Instructor:</b> Yael Jacobs (she/her)	<b>Time:</b> TR 10:30–12:20
<b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:jjacobs7@uw.edu">jjacobs7@uw.edu</a>	<b>Place:</b> Savery 162

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### Course Pages:

- <https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1718698>

**Objectives:** This course will allow Honors students in economics to hear about the research work carried out by the economics faculty. Each week a different member of the department will present either his/her area of expertise or some specific research he/she is carrying out at this point. The faculty will be aware that these presentations have to be understood by undergraduates who have completed the two basic intermediate micro and macro courses. The last part of the session will be devoted to questions and discussion.

Students will be encouraged to think about potential research topic for their honors thesis. This course will also allow the Honors students to get acquainted with the faculty facilitating the matching up with a thesis adviser for ECON 497 later on (in the Fall/Winter of their Senior year).

**Assignments:** Each week, students will be asked to write a short essay stemming from the previous presentation and outlining potential ideas for an undergraduate research topic in the area presented by the faculty. Maximum: one typed page - Must be turned in on canvas: deadline 11:59 PM on Tuesdays before the next class. If the Honors student is considering working with a specific faculty, the essay could also be shown to that faculty. The first assignment, due on April 2 at 11:29 PM, was initiated by the UW Women in Economics; it consists in writing a short essay on an economist of your choice. See information on a separate flyer.

**Grading Policy:** Grade based on participation to discussion and on the weekly reflection paper. The grade on each paper is calculated according to on 3 criteria:

1. English
2. Understanding of the paper presented / ability to convey its main lines
3. Creativity.

Each criterion is scored 1 to 5. Late essays are not accepted. All the required assignments must be turned in. There might be up to ten assignments, with an eleventh possible if there is a departmental seminar you have to attend (Nobel Prize, Milliman Lecture). All the assignments are graded equally. All the numbers are averaged and adjusted to get a final grade between 0.0 and 4.0. Students are expected to attend each session since all the assignments are based on seminars that are not recorded. A minimum performance is required in order to receive an add-code for Econ 496. The purpose of this course is to establish for yourself and your instructor whether you can do advanced undergraduate research.

**Problem Sets:** Several short problem sets will be assigned throughout the quarter, and are due at 11:59 PM Pacific Time on Mondays (with the exception of the last problem set, which is due on a Wednesday night). A random subset of questions from each assignment will be graded for correctness, and the rest of the questions will be graded for completeness. Solutions will be posted after the assignments are due for help studying. Submissions will only be accepted in PDF format or as **legible** scans of handwritten work. The lowest homework score will be dropped from your grade.

**Meetings:** Online one-to-one meetings will be set up on a regular basis to discuss your progress and answer your questions.

**Accommodations:** Should you require disability accommodations, please contact Disability Resources for Students at <http://depts.washington.edu/uwdrs/> or 206-543-8924.

Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The UW's policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available at [Religious Accommodations Policy](#). Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using the [Religious Accommodations Request form](#).

**Academic Misconduct:** All students are expected to know and to abide by the University's Academic Misconduct policies as defined at <http://www.washington.edu/admin/rules/policies/SGP/SPCH209.html#7> summarized at <https://depts.washington.edu/grading/pdf/AcademicResponsibility.pdf>. In particular, while you are encouraged to study with each other, all assignments for this course must be completed on one's own. Exams are open-book and you may access "cheatsheets," your notes, textbook, or other sources printed sources, but you may not use electronic devices during exams. Failure to abide by these policies is likely to result in failing this course, and may result in further sanctions as described by the policy. If I believe you have cheated on an assignment, you will receive a "zero" grade for that assignment.

Table 1: Presenters and Topics or Field

<b>Date</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Topic or Field</b>
3/27	Yael Jacobs	Course Organization and General Research Guidelines
4/3	Greg Duncan	Econometrics–Large Data
4/10	Melissa Knox	Health Economics
4/17	Quan Wen	Microeconomic Theory
4/24	Dennis O’Dea	Labor and Macroeconomics
5/1	Rachel Heath	Development Economics
5/8	Chris Anderson	Fishery Economics
5/15	Alan Griffith	Econ 496 Instructor
5/22	Honors Students	Theses
5/29	Honors Students	Theses