

**University of Washington, Department of Economics**  
**ECON 423: Topics in Financial Economics**

Spring 2015 Overall Course Schedule & Outline

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Course Instructor & Coordinator:	Christina Tapia, Ph.D.
Class days: Tuesdays & Thursdays	Email: <a href="mailto:ctapia@uw.edu">ctapia@uw.edu</a>
Class time: 3:30-5:20 PM	Office: Savery 341
Classroom: Savery 264	Office Hours: By appt. ( <i>Please email.</i> )
Class website: <a href="https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/964597">https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/964597</a>	

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***Description:***

This course brings together the expertise of several instructors to discuss topics of current interest in financial economics. This quarter topics include the Federal Reserve and monetary policy; fundamentals of transfer pricing; analysis and valuation of stocks; private equity and venture capital; and issues in the insurance industry. The objective is to provide a better understanding of these topics with real-world examples and applications.

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**COURSE LECTURE SEGMENTS**

*Each instructor will distribute a separate syllabus for his/her segment.*

**I. Federal Reserve & Monetary Policy**

March 31; April 2, 7

**Christina Tapia, Ph.D.**

Visiting Lecturer, U.W.  
Economist; OSC Vocational Systems, Inc.

**II. Fundamentals of Transfer Pricing**

Part 1: April 9, 14, 16

**David Unger and Dickie Paria, Ph.D.**

Economic and Valuation Services  
KPMG, L.L.P.

Part 2: April 21, 23

**George Carlson, Ph.D.**

Former Director of the Office of Tax Analysis, U.S. Treasury; Former Director of Economic Analysis Group, Arthur Andersen, LLP; 2014 Economics Distinguished Alumnus.

**III. Analysis & Valuation of Stocks**

April 28, 30; May 5, 7

**Steven C. Phelps, C.F.A., C.I.C.**

President, C.E.O., C.I.O.  
Badgley Phelps Investment Managers

**IV. Insurance Industry**

May 12, 14, 19, 21

**Olga Yang, CPCU, ARM, AIM, ARe, APA, ASLI**

Senior Underwriter

Philadelphia Insurance Companies

**Chip Holland, C.L.U.**

President

Life & Health Underwriters, Inc.

**IV. Private Equity & Venture Capital**

May 26, 28; June 2, 4

**Adley Bowden**

Senior Director of Analysis

PitchBook Data

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***Readings:***

Each instructor will designate the required readings for his/her respective segment. Readings will be available on the course website in advance of each segment. Be sure to check the course website regularly for readings and updates. ***Readings must be completed before coming to class.***

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***Grading:***

There will be five exams, one for each course segment. Exam details will be announced during each segment. Each instructor will provide additional information regarding readings and the content of his/her exam, and materials will be posted on the class website: <https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/964597>. Your grade will be determined by equally weighting each exam grade.

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