

ECON 3392 A02
Final Project Guidelines
Summer Term 2022 - Instructor: Iqbal Hossain
Due Date: June 20, 2022

Final Project: Instructions

- The final project consists of an empirical research proposal: you and your co-authors have to come up with a research question about economic growth and/or inequality and write a short essay about it.
- Think of the paper as the following: You have to formulate a question that you could answer with data if you had more time. At this point you don't need to answer this question though. Answering it would take a much longer time (maybe you can try answering it after the course!).
- What question can you ask? Any empirical question related to economic development, poverty, and inequality. The question has to be empirical: it should not be a theoretical paper. Your question has to be specific, though.
- You can use descriptive statistics (tables, graphs) and other basic statistical methods such as linear regression to motivate your question. It is very important for you to write well (spelling, grammar, punctuation, structure). Check with the U Manitoba Academic Learning Center for resources for students. It is also very important to follow the format detailed below.

Format

- The paper should be between 3 and 4 pages long, with reasonable spacing between lines (1.5 works fine) and with a reasonably large font size (11 point works fine). The 3-4 page range limit does not include references nor does it include supporting figures or tables. You should include your main 2 figures within the 3-4 pages, but more figures than that should be included in the Appendix. Your essay should include at least two figures (graphs or tables).
- Keep your motivation to the point. Don't exaggerate. Don't over state your contribution to the literature. Don't make strong policy claims based on research that is tentative and preliminary.

- Since you will not have a conclusion in terms of answers, you should finish your paper by discussing what tools you would need to learn in order to tackle the question (statistics, econometrics, computer science, etc). You should discuss directions for future research.
- Include a separate references section at the end of the paper. Every work cited in the text must appear in the references; every work listed in the references must be cited in the text. The references should be in alphabetical order. There are a number of different acceptable styles for citations and references. The only real requirement is that you include enough information. You have to describe where and how you downloaded the graphs/tables/data you are using.

Final Grade

- The project has a total of 10 points. Your final grade will be determined by equal weights on the following five categories: (1) Question and Motivation, (2) Writing Style, (3) Statistical Analysis, (4) Format, and (5) Conference Presentation (more on this below).
- Conference Presentation: Your group will have to give a recorded presentation on the research proposal. Your group presentation should last 3-5 minutes and have 3-5 slides (+ title slide): 1 minute, 1 slide per person. Each slide should contain a graph or table.
- You have to submit two files to the Assignment folder by June 20th at 11:59pm: (i) a .pdf file with the essay, and (ii) a powerpoint file with your slides.