

Course Name:		Student ID:	
Module Name:	Econometrics A Econometrics B	Grade:	
Module Code:	EC902 / EC910		
Assessment Type:	Final Project	Assessor's Name	
Assessment Date:		Date Graded:	

**Principal learning outcomes of project**

By the end of the project the student should be able to understand how economists approach questions, in particular, how they construct hypotheses and use data to discriminate between alternate explanations for events or patterns; describe data and present it in a meaningful manner. In doing this students will gain skills in the use of computer software including statistical modelling software; conduct group work and present their research conclusions in a written form.

**NB: The final grade will be determined by how well the assessment criteria have been met overall, not the sum of individual criteria**

Grade	Fail Low Fail   Fail	High Fail (near miss)	Pass	Merit	Distinction	High Distinction
Assessment Criteria						
1. Style and communication	Incoherent structure and presentation, making the arguments very difficult to follow. Referencing is inaccurate and inconsistent. Communication skills show deep deficits.	Structure of the final project is sometimes difficult to follow and is not conducive to the development of reasoned argument. Consequently, the communication of ideas is poor or inconsistent. Referencing is largely incorrect or incomplete. Figures and tables are pasted in from unusual outputs (eg: screen captures) with little attempt to format the results for professional presentation.	A reasonably good standard of communication with some appropriate use of language, terminology and referencing. The structure allows the flow of arguments to be discerned, but improvements could have been made to support progression of analysis.	A good standard of presentation and writing with an effective use of referencing. The quality of writing facilitates the effective communication of ideas and understanding, but improvement could have been made to the structure and flow of ideas. Evidence of awareness of academic style in the presentation of results. For example, reporting tables in a structure that highlights key results, reporting	Excellent presentation of ideas. Written in a style conducive to clear understanding of economic ideas and their application. Excellent, logical structure and consistent writing throughout which was well supported by consistent and exhaustive referencing.	Exceptional presentation of ideas demonstrating a very deep understanding of the issues and their application. The structure and consistency of writing and referencing means the final project could be disseminated to a wide audience.

Grade	Fail Low Fail   Fail	High Fail (near miss)	Pass	Merit	Distinction	High Distinction
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				coefficients & standard errors rather than t-statistics, and including notes below tables and figures that succinctly explain variable definitions, specifications, and the sources of data used.		
2. Motivation for project	The topic is not sufficiently identified, nor is a rationale given to justify its selection as the subject for an applied research project in economics.	The topic is not clearly identified, nor is a clear rationale given to justify its selection as the subject for an applied research project in economics.	The identification and justification for an applied research project in this area of economics is reasonably well presented. However, greater contextualisation of its economic significance and the intellectual motivation for the project is needed.	Very good identification and justification of topic area with some originality. The topic has a clear economics focus, with its significance and intellectual motivation demonstrated effectively.	Excellent identification and full justification of topic area, providing relevance of and intellectual motivation for choice. The topic has elements of originality and has significance beyond a student project.	Exceptional identification and full justification of topic area, providing relevance of, and intellectual motivation for topic choice. The research demonstrates originality and has a much wider significance and interest beyond a student project.
3. Literature review	Insufficient coverage of the literature and theory, with core areas largely ignored. Wholly descriptive in style.	Limited coverage of literature and theory making few links to the research topic; descriptive in style.	Reasonably good coverage of reading, but a somewhat limited range of resources utilised. The style tends more towards the descriptive, but does include an element of critical evaluation.	Very good use of a range of resources demonstrating their relevance to the research topic. There is evidence of a critical evaluation of the reading.	Evidence of a wide and appropriate selection and range of resources which are effectively used to demonstrate the relevance of the research topic. There is critical evaluation of the materials.	An extensive and appropriate selection of a wide and varied range of resources. This is evaluated thoroughly and showing a commanding mastery of relevant literature.
4. Application of methods	Very limited use made of materials. No formal method of analysis adopted, or a method adopted that is inappropriate for addressing the research topic.	Inadequate use of data, theory or models; inappropriate method of analysis or method is used incorrectly.	Use is made of a range of appropriate data, theory or models. The method of analysis chosen is acceptable, and there is an attempt to link its use to the relevant literature and theory. An estimating equation is clearly outlined with notes on the functional form used.	Good use is made of a range of appropriate data, theory or models. The method of analysis chosen is appropriate and its use linked to the relevant literature and theory. Some reference is made to possible alternative methods of analysis. An estimating equation is clearly outlined with notes on	Very good use is made of a wide range of appropriate data, theory or models. The method of analysis chosen is appropriate and its use is linked to the relevant literature and theory. The choice of method of analysis is based on a rigorous analysis of the options available. A sophisticated and careful	Exceptional use of appropriate data, theory or models. The method of analysis chosen is appropriate and its use is rooted in the relevant literature and theory. The choice of method of analysis is based on a rigorous analysis of the options available. A sophisticated and careful presentation of the

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				the functional form used.	presentation of the estimating equation(s) and functional form used.	estimating equation(s) and functional form used. Demonstration of advanced data collection and data processing skills
5. Analysis and reasoning	Little attempt to draw reasoned conclusions from analysis. Very limited sense of argument or original interpretation.	Attempts have been made to identify conclusions, but they are not clearly supported by the analysis. The work lacks coherence and does not create a logical argument, with frequent repetition and/ or contradiction.	Reasonably well argued, but with scope for greater critical analysis beyond the merely descriptive. Conclusions are reached but need further development.	Very well argued in drawing out findings and conclusions. There is some appropriate critical analysis and synthesis of research.	Excellent constructed argument, with a high level of cumulative logic supporting the conclusions and recommendations. Evidence of wide-ranging critical analysis and synthesis of research. Understanding of how to frame and implement robustness check on the main specifications.	Exceptional level of argument with a clarity of narrative that is outstanding. It demonstrates extensive and appropriate critical analysis and synthesis of research which identifies scope for further research. Ability to frame and implement robustness check on the main specifications