

1-2014

ECNS 499.01: Senior Thesis / Capstone

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University of Montana
ECONOMICS 499: SENIOR THESIS / CAPSTONE
Section 1

Basics:

Douglas Dalenberg	Spring 2014
Office: LA 413 phone 243-4406	Meeting time: TR 9:40-11:00
Office hours: TR 1:00 – 2:00	Classroom: SS 254
or by appointment or discovery	Credits 2
e-mail: doug.dalenberg@mso.umt.edu	CRN 31437
Since this is a 2 credit course, we will not meet every TR of the semester; see the calendar of dates below.	

Text: Lipson, Charles, *How to Write a BA Thesis*, Chicago, IL: The University of Chicago Press, 2005.

Prerequisite: ECNS 488, senior standing and economics major.

Description and Objectives: This course is designed to assist and monitor your progress on your senior thesis and to provide you an opportunity to present your research findings.

Learning Outcomes:

- 1) Find, evaluate, analyze and synthesize information effectively from diverse sources;
- 2) Manage multiple perspectives as appropriate;
- 3) Recognize and adopt the academic voice of economists;
- 4) Use multiple drafts, revisions and editing in conducting inquiry and preparing written work;
- 5) Follow conventions of citation, documentation and formal presentation appropriate to economics;

Assessment: I will assess these learning outcomes based upon your demonstration of those outcomes on homework, your senior thesis presentation and your senior thesis.

Grading: The weights for the course grade are:

Assignments	10%	Various
Completion of Executive Summary	5%	May 8
Attendance at Oral Presentation	10%	April 22 through May 8
Senior Thesis Oral Presentation	15%	April 22 through May 8
Senior Thesis Paper	60%	Draft on Tuesday, April 22, Final version on Tuesday, May 6

I will use plus/minus grading with 100-92=A, 91-90=A-, 89-88=B+, 87-82=B, 81-80=B-, 79-78=C+, 77-72=C, 71-70=C- 69-68=D+, 67-62=D, 61-60=D-, 59 and below=F. Attendance means coming to class on time.

Policies and Notes:

1. If my office hours conflict with your schedule, see me for an appointment or try to catch me in my office by chance.
2. Late homework, drafts and presentations cause particular difficulties and will be penalized based upon the degree of extra work they entail for me or other faculty. In the case of illness, please contact me *before* the assignment.
3. I do not take attendance in this course, but if you miss class you are responsible for the assignments given in class that day.
4. This course is accessible to and usable by otherwise qualified students with disabilities. To request reasonable program modifications, please consult with the instructor. Disability Services for Students will assist the instructor and student in the modification process. For more information, visit the Disability Services website at <http://www.umt.edu/disability>.
5. Academic dishonesty will result in a score of zero for the assignment in question. Plagiarism is one form of

academic dishonesty. All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at:

http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php.

6. Deadlines apply at 5 PM by the day listed:

Add a course via Cyberbear: February 4.

Add a course with a Registration Override for with the instructor's signature: February 14.

Add a course with Course Add/Change Form and advisor and instructor signatures: May 9.

Drop a course via Cyberbear: February 14.

Drop a course with a Course Drop Form, advisor and instructor signature, and a W on transcript: April 7.

Drop a course with a Course Drop Form, advisor, instructor and Dean's signature and WF or WP on transcript: May 9.

Change to or from credit / no credit via Cyberbear: February 14.

Change to or from credit / no credit with a Course Add Change Form signed by advisor and instructor; May 9.

Change to or from audit (via Cyberbear): February 14.

Please refer to the University catalog regarding the policies for incompletes.

7. Please set your cell phones on vibrate rather than ring and please leave the classroom to talk on a phone.

8. This is a two credit class, so therefore some class meetings will be cancelled. See the calendar of important dates below.

9. You are expected to meet weekly with your thesis advisor.

10. The Economics Department will present an award to the best senior thesis paper at graduation.

Calendar of Important Dates:

April 22 – Draft thesis due to advisor for comments.

May 6 – Final thesis due.

May 8 – Executive Summary due.

April 22 – May 8 – Presentations.

March 18 – March 27 – Non-thesis presentation.

May 15 – 8:00 – 10:00 in SS 254 – Final meeting.

February 6, 13, 18, 27, March 6, April 8, 15 – No class because this is a two credit class.

April 1, 3 – No class Spring Break.