

## Applied economics research course

### *Short guidelines for proposal for own topic*

In the applied economics research course you will do an individual research on a topic provided by a supervisor from U.S.E. Under certain conditions, you can work on your own topic. In that case you need to submit your own research proposal in time. See for the deadlines the course description in the course catalogue. It is important that you show knowledge of the topic you would like to study and explain the relevance and feasibility of your proposal. The proposal should be about 3 pages and needs to include the following information and sections:

#### **1. Personal information**

Name and student number and program (indicate minor or full economics program)

#### **2. Research question and sub-questions**

Give a short introduction of the topic you would like to study and the research question(s). Explain briefly why the study is relevant, scientifically and/or societally. Refer to relevant literature

#### **3. Relation to economic theory**

Briefly discuss how the topic relates to the academic literature. Refer to relevant (key) publications.

#### **4. Type of research**

This section should give an indication of the feasibility of the study: how will you answer your research question? Often, empirical analyses will be done, using existing databases. Give information on the database and make sure that you check accessibility of the data.

NB Collecting your own data is rather complicated due to time restrictions. Proposals based on the execution of an own survey, are usually rejected.

#### **5. Academic references**

Provide **full** details of the references to the literature in your proposal in a consistent format (NB no weblinks)

#### **6. Estimated time schedule**

Indicate the amount of time you will spend on the different parts of your study

### **Assessment**

The proposal will be assessed by the coordinator and possible supervisors. Main criteria are content of the proposal (strong link with academic literature/discussion), completeness of information (inclusion of all sections) and feasibility of the proposal.

You will be informed on the outcome in time. If approved, we will find a supervisor and inform you who will supervise your research. You will participate in a research group with other students who

work on their own research (if there are enough students, if not, you will participate in a regular group).

If not approved, you can chose from the topics proposed by U.S.E. supervisors. You will be informed in time.

Send the document in time to: [ECB3OKVECO@uu.nl](mailto:ECB3OKVECO@uu.nl)

Relevant links:

Course catalogue:

[https://www.osiris.universiteitutrecht.nl/osistu\\_ospr/OnderwijsCatalogusZoekCursus.do](https://www.osiris.universiteitutrecht.nl/osistu_ospr/OnderwijsCatalogusZoekCursus.do)

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