

GEN501 Research Methodology Module 2, 2021-2022

Course Information

Instructor: Dr. Baixiao Liu

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Course Website:

Course Management System (CMS): GEN501 – Research Methodology Course code and enrollment key are both: GEN501

1. Course Description

1.1 Context

Course overview: the course shall provide the econometric intuition and the application of analyses in finance. Course material includes the toolboxes and the execution guidelines of empirical methods in the research of financial economics. The course should be greatly beneficial for students to prepare for their thesis.

Prerequisites: Students are required to have completed the prerequisite courses, as specified by PHBS.

1.2 Textbooks and Reading Materials

There is no required textbook for this course. References will be disseminated throughout the course.

2. Learning Outcomes

2.1 Intended Learning Outcomes

Learning Goals	Objectives	Assessment
	1.1. Our students will produce quality business	
	and research-oriented documents.	Yes
	1.2. Students are able to professionally present	
1. Our graduates will be	their ideas and also logically explain and defend	
effective communicators.	their argument.	Yes
	2.1. Students will be able to lead and participate	
	in group for projects, discussion, and	
2. Our graduates will be	presentation.	Yes
skilled in team work and	2.2. Students will be able to apply leadership	
leadership.	theories and related skills.	Yes

	3.1. In a case setting, students will use	
	appropriate techniques to analyze business	Yes, with respect to
	problems and identify the ethical aspects,	ethical practices in
	provide a solution and defend it.	research
3. Our graduates will be	3.2. Our students will practice ethics in the	
trained in ethics.	duration of the program.	Yes
4. Our graduates will have	4.1. Students will have an international	
a global perspective.	exposure.	Yes
	5.1. Our students will have a good	
	understanding of fundamental theories in their	
	fields.	Yes
	5.2. Our students will be prepared to face	
	problems in various business settings and find	
5. Our graduates will be	solutions.	Yes
skilled in problem-solving	5.3. Our students will demonstrate competency	
and critical thinking.	in critical thinking.	Yes

2.2 Assessment/Grading Details

Assessment	Weighting	
Attendance	10%	
Participation	10%	
Thesis Proposal	40%	
Final Exam	40%	
Total	100%	

Attendance (10%): It is important that every student attends every class, arriving on time. Attendance will be taken at the **start** of every class, and anyone not present will be marked absent. If you **come late** or **leave early** the attendance will be marked as **absent**. Your first absence will be excused. But two or more absences, for any reason, may negatively impact your attendance grade.

Participation (10%): This grade reflects **my** judgment of your contribution to our learning environment. The grades take into account (1) the *frequency* of your questions and responses in class, (2) their *quality* (e.g., relevance to course materials; insights that differ from others' points of view; elaboration or clarification of others' opinions), and (3) the *professionalism* of your conduct (e.g., no side conversations, no cell phones, preparedness, and respect to your fellow students and their contributions). Note that an interactive environment is not only essential to learning, but also makes the class a more interesting experience.

Thesis Proposal (40%): This grade is **my** evaluation of your thesis proposal in written format. Everyone is required to write and submit your thesis proposal. No group collaboration is allowed. The thesis proposal must be in the field of **Finance**. The proposal should clearly state your research question, and include the motivation, literature review, hypothesis, your plan of data collection, empirical models to use, preliminary findings (if any), potential contribution to the literature. Please limit your writing **within 5 pages**.

Final Exam (40%): A final exam designed to examine your basic understanding of the key course material.

2.3 Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

It is important for a student's effort and credit to be recognized through class assessment. Credits earned for a student work due to efforts done by others are clearly unfair. Deliberate dishonesty is considered academic misconducts, which include plagiarism; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honours, awards, or professional endorsement; or altering, forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying of data, research procedures, or data analysis.

All assessments are subject to academic misconduct check. Misconduct check may include reproducing the assessment, providing a copy to another member of faculty, and/or communicate a copy of this assignment to the PHBS Discipline Committee. A suspected plagiarized document/assignment submitted to a plagiarism checking service may be kept in its database for future reference purpose.

Where violation is suspected, penalties will be implemented. The penalties for academic misconduct may include: deduction of honour points, a mark of zero on the assessment, a fail grade for the whole course, and reference of the matter to the Peking University Registrar.

For more information of plagiarism, please refer to PHBS Student Handbook.

3. Schedule

2nd Module 2021 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY SCHEDULE							
М	М	М	М	W	М		
22-Nov	29-Nov	6-Dec	13-Dec	22-Dec	27-Dec		
Lecture 1 - Introduction & OLS I	Lecture 2 - OLS II	Lecture 3 - Causality	Lecture 4 - Panel Data I	Lecture 5 - Panel Data II	Lecture 6 - Instrument Variable I		
W	М	М	Final Exam				
5-Jan	10-Jan	17-Jan	Jan 20&21, 2022				
Lecture 7 - Instrument Variable II	Lecture 8 - Natural Experiment I	Lecture 9 - Natural Experiment II	TBD				