

**Eastern Illinois University**  
**New/Revised Course Proposal Format**  
(Approved by CAA on 4/3/14 and CGS on 4/15/14, Effective Fall 2014)

CGS Agenda Item: 16-66  
Effective Fall 2017

**Banner/Catalog Information (Coversheet)**

1. ☐ New Course or ☒ Revision of Existing Course
2. Course prefix and number:  ECN5960
3. Short title:  Economics Graduate Forum
4. Long title:  Economics Graduate Forum
5. Hours per week:  2 Class  0 Lab  2 Credit
6. Terms: ☐ x ☐ Fall ☐ x ☐ Spring ☐ Summer ☐ On demand
7. Initial term: ☒ Fall ☐ Spring ☐ Summer Year:  2017
8. Catalog course description:  (2-0-2) F, S. With guidance of a faculty advisor and up to three faculty members, 1-3 students research a current issue in economics, write a research paper, and make an oral presentation to a panel of graduate faculty.
9. Course attributes:  
General education component:  NONE   
☐ Cultural diversity ☐ Honors ☐ Writing centered ☐ Writing intensive ☐ Writing active
10. Instructional delivery  
Type of Course:  
☐ Lecture ☐ Lab ☐ Lecture/lab combined ☒ Independent study/research  
☐ Internship ☐ Performance ☐ Practicum/clinical ☐ Other, specify:   
Mode(s) of Delivery:  
☒ X Face to Face ☐ Online ☐ Study Abroad  
☐ Hybrid, specify approximate amount of on-line and face-to-face instruction
11. Course(s) to be deleted from the catalog once this course is approved.  NONE
12. Equivalent course(s):  NONE 
  - a. Are students allowed to take equivalent course(s) for credit? ☐ Yes ☐ No
13. Prerequisite(s):  12 semesters hours of graduate credit in economics 
  - a. Can prerequisite be taken concurrently? ☐ Yes ☒ X No
  - b. Minimum grade required for the prerequisite course(s)?
  - c. Use Banner coding to enforce prerequisite course(s)? ☒ X Yes ☐ No

**d. Who may waive prerequisite(s)?**

☒ No one    ☐ Chair    ☐ Instructor    ☐ Advisor    ☐ Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**14. Co-requisite(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**15. Enrollment restrictions**

**a. Degrees, colleges, majors, levels, classes which may take the course:** M.A. Economics Students

**b. Degrees, colleges, majors, levels, classes which may not take the course:** Non-ECN students

**16. Repeat status:** ☒ May not be repeated    ☐ May be repeated once with credit

**17. Enter the limit, if any, on hours which may be applied to a major or minor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**18. Grading methods:** ☒ Standard    ☐ CR/NC    ☐ Audit    ☐ ABC/NC

**19. Special grading provisions:**

☐ Grade for course will not count in a student's grade point average.

☐ Grade for course will not count in hours toward graduation.

☐ Grade for course will be removed from GPA if student already has credit for or is registered in:

\_\_\_\_\_

☒ Credit hours for course will be removed from student's hours toward graduation if student already has credit for or is registered in: ECN 5960 in a prior semester

**20. Additional costs to students:**

Supplemental Materials or Software NONE

Course Fee ☒ No ☐ Yes, Explain if yes \_\_\_\_\_

**21. Community college transfer:**

☐ A community college course may be judged equivalent.

☒ A community college may not be judged equivalent.

Note: Upper division credit (3000+) will not be granted for a community college course, even if the content is judged to be equivalent.

## Rationale, Justifications, and Assurances (Part I)

- 1.**   X Course is required for the major(s) of M.A. Economics Students who choose the non-thesis option to satisfy the requirements of the M.A. Degree  
\_\_\_\_Course is required for the minor(s) of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_Course is required for the certificate program(s) of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_ \_ Course is used as an elective
- 2. Rationale for proposal :** This is an existing course that we wish to upgrade from the current 1 semester hour to 2 hours to make research experience deeper and more enriching for students.
- 3. Justifications for (answer N/A if not applicable)**  
Similarity to other courses: N/A  
Prerequisites: 12 semester hours of graduate study.  
Co-requisites: N/A  
Enrollment restrictions: N/A  
Writing active, intensive, centered: Active
- 4. General education assurances (answer N/A if not applicable)**  
General education component: N/A  
Curriculum: N/A  
Instruction: N/A  
Assessment: N/A
- 5. Online/Hybrid delivery justification & assurances (answer N/A if not applicable)**  
N/A

## Model Syllabus (Part II)

Please include the following information:

- 1. Course number and title**  
ECN 5960: Economics Graduate Forum
- 2. Catalog description**  
(2-0-2) F, S. With guidance from a faculty advisor and up to three faculty members, 1-3 students research a current issue in economics, write a research paper, and make an oral presentation to a panel of graduate faculty.
- 3. Learning objectives.**

*Learning objective categories (University Learning Goals for Graduate Programs):*

- *Depth of content knowledge (CK)*
- *Critical thinking and problem solving skills (CT)*
- *Effective oral and written communication skills (OWC)*
- *Advanced scholarship through research or creative activity (RCA)*

- a. Students will learn to research a current issue of high economic significance by assembling and organizing literature in a comprehensive manner. (CK,CT,RCA)
- b. Students will develop a statistical model to understand relationships between the variable(s) being explained and the factors affecting them. (CK,CT,RCA)
- c. Students will apply econometric tools to numerically estimate the model and accurately interpret the results obtained. (CT,RCA)
- d. Students will write a comprehensive paper that will include details of their work starting from Introduction and going through all the stages up to Conclusion. They will learn to make cogent arguments to justify model selection and methods chosen for model estimation. (CK,CT,OWC,RCA)
- e. Students will practice oral communication to present their research effectively, provide clear answers to questions of the audience, defend their work where justified, and accept constructive comments as necessary, all in a clear interactive fashion. (OWC)

**4. Course materials.**

No textbook. Books, articles, and audio and video resources will be as determined by the Graduate Forum advisor, committee members, and Forum students.

**5. Weekly outline of content.**

Week	Content	Assignment
1-2	Formulate Research Question(s), Write Preliminary Introduction	Present and Discuss with Advisor
3-5	Comprehensive Literature Review	Present and Discuss with Advisor
6	Formulate Statistical Model	Present and Discuss with Advisor
7-8	Collect and Organize Data for Analysis	Present and Discuss with Advisor
9-10	Estimate Model and Obtain Results	Present and Discuss with Advisor
11-13	Write Research Paper	Present and Discuss with Advisor
14	Submit Paper to Grad Forum Committee	Present and Discuss with Committee
15	Present Research to Economics Dept.	Defend Graduate Forum Research

**6. Assignments and evaluation, including weights for final course grade.**

Evaluation will be based on student interaction with the Forum advisor and committee members as well as on the quality of Forum defense. This last item will be evaluated based on the achievement of learning goals developed by the Department of Economics. The course grade will be determined by the Forum advisor in consultation with the committee members.

**7. Grading scale.**

Students will be evaluated based on the average score on a total of 20 items grouped in four categories of the assessment of learning as given below:

Scale:

- 4 Highly Competent
- 3 Competent
- 2 Minimally Competent
- 1 Not Competent

<b>Research</b>	<b>Writing Competency</b>
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Justifi- cation	Hypo- theses	Metho- dology	Conclu- sion	Con- tent	Focus	Organi- zation	Development	Style	Mecha- nics
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Computer and Quantitative				Oral Competency					
Model	Data	Procedure	Tests	Content	Focus	Organi- zation	Deve- lopment	Effec- tiveness	Res- ponse

**8. Correlation of learning objectives to assignments and evaluation.**

Objective	Presentations to Advisor and Committee	Forum Defense
CK	X	X
CT	X	X
OWC	X	X
RCA	X	

**Date approved by the department or school:** October 1, 2016

**Date approved by the college curriculum committee:** November 4, 2016

**Date approved by the Honors Council (if this is an honors course):**

**Date approved by CAA:**

**CGS:** \_\_\_\_\_