Dissertation

Module Code: Credits: 20 Year: 3 Terms: 1-3

4 Lectures, 8 Workshops, 2 Individual Consultation (13 contact hours)

Module Organiser: Dr Maria Garcia Reyes

Overview:
This module each student undertakes a piece of independent empirical research in economics, within one of a number of prescribed subject areas. The work is supervised, primarily through workshop groups, by a member of staff with expertise in that area. The areas are:
- Macroeconomics,
- Microeconomics,
- Social Policy,
- Health Economics and,
- Finance

Aims:
To enable students to undertake individual and independent empirical research, applying the theoretical concepts and empirical techniques acquired elsewhere in the degree programme, and thus developing and assessing their ability to:
- apply these concepts and techniques
- work independently
- present cogently the results of such work

Objectives:
- defining feasible hypotheses and objectives for empirical research in economics, drawing on appropriate economic theory and concepts
- locating and compiling economic data
- applying appropriate techniques, principally econometric, in analysing that data and testing hypotheses
- presenting their analysis in a coherent final report, including in a way that would be intelligible to non-specialists
- working independently, but also interactively through workshops discussing with, and presenting to, other students working on their own projects

Assessment:
Summative assessment comprises three elements:
- Progress report (max 1000-word), 10% Week 10 Autumn Term
- Presentation to the workshop group (25-minute), 15% Week 10 Spring Term
- Final report (max 4500-word), 75% Week 3 Summer Term

Pre-requisites:
Microeconomics II, Macroeconomics II and Econometrics II

Main References:
Gujarati D N and D.C. Porter, Basic Econometrics, (5th edn), McGraw-Hill, 2009