The University of British Columbia  
Department of Economics

Economics 495/499: Honours Seminar/Honour Essay

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Fall 2015/Winter 2016  
Tues, Thurs 1400-1530: Iona 533


For some, this presentation will be similar to your last presentation of research results. For many, this one will however be more conclusive and more polished. You should begin with a summary of the question being addressed and of the hypothesis that you are testing, and give precise links to the literature to highlight your contribution. You should preview your key findings early in the presentation. The jury members will have read your thesis, but they will want to understand better how you obtained your results. Presentations should be about 20-25 minutes long and we will allow another 15-20 minutes for questions. As for our other presentations, you may use the data projector (either *.ppt or *.pdf files). A point form (bullet points) summary is fine. Large type (at least 18 points) is recommended.

What you did
1) Motivation and overview
   a) What is the question being addressed?
   b) What is your hypothesis of interest?
   c) What related issues have previously been addressed in the literature? How does your study differ?
   d) What have you found? Is your hypothesis verified or not?

How you did
2) Economic model/estimation strategy
   a) What is the underlying theoretical model/framework of your study?
   b) What are your parameters of interest, i.e. how will you know that your hypothesis is verified or not?

3) Data and descriptive statistics
   a) What are your data sources, unit of observations and source of identification?
   b) Present your descriptive statistics to highlight your hypothesis of interest.

4) Econometric Results
   a) What econometric specifications have you tested?
   a) Present your tables of results focusing on the sign, significance and magnitude of the coefficients of interest, and any additional test of your hypothesis of interest
**Where your study is leading**

5) Conclusion  
   a) Implications of results  
   b) Caveats, paths for future research

Remember that it is always a good idea to practice for timing that is, to be sure that you have enough time to get your points across. This is not the story of “What I did in my thesis”, so if you ventured in some dead-end paths before finding the right one, we do not have to know about this. For some, practicing will also give you more confidence with the English vocabulary.