

**THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG**  
**FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS**  
**School of Economics and Finance**

Course Code : ECON3801/ECON3293/FINA3601/FINA3391

Course Title : Reading Course

Credits : 6

Prerequisites for ECON3801/ECON3293 (Economics field):

ECON2101/ECON2210 Intermediate microeconomics; *and*  
 ECON2102/ECON2220 Intermediate macroeconomics; *and*  
 ECON0701/ECON2280 Introductory econometrics

Prerequisites for FINA3601/FINA3391 (Finance field):

ECON0701/ECON2280 Introductory econometrics; *and*  
 FINA2802/FINA2320 Investments and portfolio analysis; *and*  
 FINA0301/FINA2322 Derivatives

Remarks : Candidates intending to take this course shall complete an application form (please refer to p. 4-6 of this document).

Precursors : Nil

**Course Description**

This course consists of supervised reading and written work. Candidates may specialize in one topic under the supervision of faculty members of the School of Economics and Finance. For the Economics field (ECON3801/ECON3293), examples of topics are: the problem of social cost, investment in human capital, general equilibrium theory, empirical methods in international trade, international monetary relations, theories of saving and the East Asian economies, and current economic problems of Hong Kong.

An original project paper is required in lieu of a written paper in the Examination. The project paper must be completed and presented not later than the last day of the revision period of the enrolled semester. Candidates shall submit a statement that the project paper represent their own work (or in the case of joint work, a statement countersigned by their co-worker(s), which shows the degree of their work) undertaken after the registration in the course.

**Course learning outcomes (CLOs)**

<b>CLOs</b>	<b>Aligned Faculty Goals*</b>
CLO 1. Develop specific knowledge and skills within the areas negotiated with the supervisor.	Goal #1, 2
CLO 2. Develop skills in producing annotated notes, bibliographies, and tracking publication sources and lineages in academic thought.	Goal #3, 5
CLO 3. Develop ability to combine independent study with critical analysis and comparative interpretations of	Goal #3, 5

texts of the discipline.	
CLO 4. Develop proficiency on how to present large bodies of scientific writings in a systematic way.	Goal #5

\*Faculty Goals are as follows:

- Goal 1: Acquisition and internalization of knowledge of the programme discipline
- Goal 2: Application and integration of knowledge
- Goal 3: Inculcating professionalism and leadership
- Goal 4: Developing global outlook
- Goal 5: Mastering communication skills

### Course Teaching and Learning Activities (TLA)

Course Teaching and Learning Activities	Brief Description	Study Load (% of study)
TLA 1. Consultation with supervisor	Students are required to meet with their supervisor on a regular basis to report their progress and seek advice.	30%
TLA 2. Self study	Students are required to conduct research on their own.	70%
	Total:	100%

### Assessment Tasks

Type of assessment tasks/activities	Brief Description	Weighting	Aligned Course Learning Outcomes
AT 1. Project paper	Students are required to submit a project paper of 10,000 words together with a Turnitin report for assessment.	100%	CLO 1-4

### Standard of Assessment

Letter Grade	Grade Point	Grade Definitions	Remarks
A+	4.3	Excellent	Strong evidence of superb ability to fulfill the intended learning outcomes of the course at all levels of learning: describe, apply, evaluate, and synthesis.
A	4.0		
A-	3.7		
B+	3.3	Good	Strong evidence of the ability to fulfill the intended learning outcomes of the course at all levels of learning: describe, apply, evaluate, and synthesis.
B	3.0		
B-	2.7		
C+	2.3	Satisfactory	Evidence of adequate ability to fulfill the intended learning outcomes of the course at low levels of learning such as describe and apply but not at high levels of learning such as evaluate and synthesis.
C	2.0		
C-	1.7		
D+	1.3	Pass	Evidence of basic familiarity with the subject.

D	1.0		
F	0	Failure	Little evidence of basic familiarity with the subject.

To: UG Programme Director  
School of Economics and Finance, The University of Hong Kong

**RE: Reading Course**  
**ECON3801/ECON3293 (Economics field) / FINA3601/FINA3391 (Finance field)**

**A. To be completed by student**

I have read the “Important Notes to Students” on this form. I would like to submit my application for enrolment in the Reading Course (course code: \_\_\_\_\_) for the first / second/ summer\* semester of \_\_\_\_\_ (academic year).

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Univ. No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Curriculum: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Tel. No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Topic of study for the paper: \_\_\_\_\_

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**(Copy of transcript or grades of all courses taken at HKU must be attached to this form.)**

Signature of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**B. To be completed by supervisor**

I have read the “Important Notes to Supervisors” on this form. I agree to be the supervisor of the above student in the Reading Course.

Name of Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

**C. For School’s use only**

Decision by UG Programme Director: Approved/ Disapproved\* \*delete where appropriate

Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#### D. Important Notes to Students

1. The course consists of supervised reading and written work. It is the sole responsibility of the student to identify a full-time faculty member from the School of Economics and Finance who is willing to serve as his/her supervising professor.
2. You may specialize in one topic under the supervision of faculty members of the School of Economics and Finance. You are advised to contact/meet with your supervisor at least once per two weeks to update your research progress, and to get some advices and to make sure your work is on the right track. An original project paper is required in lieu of a written paper in the Examination.
3. The prerequisite for ECON3801/ECON3293 (Economics field): ECON2101/ECON2210 Intermediate microeconomics, ECON2102/ECON2220 Intermediate macroeconomics, and ECON0701/ECON2280 Introductory econometrics.
4. The prerequisite for FINA3601/FINA3391 (Finance field): ECON0701/ECON2280 Introductory econometrics, FINA0301/FINA2322 Derivatives, and FINA2802/FINA2320 Investment and portfolio analysis.
5. If you intend to take this course, you should enroll the course in the Student Information System during the course enrolment period or add-drop period in the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> semester or summer semester. In addition, this form must be completed, together with a copy of your transcript, and returned to the School Office (Room 908, K. K. Leung Building) by August 16, 2016 (end of course selection period) or 4:00 pm, September 14, 2016 (end of add-drop period) for enrolment in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester; or 4:00 pm, February 2, 2017 (end of add-drop period) for enrolment in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester; or 4:00 pm, June 19, 2017 (end of add-drop period) for enrolment in the summer semester. Failure to return this form will result in disapproval of course enrolment.
6. The number of words required for a project paper is **10,000**. You are suggested to submit a preliminary version of your project paper to your supervisor at least two weeks before the submission deadline which would allow sufficient time for your supervisor to give comments for further improvement of your paper.
7. The deadline for submission of the paper will be the last day of the revision period of the enrolled semester (i.e. December 7, 2016 in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester, or May 5, 2017 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, or Aug 11, 2017 in the summer semester). Apart from **the project paper**, you are also required to submit **a Turnitin report**. Please submit hard copy of the two documents to Annie at the General Office (Room 908, K.K. Leung Building) for onward submission to the supervisor for grading.
8. Instructions of generating the Turnitin Report
  - (a) Visit the Library's website at <http://lib.hku.hk/turnitin/students.html> for information of the account set-up and user manual.

(b) Enter the Turnitin webpage <http://www.turnitin.com>

(c) Create your student account with the following information:

- Class ID: 12891346  
(Effective period: June 23, 2016 – August 31, 2017)
- Class Name: UG Papers 2016-17
- Enrollment Password: ug201617

(d) Upload the final version of your paper to the Turnitin system.

(e) Generate the Turnitin Report.

(f) Print out the Turnitin Report, and submit it together with your paper to Annie at the General Office (Room 908, K.K. Leung Building).

### **E. Important Notes to Supervisors**

1. The course offers opportunities for students to undertake research and to write up a project paper under the supervision of faculty members of the School of Economics and Finance.
2. In completion of the Reading course, students are required to submit a project paper of 10,000 words together with a Turnitin report for assessment.
3. Responsibilities of Supervisors:
  - (a) Help the student to define the topic of study for the project paper;
  - (b) Provide close guidance to the student and monitor the student's progress through to completion of the Reading course;
  - (c) Have regular meetings with the student at which all matters relating to the project paper can be discussed;
  - (d) Give comments on the preliminary version of the project paper to help the student to further improve the paper; and
  - (e) Give a final grade on the project paper and return the paper together with the Turnitin report to Mabel at the General Office (Room 908, K.K. Leung Building) for the School's retention. The deadline for submission of the grade will be the last day of the assessment period of the enrolled semester (i.e. December 23, 2016 in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester, or May 26, 2017 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, or August 18, 2017 in the summer semester).
4. Please note that Annie at the General Office is responsible for collecting the project paper and the Turnitin report from students. Annie will then pass the paper to the

respective supervisor for grading.