

EC350 Research Project 1999/2000 Schedule

	Lectures	Tasks due	Marks	Tutorials
(Please check day and venue carefully: either Wednesdays at 9am or Thursdays at 4pm)				
Semester I				
Weeks beginning Monday				(See list of tutors/groups for venues/times of your tutorial)
4th October	Lecture 1: Launch of Programme of Work (4pm Thursday/7th October Lecture Hall 2, St. Anthony's) Dr Aidan Kane, Dr Eamon O'Shea			
11th October				Tutorial 1: Guidance on Task 1: either 9am Wednesday 13th or 4pm Thursday 14th October
18th October	Lecture 2: Economic Information Sources (9am Wednesday 20th October Lecture Hall 3, St. Anthony's) Prof. Michael Keane	Task 1: Proposal/Outline (due 3pm Friday 22nd October)	20	
25th October				Tutorial 2: Discuss Task 1, Guidance on Task 2 either 9am Wednesday 27th or 4pm Thursday 28th October
1st November	Lecture 3: Writing Skills (4pm Thursday 4th November Lecture Hall 2 St. Anthony's) Dr Scott Steele	Task 2: Revised Proposal/Outline (due 3pm Friday 5th November)	20	
8th November				Tutorial 3: Discuss Task 2, Guidance on Task 3 either 9am Wednesday 10th or 4pm Thursday 11th October
15th November	Lecture 4: The Format of a Research Project (4pm Thursday 18th November Lecture Hall 2, St. Anthony's) Dr Aidan Kane (download notes from web site)	Task 3: Further Revision of Proposal/Outline including literature survey (due 3pm Friday 19th November)	20	
22nd November				Tutorial 4: Discuss Task 3 either 9am Wednesday 24th or 4pm Thursday 25th November

(one week gap before Semester I exams begin)

Semester II				
Weeks beginning				
17th January				
24th January	Lecture 5: Handling Text and Type on a Computer (download notes from web site)	Task 4: 1st Draft of Research Project	30	
31st January				Tutorial 5: Discuss Task 4
7th February	Lecture 6: Redrafting Your Work	Task 5: 2nd Draft of Research Project	50	
13th February				Appointment with tutor to discuss 2nd draft
21st February				
28th February				
6th March				
13th March				
20th March				
27th March				
3rd April				
10th April		Task 6: Research Project submitted	150	

(Exams begin 2nd May)

(Marks for attendance at tutorials)

10

Total Marks =

300

EC350 Research Project 1999/2000
Tutorial Groups

Degree	Name	Tutor	Venue/Times (in weeks 5, 7, 9, 11)
3BA	Boland, Mary	Dr Scott Steele	Seminar Room A (front entrance to St. Anthony's)
3BA	Bradford, Nicola	Prof Michael Keane	Lecture Hall 3, St. Anthony's
3BA	Buckley, Jennifer	Dr Eamon O'Shea	Room AC135
3BA	Buckley, Sinead	Prof Michael Keane	Lecture Hall 3, St. Anthony's
3BA	Callinan, David	Dr Eamon O'Shea	Room AC135
4BA Int'l	Colgan, Geraldine	Prof Michael Keane	Lecture Hall 3, St. Anthony's
3BA	Connolly, John	Dr Jennifer Stewart	Room AC133
3BA	Connolly, Paul	Dr Jennifer Stewart	Room AC134
3BA	Craddock, Una	Dr Jennifer Stewart	Room AC134
3BA	Curtley, Anne Marie	Dr Jennifer Stewart	Room AC134
3BA	Doherty, Claire	Dr Scott Steele	Seminar Room A (front entrance to St. Anthony's)
3BA	Durkin, Paula	Dr Jennifer Stewart	Room AC134
3BA	Folan, Fiona	Prof Michael Cuddy	Seminar Room, Department of Marketing (Top floor St. Anthony's)
3BA	Fox, Denvla	Prof Michael Keane	Lecture Hall 3, St. Anthony's
3BA	Gardiner, Peadar	Dr Jennifer Stewart	Room AC134
3BA	Gavin, Colm	Prof Michael Cuddy	Seminar Room, Department of Marketing (Top floor St. Anthony's)
3BA	Gibbons, Glen	Prof Michael Keane	Lecture Hall 3, St. Anthony's
4BA Int'l	Giles, Nodlaig	Dr Scott Steele	Seminar Room A (front entrance to St. Anthony's)
3BA	Griffin, Brian	Dr Scott Steele	Lecture Hall 3, St. Anthony's
3BA	Groome, Aileen	Prof Michael Keane	Seminar Room, Department of Marketing (Top floor St. Anthony's)
4BA Int'l	Heaney, Annette	Prof Michael Cuddy	Lecture Hall 3, St. Anthony's
3BA	Howard, Louise	Prof Michael Keane	Seminar Room A (front entrance to St. Anthony's)
3BA	Johnson, Claire	Dr Jennifer Stewart	Lecture Hall 3, St. Anthony's
3BA	Kelly, David	Dr Jennifer Stewart	Seminar Room, Department of Marketing (Top floor St. Anthony's)
4BA Int'l	Lynam, John	Prof Michael Cuddy	Lecture Hall 3, St. Anthony's
3BA	Mannon, Niamh	Prof Michael Cuddy	Seminar Room, Department of Marketing (Top floor St. Anthony's)
3BA	Maye, Gwen	Prof Michael Cuddy	Seminar Room, Department of Marketing (Top floor St. Anthony's)
3BA	McDonagh, Mark	Dr Eamon O'Shea	Room AC135
3BA	McHale, Vincent	Dr Jennifer Stewart	Room AC134
3BA	Molumby, Raymond	Dr Scott Steele	Seminar Room A (front entrance to St. Anthony's)
3BA	Navan, Louise	Dr Eamon O'Shea	Room AC135
3BA	Neilan, Sinead	Dr Eamon O'Shea	Room AC135
3BA	Nelson, Conor	Dr Eamon O'Shea	Room AC135
3BA	O'Ciobhain, Cathal	Dr Scott Steele	Seminar Room A (front entrance to St. Anthony's)
4BA Int'l	O'Donnell, Sarah	Dr Scott Steele	Seminar Room A (front entrance to St. Anthony's)
3BA	O'Keefe, Suzanne	Prof Michael Keane	Lecture Hall 3, St. Anthony's
3BA	Ring, Suzanne	Dr Scott Steele	Seminar Room A (front entrance to St. Anthony's)
4BA Int'l	Ryder, Teresa	Dr Eamon O'Shea	Room AC135
3BA	Tallon, Thomas	Prof Michael Cuddy	Seminar Room, Department of Marketing (Top floor St. Anthony's)



National University of Ireland, Galway

Department of Economics

Roinn na hEacnamaíochta

www.nuigalway.ie/ecn/

3rd BA, 4th BA (International)

EC350 Research Project

1999/2000

Overview of EC350 Research Project

Introduction

The EC350 Research Project can be a rewarding component of your education in economics. The formal requirement is that you engage in a year-long process of economic research and deliver a Research Project of about 5,000 to 6,000 words by the end of Semester II (next Semester is not broken by an Easter Vacation, as is usually the case). The Research Project is worth 20% of your final year's work in Economics.

Above and beyond examinations, the Research Project is an excellent opportunity to engage in a piece of work which utilises your own talents, interests and knowledge. Employers and/or graduate programmes will be very interested in how you undertake this self-directed work as it reflects a number of your abilities:

- Your ability to reason economically, and understand economic arguments,
- Your ability to select a topic of interest, investigate what the economic journal literature has to say about it, and 'add-value' to this,
- Your familiarity with sources of economic information, and how to access them,
- Your general skills of planning and delivering a research project,
- Your ability to meet deadlines with high quality work,
- Your skills at producing presentable documents, including text, tables and graphs, which communicate your work clearly.

We do *not* assume you have these skills now; most of the point of the EC350 Research Project is to provide an opportunity for you to 'learn by doing'. We have organised a Programme of Work for the year to provide structure and guidance. Research is a learning process, pursued over a period of time to produce worthwhile work, and the Research Project is much more than the final draft you hand in for examination purposes. Hence, this Programme of Work starts now and ends with the submission of your final draft.

Keep in mind that if you have problems this year, there are many sources of help in the University, not the least of which is the Student Counselling Service. Please keep in contact with the Department of Economics if problems arise, so that they can be addressed in your best interests.

The Programme of Work in Brief

The Programme of Work is comprises three main elements:

- **A series of general lectures** for the entire class, addressing the main elements of the research process, to guide you and explain what is expected of you.
These lectures will be given by Dr. Aidan Keane, Prof. Michael Keane, Dr. Eamon O'Shea and Dr. Scott Steele. You are strongly advised to attend, in order to help you achieve the standard which examiners expect from the EC350 Research Project.

- **A programme of tutorials**, with about eight students each. Tutorials will meet four times this Semester and once next Semester, in weeks where no general lecture is held.

The tutorials are given by Prof. Michael Cuddy, Prof Michael Keane, Dr Eamon O'Shea, Dr. Jennifer Stewart and Dr. Scott Steele.

You have been allocated to one tutorial group (see attached listing). Most tutorials will be held on the weeks indicated later at 9am Wednesdays: some will be held at 4pm on Thursdays.

- **A set of tasks**, each worth part of the total marks for the Research Project.

These tasks will be marked by your tutor and form the basis for tutorial discussions. Note the submission dates now and plan accordingly. Your work for these tasks should be submitted to the Departmental Office before 3pm, on or before the dates given.

All work submitted should be typed, but elaborate binding is **not** necessary—staple pages and place them in a clear plastic document holder.

You should always retain a copy of work you submit, and keep a number of back-up copies of computer files on diskette.

Note that only one tutorial and two general lectures are scheduled for Semester II. By this time you will be working on your first draft of your Research Project, to be submitted at the end of Week 3 of Semester II. Then your tutor will also arrange an appointment to discuss your second draft with you, around Week 9.

The Research Project which you submit must reflect your own work. Part of the Programme of Work deals with using the work of others from books and journal articles appropriately, for example by always ensuring you fully and properly attribute quotations and acknowledging your sources. Plagiarism is not acceptable.

Dr. Joan O'Connell has been designated as internal examiner for the EC350 Research Project.

Computer Resources

Please ensure that you are registered with **Computer Services**.

The Faculty of Arts has made separate **computer provision for Arts students**. The rooms in question are known as Ríomharlann na nDán and are located in the Geography. Ms. Emer Madden is Information Technology Officer of the Faculty of Arts and her office is located near these rooms. Contact Ms. Madden in order to register to use these facilities.

You may find it worthwhile now to explore the information technology facilities provided by the **Library**—in particular the Infomedia Centre on the left inside the main entrance. These facilities are continually upgraded; check the Library web site and its range of information leaflets.

The **web site** of the Department of Economics is at <http://www.nuigalway.ie/ecn/>

The section of this site on the EC350 Research Project is being updated. You will find some materials there at the moment which you may find of use—in particular two documents which you can download i.e., guides to the format of a research paper, and handling text and type on a computer. Also, you may find the following resources provided on the Library's web site especially useful (you need to access both of these facilities from a networked computer on campus):

- **EconLit** a database of the economics journal literature, covering journals, books and working papers. EconLit may provide you with an abstract of any given work in questions (not the full text) and it is worth exploring it in detail.
- **JSTOR** this is an archive of the full text of journal articles in many disciplines, including economics. About 13 of the top economics journals are currently available (although no article more recent than five years ago is archived there.)

Contact Information

Dr Aidan Kane is administrator of the Programme of Work. You should contact him to sort out problems.

Room: 46 (first floor, St. Anthony's)
Phone: (091) 524411 ext. 2530
email: aidan.kane@nuigalway.ie

The Department of Economics office hours are:

Monday–Friday:
09.30–11.00
11.30–13.00
14.30–16.00
16.30–17.00

Secretaries to the Department:

Ms. Claire Noone	Room 52	ext. 2177	claire.noone@nuigalway.ie
Ms. Imelda Howley	Room 49	ext. 2501	imelda.howley@nuigalway.ie

Consult individual tutors for their contact hours arrangements.

Tasks

Each of these tasks receives credit towards your final mark in the EC350 Research Project, as indicated in the Programme of Work.

- Written work should be submitted in typed form.
- Submit your work to the Departmental Office before 3pm on or before the dates given.
- You should be extremely careful to retain your own copies of all work submitted for your records as these tasks are part of your Degree Examination.
- You should also keep a number of back-ups of your work on diskette, and save your files often, as you work on a computer.
- Anticipate the extra pressure which the University computer system experiences at many times, and plan accordingly.

These notes below are intended for general guidance only: your tutor may give you more specific guidelines in class.

Task 1 Draft proposal

Decide the topic for your Research Project.

In this proposal, which should comprise no more than three pages, include at least the following:

- A working title for the project.
- A summary of about 300 words of what the project is intended to do.
- A list of the main sections and subsections you envisage for your project.
- A list of the sources you will draw upon in your research, part of which should be a bibliography
- A plan of action which you will follow between now and the end of Semester II

Task 2: Revised Proposal

Revise the proposal you submitted as Task 1, in the light of work undertaken since the last tutorial.

Task 3: Further Revised Proposal + Literature Survey

It is envisaged that at this stage, the broad outlines of your project should be agreed, and that this revision of your proposal should include a literature survey of the area you are researching. You should gather material well in advance for this task, and your tutor will advise further on this in class.

Task 4 1st draft EC350 Research Project

This first full draft of your project should be to the standard of presentation required of the final product, and covered in the general lectures. It is a **first** draft, in the sense that you will revise and extend it as appropriate until the final submission date, especially in the light of discussion with your tutor.

Task 5: 2nd draft EC350 Research Project

This is a complete draft and is your last task but one. Again, you will have discussions with your tutor, this time on an individual basis, with a viewing to revising/ re-drafting your work.

Task 6: Final draft EC350 Research Project

Note that there is some flexibility with regard to the size of the final product: it is envisaged that most will be about 5,000 to 6,000 words in length, but this does **not** include supplementary material which might be appropriate to include in appendices nor does it reflect the fact that some types of projects may lend themselves to more concise treatments.