**ECON 401/PSIR 401\_O Research Methods**

TEDU, Department of Economics

2018-2019 Academic Year, Summer Term (24 June, 2019 – 9 August, 2019)

Wednesdays and Fridays, 12:00 hours, G103

**Lecturer**

Altuğ Yalçıntaş, Ankara University (faculty member) and TED University (visiting lecturer)

altug.yalcintas@gmail.com

<http://ppe.ankara.edu.tr/altug-yalcintas/>

<https://twitter.com/EconResEthics>

**Office hours:** With appointment only.

**Synopsis**

This course is designed for the economics students who need formal education in responsible research methodologies before they start to write a thesis or academic article. The goal of the course is to allow students to have an understanding of the significance of academic honesty in economics. Students will be informed about the harmful consequences of immoral behaviour at universities (such as cheating, plagiarism, data manufacturing, and data manipulation). Students will also be introduced to a selection of software (such as End Note) and digital platforms (such as WoS, Google Scholar, Research Gate, and several university libraries). At the end of the course, students will acquire the necessary skills to draft an original research proposal and conduct research independently.

**Assessment**

30 % of the final grade: First version of research proposal

40 % of the final grade: Revised version of research proposal

30 % of the final grade: Take-home exam

Class attendance is compulsory. Attendance scores will contribute to the final grade:

attended: +5, unattended: -5.

**Readings**

Steve Pinker. 2014. “Why Academics Stink at Writing” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

(26 September)

John Kenneth Galbraith. 1978. “Writing, Typing, and Economics” *The Atlantic* (March)

Deirdre N. McCloskey. 2000. *Economical Writing*. Long Grove, Illinois: Waveland Press Inc.

Umberto Eco. 1975. *How to Write a Thesis*. Milano: Bompiani.

**Podcasts**

Episode 11 of Ceteris Never Paribus, a podcast by Paul Dudenhefer, “Academic Writing”

<https://ceterisneverparibus.net/paul-dudenhefer-on-academic-writing-episode-11/>

**Watchings**

*The Big Short*, Dir.: Adam McKay, 2015

[<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1596363/>]

*Ivory Tower*, Dir.: Andrew Rossi, 2014

[<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt3263520/>9]

*Too Big to Fail*, Dir.: Curtis Hanson, 2011

[<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1742683/?ref_=tt_rec_tti>]

*Margin Call*, Dir.: J. C. Chandor, 2011

[<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1615147/?ref_=tt_rec_tti>]

*Inside Job*, Dir.: Charles Ferguson, 2010

[<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1645089/>]

*Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room*, Dir.: Alex Gibney, 2005

[<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1016268/?ref_=tt_rec_tti>]