

APPENDIX 10

Economics Department - Prospectus Rules

The PhD candidate is required to present his or her prospectus in substantial detail in a formal seminar before the department faculty. This prospectus should include a statement of the problem, an outline of the model, derivation of implications and hypotheses, discussion of data sources and data, preliminary empirical results if possible and a statement of further anticipated work. This department prospectus must be approved by the dissertation committee prior to the department presentation, and should normally be presented in the early stages of the dissertation progress and at least six months prior to the final defense of the dissertation. Prior to this department presentation, the prospectus must also be presented in the PhD pre-dissertation research seminar ECON 693/694. Following this preliminary presentation, the department presentation can be scheduled for the Department Seminar during either the fall or spring semesters.

Rules governing the prospectus include:

1. The prospectus seminar should be presented to the department only after the written prospectus has been approved in writing by all 3 committee members.
2. The prospectus seminar must be presented at least 6 months prior to the final oral exam on the thesis. Usually a longer interval should elapse.
3. At the end of the seminar, the faculty in attendance shall meet to discuss the feasibility of the thesis topic and to provide advice to the thesis committee. If a majority of the faculty present have significant reservations about such feasibility, a letter outlining these reservations will be sent to the student by the Director of Graduate Studies and put in the student's file.
4. The prospectus seminar normally will be scheduled as part of the departmental seminar series. If it cannot be done in this fashion, then the seminar can be given at other times (e.g. in the summer) if the following conditions are met:
 - a. There are special circumstances justifying an exception as certified by the Director of Graduate Studies.
 - b. At least seven faculty attend the seminar.
5. The composition of the thesis committee, and any changes in its composition, must be approved by the Director of Graduate Studies.