



**Graduate School of Management and Economics**  
**Second semester 2011-2012**

Course: **Research Method** (in Economics)

Instructor: Dr. Javad Abedini (Home page: <http://gsme.sharif.edu/~abedini/>)

### Helping References

Thomson W., 2001, *A Guide for the Young Economist*, The MIT Press.

McGranaghan M., *Guidelines on writing a research proposal*, University of Hawaii.

Varian H.R., 2009, *How to Build an Economic Model in Your Spare Time*, UC Berkeley.

### Course outline

#### 1. Introduction

#### 2. What is the science?

- 2.1. General definition of the science
- 2.2. Specific definition of the science
- 2.3. Limits of the science
- 2.4. Main features of the science
- 2.5. Is Economics a Science?

#### 3. Research Methodology in Economics?

- 3.1. How economists think?
- 3.2. Is there any other method of thinking about economic issues?

#### 4. Writing research proposals

#### 5. Writing papers

#### 6. 2 example papers in Economics (in English and Persian)

#### 7. Student seminars and exercises

### Student evaluation criteria

This course is a practical instead of a theoretical. As a result, the student works highly matter for their evaluation in this course. The final mark of students comprises of: **class participation** (2.5 points), **written exam** (4 points), **student seminar** (3.5 points), **student work** (5 points), and **supervision by student** (5 points).

### Lectures

The course will be held on **Saturdays and Mondays** between 13:30 and 15:00.

### Office Hours

Saturdays 11:30-12:30 or by appointment using [abedini@sharif.edu](mailto:abedini@sharif.edu)