

# IECO/ECON 401, Assignment #1

## Research Topic

Please bring to class a one-page description of your research topic. Bring two copies, one for each professor. The description should contain the following:

- A tentative title.
- A clearly worded statement of the thesis question. Ideally, this is in the form of a yes/no question ("is free trade regressive?"), or a question that can be answered with a single number ("what is the deadweight loss of the steel tariff?").
- A 1-paragraph abstract outlining your goals for the project
- Some suggestions as to where you might find data for your project.

If you are unsure of the topic, or have several in mind, that is okay. You may suggest more than one, and we can help you choose.

Your research topic must be approved before you can continue in the course. One of the professors will contact you, either approving your topic or asking for revision. (The earlier your topic is approved, the sooner you can start.) Failure to obtain an approved paper topic will necessitate your withdrawal from the course. The professor who approves your topic will serve as your thesis mentor for the remainder of the semester.