

**University of Colorado Boulder**  
**Department of Economics**

Prof. Brian Cadena (he/him/his)  
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(303) 492-7908  
Economics 4309  
Honors Seminar, Fall 2021  
Website: <https://canvas.colorado.edu/>

Office Hours: TTh 10:45-11:45 AM, T 2:00-3:00 PM  
In-person: Econ 208D  
Zoom: <https://cuboulder.zoom.us/my/briancadena>  
Please use this link to schedule a specific time/place:  
<https://calendly.com/brian-cadena/honors-office-hours>

**Course Description**

This is the first course in a two-course sequence designed to offer support and structure to students writing honors theses in Economics. In order to complete this course successfully and to be ready to continue work in the spring, students must write a research proposal. This proposal will consist of multiple parts:

1. Draft introduction – in the style common to academic articles in economics
  - a. Why is the topic interesting/important?
  - b. Clear statement of the specific research question
  - c. Verbal description of the methodology (with a placeholder for results to come)
  - d. Discussion of the contribution of the study relative to the existing literature
2. Data source description (empirical theses)
3. Proposed methodology, including a regression equation if empirical.
  - a. The proposed methodology must answer the specific question posed in the draft introduction.
  - b. If the thesis is empirical, the regression equation should be estimable using the data source identified

Students who successfully complete this proposal by the end of the semester will be well-positioned to finish the thesis on time in the Spring. Some students will be able to complete the

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## **Other Course Information and Policies**

**Immigration status:** the webpage [www.colorado.edu/undocumented](http://www.colorado.edu/undocumented) contains information regarding campus resources available for students and employees with DACA status. You should also feel free to discuss your status and any related issues with Prof. Cadena. I will do my best to provide appropriate accommodation or connect you to the most appropriate on-campus resources.

The **Office of Victim Assistance (OVA)** provides free and confidential information, consultation, support, advocacy and short-term counseling services to University of Colorado Boulder students, graduate students, faculty and staff who have experienced a traumatic, disturbing or life disruptive event. OVA is not a part of the police department or the Office of In

If you feel ill and think you might have COVID-19, if you have tested positive for COVID-19, or if you are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated and have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, you should stay home and follow the further guidance of the Public Health Office ([contacttracing@colorado.edu](mailto:contacttracing@colorado.edu)). If you are fully vaccinated and have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, you do not need to stay home; rather, you should self-monitor for symptoms and follow the further guidance of the Public Health Office ([contacttracing@colorado.edu](mailto:contacttracing@colorado.edu)). If you will be absent due to quarantine or isolation, please let me know and we will collaborate to help you make up the missed work. In weeks when we are meeting individually rather than as a full class, I will offer a Zoom option to minimize disruptions due to missed class time.

## ACCOMMODATION FOR DISABILITIES

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. Information on requesting accommodations is located on the [Disability Services website](#). Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or [dsinfo@colorado.edu](mailto:dsinfo@colorado.edu) for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) on the Disability Services website.

## PREFERRED STUDENT NAMES AND PRONOUNS

CU Boulder recognizes that students' legal information doesn't always align with how they identify. Students may update their preferred names and pronouns via the student portal; those preferred names and pronouns are listed on instructors' class rosters. In the absence of such updates, the name

CU Boulder is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. University policy prohibits sexual misconduct (harassment, exploitation, and assault), intimate partner violence (dating or domestic violence), stalking, protected-class discrimination and harassment, and related retaliation by or against members of our community on- and off-campus. These behaviors harm individuals and our community. The Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) addresses these policies, and individuals who believe they have been subjected to misconduct can contact OIEC at 303-492-2127 or email [cureport@colorado.edu](mailto:cureport@colorado.edu). Information about university policies, [reporting options](#), and support resources can be found on the [OIEC website](#).

Please know that faculty and graduate instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when they are made aware of any issues related to these policies regardless of when or where they occurred to ensure that individuals impacted receive information about their rights, support resources, and resolution options. To learn more about reporting and support options for a variety of concerns, visit