

Final Project; Paper Supplement Guidelines

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You CAN use your final project explanations and plots

You can use your writings (copy paste) and your plots and output from your final project in your final paper. Your final paper aims to create a consistent piece out of your final project. You do not need to necessarily create new material for the paper submission and can borrow from your jupyter submission as much as needed.

The “Final Paper” is a written version of your “Final Project” presented in the format of an academic paper. You should reorganize and rewrite your explanations so the document reads as a coherent research paper rather than a sequence of project answers.

- Please do **NOT** have section titles that are ‘project one,’ or ‘project two.’ Your final paper is a paper; it’s not a project anymore!
- Word count limit for the final paper (not the final jupyter) is **3000 words** (less than the jupyter submission). Papers longer than 3000 words receive a penalty of up to 20%.
- Please do **NOT** drop any important sections from your paper; you cannot remove your web scraping or your ML sections from your paper. You can choose which results to show, but you cannot fully delete a section. Ask me if this is not clear.

Please do not include your code and unnecessary outputs. **Submitting a Jupyter Notebook output receives zero.** You should either type in Latex or Microsoft Word. You will lose **(20 points)** if you violate **ANY** of the formatting requirements mentioned in this guide.

The quality of your paper (including your findings, their presentations, writing, etc.) is the most crucial part of this project. Simply answering the questions does not guarantee any mark.

Important: read your pdf before submitting! Your paper should sound like a story. Paragraphs should be connected. You should read the pdf and ensure everything makes sense and flows nicely.

Here are the checkmarks that we want you to complete.

Have an introduction that states the following:

(20 points)

1. Clearly explain the **economic question** that you have answered in your paper. You were expected to check with your TA to ensure your economic question is indeed an economic question.
2. Do a literature review and cite a few papers that have answered similar questions or discussed this field of study. Write this like a story, no lists.
3. Explain what your paper is adding to the literature. What are we learning from your paper that we did not know before?
4. Have an ending paragraph that transitions to the body of the paper.

In the body of the paper:

(60 points)

1. At a minimum, include a section for Data, one for Visualization and Summary statistics, one for Regression Results. Each section should be related to your overall research questions and help us understand your answer to that question.
2. Section Data: explain your data, where it comes from, the level of observations, etc. in details
3. Section Summary statistics: use your first three projects, describe your data, and visualize your initial findings. Add detailed explanations. You can include your web scraping visualizations in the summary stat section or after the introduction for motivating your idea, or anywhere else that makes sense.
4. Section Results: use your final project and show the result of your regressions and what you learn from it. Explain your regressions, talk about the performance of these regressions, and the measures you use.

Explain your results in ECONOMIC terms. What have you have learned from these results?

Compare your regressions and give an overall picture of your findings.

In the conclusion of the paper:

(20 points)

1. State your economic question.
2. Mention the main results that you think distinguish your paper from other papers in your literature.
3. Talk about further research if you think there are more unanswered questions that you or future researchers must answer.

References:

Have a References section at the end of your paper. Cite all of the papers you have cited either in the introduction or the paper's body.

All of your papers will be run through a plagiarism checker, so ensure that you cite other papers properly if you use their findings or explain their methodology (which you should do at least in the introduction).

Please keep your most important results in the body. You can have an appendix if you think there is a result you want to keep in the paper but not in the body. Check google scholar for examples of academic papers.

Formatting

You will lose **(20 points)** if your paper violates **ANY** of the following.

- No table should take more than one page. Shorten long tables and only keep important information.
- no screenshots, download your images from your Jupyter, download your tables in latex or other format or make the tables in your word compiler. Screenshots receive formatting penalties.
- Submission must be a single pdf file. Submitting a broken pdf file counts as not submitting and receives zero.
- **Reminder: submitting a Jupyter Notebook output receives zero.** You should either type in Latex or Microsoft Word.
- Use font size 11 or 12 and double spacing.
- No more than 3000 words. We care about the quality and presentation of the paper. It must be formatted like an academic paper.

A well-done, super interesting paper with fascinating results that is not formatted well, has typos, varying fonts, etc., will not receive full marks.

AI Tools Policy

Students may use AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Copilot) for brainstorming or editing assistance. However, all analysis, interpretation, and writing must reflect the student's own understanding. Students remain responsible for verifying the accuracy of any information produced with AI assistance.

Among other examples, if an AI tool suggests an academic reference, you must confirm that the paper exists and that it supports the claim you attribute to it. Citing non-existent papers or misrepresenting the contribution of a cited paper will be treated as an academic integrity violation.

Upload your paper (NOT WRITTEN in JUPYTER NOTEBOOK) in pdf format on Crowdmark for marking.

I hope you have enjoyed this course and hope this paper can positively impact your professional life.

This paper will be yours forever. You have written a solo-authored research paper, something not many undergraduate students can say they have done. You explored a topic deeply, learned how to ask meaningful research questions, cleaned data, interpreted empirical results, and critically evaluated your own work while incorporating feedback.

Along the way, you also experienced the uncertainty that comes with real research and learned how to work productively with others while developing your own independent ideas. These are skills that cannot be fully learned from an online course or by studying on your own. They are often unwritten skills that develop through practice and experience.

Now you have a paper that reflects those skills and the work you have done throughout the course.

All the best!
Nazanin Khazra :)