

TEMPLATE FOR HS237C TERM PAPER

Approximate length: 12-18 pages + tables, graphs, references

Title

Author name and/or student ID number

Date

Introduction (1/2 to 1 page)

- State research question (can be worded more generally)
- State specific (testable) hypotheses and, if applicable, counter-hypotheses
- Explain rationale for hypotheses

Conceptual Model (1-2 pages + table + possible graph)

- Description of model (can include graph)
- Table summarizing conceptual variables, theoretical proxies, hypothesized direction of effect and rationale for each

Methods (4-7 pages)

Sources of Data and Study Cohort (1/2 to 1 page)

Study Design (1/2 to 1 page)

Dependent Variables (1/2 to 1 page)

Primary Regressor(s) of interest (1/2 to 1 page)

Other Control Variables (1/2 to 1 page)

Statistical analysis (1-2 pages)

- Missing data issues
- Variable transformations
- Which specification tests were performed and why
- Which regression methods were used and why
- How the results are presented, including how confidence intervals or SE's are derived

Results (3-5 pages)

Univariate or possibly bivariate statistics (1/2 to 1 page + table)

Multivariate statistics (2-4 pages + tables)

- Tests performed
- Detailed description of results for main regressor(s)
- Brief summary of results for other covariates
- Sensitivity analyses

Discussion (2-3 pages)

Summary of Findings (1/2 page)

Limitations (1-2 pages)

Examples of possible study limitations (not an exhaustive list):

- Missing data issues
- Imperfect implementation of methods, e.g., failure to use weights
- Omitted variables, reverse causality (must explain likely direction of bias to get full credit)
- Lack of generalizability

Clinical and/or Policy Implications and Future Research Directions (1/2 page or less)