

## ECON 210 Research Paper Checklist

Your topic summary and proposed outline of your idea for the paper is due in Module 3, a draft of the paper is due in Module 6, and the final paper is due in Module 9. Here is a checklist that you may find helpful.

- The objective of the assignment is to demonstrate the application of microeconomic theory as presented in Arnold to a current topic you have chosen. It is the application of the theory that is important; this is not just a research paper which describes a current situation with some economic features.
- The selected topic must be one that relates to microeconomics; that is, any of the subjects listed in the Arnold table of contents under microeconomics, for example, market failure. Macroeconomic topics and analysis are not acceptable for a micro class.
- The paper should not be long. Provide enough information and detail on your chosen topic to serve as the basis for economic analysis. The topic must be relatively current; an analysis of some past event is not acceptable.
- Show how the theory you've learned from the course and presented in Arnold applies to or explains the current situation. The analysis need not be complex, but must include a written explanation and a graphical analysis similar to those used throughout Arnold. Basically, you are just selecting the appropriate tools from Arnold and showing how they apply to a specific situation.
- Write a short conclusion. This might include some predictions for the future.

The paper should include the following:

- Title page
- Insert page numbers. A Running Head is fine but not necessary.
- Abstract – not required but OK if desired
- Table of Contents – not required
- Section Headings – strongly encouraged
- Citations – cite all references in the body of the text and in the Reference list.
- Plagiarism – Do not copy text from another author or Web source unless it is quoted.
- Appendices – Not necessary but may be appropriate for raw data.

Resources on APA Style

- **American Psychological Association: Learning APA Style** (see The Basics of APA Style tutorial)
- **Purdue OWL: General APA Guidelines** (General format of APA research papers, in-text citations, and reference page)

If you have questions, please ask now.