BEE1037 - ECONOMICS II

REE & THE FIRST YEAR
ECONOMIST’ CHALLENGE 2023

Deadline: 22\textsuperscript{nd} March 2023 at 15:00
(UK time)

REE RESEARCH & POSTER BRIEF
1. Introduction

An important aspect of your university program is the opportunity to work as part of a group and we encourage you to participate in a group task where you research on race, ethnicity and the economy and produce a poster as a group in this module. Although this does not count as part of your grade for the module, and we do appreciate this brings a number of challenges and creates a lot of extra work but we feel it is an extremely positive experience for the following.

1. Group working is fun and allows individuals who enjoy peer learning to do so. Also, it allows you to take responsibility and accountability of your learning process in a fun manner, without depending on us as your only source of information. This fosters active learning, promotes your confidence and enables you to master these important ideas.

2. Develops your academic, teamwork and collaborative skills.

3. Prepares you for the work place where cultural, race and ethnicity awareness and its impact in the economy is important to many employers.

4. The content is examinable, only that you are learning in a different way that involves working with your peers.

5. Develops our Economics II learning community.

2. Intended learning outcomes (ILOs)

On completion of the group work assignment, the ILOs that we expect you to achieve are:

1. Explain the importance of race, ethnicity and the economy (REE).

2. Identify the essential elements of the problems of REE in our society today and organise a way to think about it systematically.
3. Explain and demonstrate an appreciation for the types of issues that economics can help address in our world.

4. Improve reasoning ability.

5. Demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively.

6. Apply collective problem-solving skills to a team challenge.

7. Apply teamwork skills to complete a group task.

3. REE instructions and poster output

As a group you need to research on race, ethnicity and the economy focusing on employment, education and income. Some articles to help you kick start your research as a group are available on ELE. We have made clear on the module’s ELE page which resources are compulsory and examinable, and which ones are optional. You can select which of the optional materials you want to read or watch based on your interests.

Thereafter you produce a poster focusing on either employment, education or income. Questions you could address in your poster are as follows:

1. Why is race, ethnicity and the economy important?

2. How does your group define race and ethnicity?

3. Is your group thinking about any heterogeneity within the racial and ethnicity classification stated in 2?

4. Current situation: What are the stories and according to who? The stories are either by the races and ethnicities or institutions e.g. think tanks, governments etc on race, ethnicity and its impact on the economy. Does it matter who tells the story?

5. Way forward: Should the races and ethnic groups tell their own stories or should we rely on institutions to tell the stories when looking at
race, ethnicity and the economy to form policies? (on employment, income or education, depending in the topic group members chose.) Should representatives of race and ethnic groups be involved in the policy making that affect their contribution to the economy.

6. Ethical issue: Has the government legislation on race, ethnicity and the economy in various countries in the last 40 years really been effective or is a culture change needed?

4. How to make a poster

Research shows that posters is one way students can learn and express themselves using other means apart from essay writing. Also, students develop transferable skills that can be used in future academic years and work place. Articles providing guidelines on how to make a poster are provided on the module’s ELE page on the ‘REE’ tab. You are free to use other alternative resources should you wish.

5. References

This is an academic piece of work, so your group poster should be accompanied by references (only the key references that you as a group feel are important in supporting your ideas).

6. Groups

You have been allocated to groups of 5 or 6 students. Each group has a number. Please check your email for your group number and members.

Remember this is a group project to produce a group poster and not a collection of individuals working separately then coming together last minute to produce a poster. Therefore, we encourage the group members to start meeting early in the project either in person or virtually. The group is free
to create a Teams group or any group chat using other platforms that the group members deem fit for communication, only be respectful of each other’s privacy concerns.

7. Submission method

1. Submit **ONE** poster as a PDF file per group using Pilot ELE and it should not be larger than 10MB. Only one person per group to submit.

2. Please **INCLUDE your group number** on the poster. Apart from your group number, as a group please make sure you **DO NOT** include your names or students numbers on the poster document since the winner will be decided through a voting process.

8. The First Year Economist’ Student Challenge 2023

As a group, you have to give consent whether you would like to be considered for the The First Year Economist’ Student Challenge. The top 5 positions will be decided by the academics in the department while the winning group, first and second runners up will be decided by the students in Week 11 through a voting process.

All top 3 groups will get a departmental recognition and if suitable posters can be used as part of the business school promotional activities on its websites. This is good for your curriculum vitae and also academics being willing to give you references when you go to the job market. Not to mention recommending you for an opportunity in the department if any comes up.

The prizes for the top three teams is as follows.

- All top 3 teams: Poster uploaded onto Economics website and business school promotional activities (if appropriate).
• Other prizes:
  - Third place team: Amazon voucher worth £60 for group.
  - Second place team: Amazon voucher worth £90 for group.
  - Winning team: Amazon voucher worth £120 for group + lunch at Harry’s Restaurant in Exeter + further recognition within the business school + poster to be displayed in the department (if appropriate).

9. Frequently asked questions

1. If we cannot get in touch with half the people in our group, are half of us still expected to do the project, particularly since it does not affect our grades?

   **Answer**
   We strongly encourage you to work with those you have gotten in touch with. It is for your own benefit since you get to know your colleagues, learn with them in a fun and relaxed manner. Also, although there are no specific grades for the group project, as we have previously advised, it counts indirectly towards your grade because it is examinable. It is a good way of developing a study group for the exam.

   In addition, there is still the incentive to win the prize awards and improve on your CV for the job market as you approach the summer. One of the top skills employers are currently looking for, are individuals who have the ability to work in a team project in person and virtually with people from different backgrounds, so doing the group task provides you with an excellent opportunity to develop this essential skill in the current job market.

2. What if any member in the group is not actively engaged in the group task?

   **Answer**
As mentioned in the introduction, working as a group is for each member’s benefit given that the topic is examinable and there are a number of compulsory resources as part of the group task, therefore it helps all members with their exam preparation. Not to mention it is a skill that employers highly seek!

3. Will we receive feedback?

Answer

Yes. Students will receive either written group or cohort feedback on Pilot ELE.