

“Is Economics Research for Me?” PDF Worksheet

Personal Questions

1. What are some economics classes/topics that I have loved?

Below are some, but not all, of our economic class themes:

- i. Finance and investments
- ii. Econometrics and statistics
- iii. Environmental and energy
- iv. Growth, poverty, and inequality
- v. Macroeconomics and international spheres
- vi. Trade
- vii. Business operations and game theory
- viii. Behavioral studies
- ix. Law
- x. Healthcare

-WHY have you loved these areas?

2. Looking through the syllabi and textbooks of my previous economic classes, what are some themes or “burning questions” that are still with me today? What excites me about these questions? Have I shown interest in this area of study beyond the assigned class time and homework assignments?

3. Am I qualified to work with a professor? *In what ways am I qualified? Why would a professor choose to mentor or collaborate with me?*

4. What do I hope this opportunity will say about post-graduation? How do I want to talk about this opportunity with a future employer or graduate school?

Logistics Questions

1. Do some of my professors work in areas similar to my interests? How do I feel about working more closely with a faculty member?

2. Will the timing work out? When would I like to do a directed study with a professor? Will he/she be able to serve as a mentor during the semester I wish to pursue my own research opportunity?

3. Do I want to receive credit; do I want to receive a grade?

4. Do I have a question of my own I want to research or am I hoping to work with a professor on their economic research?