The purpose of this course is to help students learn how to conduct rigorous academic research in finance and to write about their work professionally. Each student will be required to write a research paper and present it to the finance faculty. Students will meet individually each week with the instructor to discuss their respective research papers and to receive feedback on their progress.

In addition to individual consultations, the class meets every week. The main purpose of these class meetings is to discuss the research paper being presented in the seminar that week. The objective is to familiarize students with the process of scientific inquiry in finance research and prepare them for being an active participant in the seminar. During weeks when a seminar is not scheduled, other professional development topics will be discussed, such as (1) the academic job market, (2) writing research papers, (3) reviewing papers for journals, (4) responding to referee reports, and (5) discussing papers at conferences. Students are also required to write referee reports, similar to those for an academic journal, and present a discussion of a paper in class.