

# SYLLABUS

*University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill*  
Department of Economics

## **Econ 985-001: Applied Micro Dissertation Workshop - Individual Behavior**

SPRING 2018

**[Preliminary - Version: January 12, 2018]**

### **Instructor:**

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### **Time and Place:**

Class: 12:20pm-1:35pm Tuesday in 309  
Office Hours: by appointment

### **Description:**

The purpose of this course is to receive feedback on on-going dissertation and research work and to test presentation skills. This objective is obtained at least in three ways:

1. By actively engaging in the workshop both as a presenter and a prepared and vocal participant, a student improves his or her ability to organize thoughts and to discuss ones' own and other research.
2. Participation in the workshop allows the student to associate, correct, or avoid similar problems in one's own research, and to learn appropriate presentation and research skills by observing and engaging others.
3. Participation in the workshop provides the student with feedback on his or her own research in a relaxed, but formal, setting from student colleagues and multiple faculty members who may or may not be dissertation committee members.

### **Course Requirements [relative weight]:**

1. Presentation [ $\frac{1}{3}$ ]:

All student participants are required to present at least once during the Fall and Spring semester. I will assign dates to each participant based on dissertation progress, proposal status, and job market participation. Speakers should email the paper to the group of students and faculty participants by Friday noon before the Monday presentation. The instructor will take care of posting a link to the paper on the Workshop website.

Notice, we also encourage preliminary oral exams (proposal defense) and job market talk practice for applied micro students to be scheduled as part of the workshop. Each presentation will be assigned one of these three categories: regular seminar (X); proposal defense (P); or job market talk practice (J).

2. Comments [ $\frac{1}{3}$ ]:

All student participants are also required to provide comments on the research of each presenter. Please read the paper before the presentation and the day of the presentation provide written comments. The comments should be sent to the presenter cc-ing me.

Following last year innovation, all student participants are also required to be *super reader* at least once during the Fall and Spring semester. Super reader's written evaluation should be prepared like a referee report on a journal submission. I have examples if you would like to see some. It is expected that the comments will be detailed, substantive with regard to the economic content and modeling as well as constructive with regard to grammar and style.

3. Participation [ $\frac{1}{3}$ ]:

Finally, all student participants are expected to attend and participate actively during each presentation. This include listening with attention to the seminar and ask questions to the presenter. Be sure to have the student presenter address the concerns you might have.

## Course Policies:

- *Course Prerequisites* consists of permission by instructor and the Director of Graduate Studies in the Economics department.
- *Grading Policy* follows the grading policy in a seminar course at UNC: Students showing satisfactory mastery will receive a "P"; Those who consistently perform less than satisfactory will receive an "L"; Those who truly excel will receive an "H". This means that P is truly the modal grade and that H and L should be considered outliers used only in extreme cases.
- *Reading materials* consists of the presenter's paper.
- *Honor Code*: All students are responsible for knowing the UNC's Honor Code (<http://honor.unc.edu/>).