

Fall 2019 - Spring 2020
University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill
ECON 985: Applied Micro Student Workshop

Dr. Klara S. Peter

Office: 306C Gardner Hall

Office Hours: by appointment via Calendly: <https://calendly.com/ksp0101/office-hours>

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Class Schedule: 12:30-1:45 pm T, Room 211

Target Audience: Graduate students in the Ph.D. program in Economics who have completed their field paper and are engaged in dissertation research in the area of applied microeconomics.

Course Prerequisites: Permission by instructor and the Director of Graduate Studies in the Economics department.

Grading:

Presentation 33 % 1-2 times per year

Written Comments 33 % 2-3 times per year

Participation (attendance, verbal comments, questions, attention) 33%:

Course Goals and Key Learning Objectives

The purpose of this course is (at least) three-fold:

1. By actively engaging in the workshop, a student improves his or her ability to organize thoughts and to discuss ones' own and other research.
2. 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 faculty members.
3. 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.

Course Requirements:

All student participants are required to present at least once during the Fall or Spring semester. Dr. Peter will assign dates to each participant based on dissertation progress, proposal status, and job market participation. Speakers should email a paper to the class (students and faculty participants) and Dr. Peter by **Saturday midnight** before the Tuesday presentation.

Student participants will also provide comments on the research of the presenter when the student is assigned to be a super reader. Super reader assignments are made by the instructor at the beginning of the semester. In addition, you are encouraged to provide comments for every presenter. Please read the paper before the presentation and bring written comments to the presentation. On the day of the presentation turn the comments in to Dr. Peter, who will read them and distribute them to the presenter.

As a super reader, your written evaluation should be prepared like a referee report on a journal submission. It is expected that you will provide detailed comments on the assigned paper; these comments should be substantive with regard to the economic content and modeling as well as constructive with regard to grammar and style. Students (and myself) will know who provides good comments and who does not. Provide the type of detail that you'd like to receive yourself.

In addition to the required presentation of own research at least once during the semester and weekly active written participation, you are expected to participate vocally during each presentation. The goal is to practice asking questions, to get some of your own questions answered, to push the student presenter to address a concern you might have.

We also encourage preliminary oral exams (defense of the prospectus) and final oral exams (defense of the dissertation) for applied micro students to be scheduled as part of the workshop.

Final Exams: There is no final exam in this course. Graduate courses are not required to have final exams.

Course Policies: Regular attendance is expected and will be accounted for in the assignment of grades. Written comments are accepted and expected, even if late.

Course Resources: Reading materials for the course consist of the presenter's paper and will be distributed on **Saturday** before the Tuesday presentation. If a presenter does not provide the paper in a timely manner, he/she should not expect written feedback from student participants.

Honor Code: The requirements for the course that could have Honor Code consequences pertain to the student's written paper. All work should be your own.

Time Table: I will email the scheduled presentation dates, times, and locations.

Syllabus Changes: The facilitator of this course reserves the right to make modifications to the presentation schedule (dates, times, and locations) in the event that a presenter cancels. Any such changes will be announced as early as possible so that participants may adjust their schedules.

Resources:

Counseling and Psychological Services: CAPS is strongly committed to addressing the mental health needs of a diverse student body through timely access to consultation and connection to clinically appropriate services, whether for short or long-term needs. Go to their website: <https://caps.unc.edu> or visit their facilities on the third floor of the Campus Health Services building for a walk-in evaluation to learn more.

Accessibility Resources & Services: UNC-Chapel Hill facilitates the implementation of reasonable accommodations for students with learning disabilities, physical disabilities, mental health struggles, chronic medical conditions, temporary disability, or pregnancy complications, all of which can impair student success. See the ARS website for contact and registration information: <https://ars.unc.edu/about-ars/contact-us>