

**ECON 985: Applied Micro Student Workshop Fall 2023 - Spring 2024**

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Course Number: ECON 985-001 Day/Time: T 12:30 – 1:45  
Credit Hours: 1.0 to 3.0 Bldg/Room: Gardner 106  
Department: Economics Term: FA 2023 – SP 2024

Professor: Andrés Hincapié Office: 101 Gardner Hall  
Email: andres.hincapie@email.unc.edu Office Hrs: By Appointment

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Grading: Presentation 67 % 1-2 times per year  
Participation 33 % Engagement:  
(attendance, comments,  
questions, attention, reviews)

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. Registration in at least two semesters of ECON 985 (for 1-3 credits each semester) is a requirement for the Ph.D. degree.

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

Course Goals and Key Learning Objectives:

The goals of the workshop:

- To make progress on dissertation research
- To generate new research ideas
- To cultivate research partnerships
- To engage with fellow students in discussing economics
- To improve presentation skills

The learning objectives of this workshop are (at least) three-fold:

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's 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 multiple faculty members who may or may not be dissertation committee members.
3. By observing and engaging others, participation in the workshop allows the student to discern appropriate presentation and research skills, while also allowing the student to associate, correct, or avoid similar problems in one's own research.

Course Requirements:

*Presenters:*

All student participants are required to present at least once during the Fall and Spring semesters. Dr. Hincapié will assign dates to each participant based on dissertation progress, proposal status, and job market participation. Length of presentation will depend on year in

program, progress to degree, and practice needs. All presenters will have slide-reviewers and assigned student participants.

- Presenters must send slides to their assigned slide editors before **noon on the Thursday before** the presentation
- Presenters must send a **very brief** email description of your work, your current questions (to which you seek advice), and slides to workshop organizer by **noon on the Monday before** their Tuesday presentation

*Slide-reviewers:*

Editors should provide feedback before 6PM on the Friday before the presentation.

- Dr. Hincapié will review the slides of job market candidates
- Job market candidates will review the slides of everyone else

*Assigned Commentators:*

For every Tuesday session two students will be allocated to come prepared with questions.

*Overall Feedback:*

All students are expected to provide constructive comments for every presenter. To do this:

- Before the presentation: read the materials provided by the presenter.
- During the presentation: participate vocally and ask questions.
- After the presentation: provide any constructive feedback you may have.

I will keep track of all the deadlines as well as the participation of assigned commentators in this file: <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/1fqgx4ust44xc2ha5xmun/StudentSchedule.xlsx?rlkey=vdk19snmme33w0fb5fjrt8vg6&dl=0>

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.

<u>Final Exams:</u>	There is no final exam in this course. Graduate courses are not required to have final exams.
<u>Course Policies:</u>	Regular attendance is expected and will be accounted for in the assignment of grades. Written comments are accepted and expected, even if late.
<u>Course Resources:</u>	Reading for the course consist of the presenter's materials and will be distributed on Wednesday before the Tuesday presentation. If a presenter does not provide the paper in a timely manner, they should not expect written feedback from student participants.
<u>Honor Code:</u>	I expect all students to follow the guidelines of the UNC honor code. In particular, students are expected to refrain from "lying, cheating, or stealing" in the academic context. You can read more about the honor code at <a href="http://honor.unc.edu">honor.unc.edu</a> .
<u>Time Table:</u>	The scheduled presentation dates, times, and locations are provided by the instructor. I will email the presentation schedule once it is finalized.

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:** The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill facilitates the implementation of reasonable accommodations, including resources and services, for students with disabilities, chronic medical conditions, a temporary disability or pregnancy complications resulting in barriers to fully accessing University courses, programs and activities. Accommodations are determined through the Office of Accessibility Resources and Service (ARS) for individuals with documented qualifying disabilities in accordance with applicable state and federal laws. See the ARS Website for contact information: <https://ars.unc.edu> or email [ars@unc.edu](mailto:ars@unc.edu).

**Title IX Resources:** Any student who is impacted by discrimination, harassment, interpersonal (relationship) violence, sexual violence, sexual exploitation, or stalking is encouraged to seek resources on campus or in the community. Reports can be made online to the EOC at <https://eoc.unc.edu/report-an-incident/>. Please contact the University's Title IX Coordinator (Elizabeth Hall, interim – [titleixcoordinator@unc.edu](mailto:titleixcoordinator@unc.edu)), Report and Response Coordinators in the Equal Opportunity and Compliance Office ([reportandresponse@unc.edu](mailto:reportandresponse@unc.edu)), Counseling and Psychological Services (confidential), or the Gender Violence Services Coordinators ([gvs@unc.edu](mailto:gvs@unc.edu); confidential) to discuss your specific needs. Additional resources are available at [safe.unc.edu](http://safe.unc.edu).

### **University Attendance Policy:**

No right or privilege exists that permits a student to be absent from any class meetings, except for these University Approved Absences:

1. Authorized University activities
2. Disability/religious observance/pregnancy, as required by law and approved by [Accessibility Resources and Service](#) and/or the [Equal Opportunity and Compliance Office](#) (EOC)
3. Significant health condition and/or personal/family emergency as approved by the [Office of the Dean of Students](#), [Gender Violence Service Coordinators](#), and/or the [Equal Opportunity and Compliance Office](#) (EOC).