

Economics 9413 Research Workshop 2

Spring 2019

Instructor: Shawn Ni, Professional Building 118

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Office Hours: Thursday 10:00-11:30am

Meeting Time: F 1:00-3:30 p.m.

Room: MIDDLEBUSH HALL 10, although this is subject to change on days when class does not occur at the normal time.

Overview: This course is part of a two-year sequence for PhD students. For the second year PhD students, this is the second semester. For the third/fourth year PhD students, this is the fourth semester. The general purpose of this sequence is to introduce to you the practice of conducting scholarly economic research. This will be accomplished by going through the process of selecting a broad topic area, identifying the relevant literature, finding an unresolved problem in the literature, structuring a test of your model, and finally communicating your results through research papers and oral presentations.

The presentations are judged by organization, slides, and handling of questions. Written assignments are graded by originality in ideas, clarity in writing, and accuracy in substance. Grades will be assigned on a plus/minus basis.

The second and third/fourth year students will follow different plans. The meeting schedules will be handed out in the first meeting of the semester.

Course requirements for the second year PhD students:

The second year students in this semester are expected to start conducting independent research. In the last fall, you presented a literature review and wrote a technical report and made a presentation on a primary paper of your choice. In this semester you will write and present a draft of your own research paper after conducting a more thorough literature review and independent research related to the primary paper. You will have time to revise the research paper in the next semester. The second year students are expected to

- (1) write a preliminary draft of research paper that contains literature review and your independent research related to the primary paper,
- (2) present your literature summary in class/first draft of research paper,
- (3) present your research paper in class.

Presentation of literature review will be in early March. Presentation of your research paper will be at the end of the semester.

Evaluation of the second year students:

Your grade this semester is based on grades in four areas according to the following structure:

Presentation of literature summary or first draft of the research paper	20 points
Research paper	30 points
Presentation of research paper	30 points
Class participation and seminar attendance	20 points

Course requirements for the third/fourth year PhD students:

The third/fourth year students are expected to complete a working paper that may serve as a chapter of the dissertation. Students will be given opportunities to present the paper in class. The plan for the third/fourth year students will be designed individually, depending on the progress made by the student since last semester. But all third/fourth year students are expected to complete and present a research paper in this semester. You will make two presentations during the semester, a presentation of on a preliminary version of the paper in early March, and one on the final version of the paper in late April or early May.

Evaluation of the third/fourth year students:

Your grade this semester is based on grades in three areas according to the following structure:

Research paper	40 points
First presentation of research paper	20 points
Second presentation of research paper	20 points
Seminar attendance, class participation	20 points

Departmental Seminars: Students are required to attend four departmental seminars during the semester. These must be seminars organized by the Department of Economics in which faculty from MU or elsewhere, or applicants for MU faculty positions who are presenting papers. Seminars organized by other departments (e.g., finance, agricultural economics), and student seminars do *not* meet this requirement. When you attend a seminar, it is your responsibility to sign a sheet indicating your attendance. If you have a conflict that prevents you from attending four seminars, it may be possible to substitute attendance at a Department of Economics Brown Bag presentation, but it will be necessary to attend two such presentations to substitute for one regular departmental seminar. Please contact me if you need to do this. Seminars are usually on Thursdays or Fridays. A preliminary seminar schedule is available on the Department of Economics website. Be aware that not all seminars may be listed in the current schedule; seminars may be added later in the semester, and other changes may occur as well. Finally, let me note that if you discover a faculty seminar given by another department that is directly relevant for your work, it may be possible to substitute attendance at this seminar for attendance at an economics department seminar. To do so, please obtain my permission in advance.

University Polices

ACCOMMODATION OF DISABILITIES

If you anticipate barriers related to the format or requirements of this course, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need to make arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please let me know as soon as possible.

If disability related accommodations are necessary (for example, a note taker, extended time on exams, captioning), please register with the [Disability Center](#), S5 Memorial Union, 882-4696, and then notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. For other MU resources for students with disabilities, click on "Disability Resources" on the MU homepage.

INTELLECTUAL PLURALISM

The University community welcomes intellectual diversity and respects student rights. Students who have questions or concerns regarding the atmosphere in this class (including respect for diverse opinions) may contact the Departmental Chair or Divisional Director; the Director of the [Office of Students Rights and Responsibilities](#) (<http://osrr.missouri.edu/>); or the [MU Equity Office](#) (<http://equity.missouri.edu/>), or by email at equity@missouri.edu. All students will have the opportunity to submit an anonymous evaluation of the instructor(s) at the end of the course.

ACADEMIC INQUIRY, COURSE DISCUSSION AND PRIVACY

Faculty allowing recording: University of Missouri System Executive Order No. 38 lays out principles regarding the sanctity of classroom discussions at the university. The policy is described fully in Section 200.015 of the Collected Rules and Regulations. In this class, students may make audio or video recordings of course activity unless specifically prohibited by the faculty member. However, the redistribution of audio or video recordings of statements or comments from the course to individuals who are not students in the course is prohibited without the express permission of the faculty member and of any students who are recorded. Students found to have violated this policy are subject to discipline in accordance with provisions of [section 200.020](#) of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri pertaining to student conduct matters.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university. All members of the academic community must be confident that each person's work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed, and presented. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. The academic community regards breaches of the academic integrity rules as extremely serious matters. Sanctions for such a breach may include academic sanctions from the instructor, including failing the course for any violation, to disciplinary sanctions ranging from probation to expulsion. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting, collaboration, or any other form of cheating, consult the course instructor.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY PLEDGE: *"I strive to uphold the University values of respect, responsibility, discovery, and excellence. On my honor, I pledge that I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance on this work."* Students are expected to adhere to this pledge on all graded work whether or not they are explicitly asked in advance to do so.

[The University has specific academic dishonesty administrative [procedures](#). Although policy

states that cases of academic dishonesty must be reported to the Office of the Provost for possible action, the instructor may assign a failing grade for the assignment or a failing grade for the course, or may adjust the grade as deemed appropriate. The instructor also may require the student to repeat the assignment or to perform additional assignments. In instances where academic integrity is in question, faculty, staff and students should refer to [Article VI of the Faculty Handbook](#). Article VI is also available in the [M-Book](#). Article VI provides further information regarding the process by which violations are handled and sets forth a standard of excellence in our community.]