

Economics 9413 Research Workshop 2

Spring 2020

Instructor: Shawn Ni, Professional Building 329

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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. This is the fourth semester for the third year students. The general purpose of this sequence is to introduce to students 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 testable models, and finally communicating results through research papers and oral presentations.

The oral presentations are judged by organization, slides, and handling of questions. The research papers are graded by originality in ideas, clarity in writing, and accuracy in substance. Grades will be assigned on a plus/minus basis. The meeting schedules will be handed out in the first meeting of the semester.

Course requirements:

In this semester, the 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 will be designed individually, depending on the progress made by the student since last semester. But all students are expected to complete and present a research paper in this semester. There are two presentations during the semester, a presentation of on a preliminary version of the paper in late February, and one on the final version of the paper in late April or early May. Students can arrange for additional presentations with the instructor.

Evaluation:

The grade for the semester is based on the sum of points in these areas:

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 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/) (<http://osrr.missouri.edu/>); or the [MU Equity Office](http://equity.missouri.edu/) (<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.]