



Peter Hans Matthews
Warner 305F
443-5591 (O)

Fall Term 2009
OH: Su 8-10 PM (Lib Cafe), W 10-12 (W305)
pmatthew@middlebury.edu

Economics 700 – Senior Research Workshop

The purpose of this workshop is to foster independent student research. I will meet with individual students at least once a week, often during class time, to discuss the choice of research question, the relevant methods and literature, the construction and analysis of a data set and, last but not least, the organization and rhetoric of economic research. We will also meet as a group several times during the semester, during which students will both present their own work and provide feedback on the work of their peers.

Evaluation

Grades will be determined as follows:

Participation, including Peer Reviews	20%
Research Paper	80%
Proposal and Literature Review, including Presentation	10%
Data and Methods, including Presentation	10%
Seminar Presentation	20%
Final Paper	40%

Students will present and defend their preliminary results in a seminar on November 17th to which Professor Muller and the members of his workshop, as well as department colleagues, will be invited. Schedules permitting, students will also be expected to attend the presentations in Professor Muller's workshop on November 18th.

In addition, students will be invited to offer "popularized" presentations of their work to a broader audience in the spring. This presentation is optional, and cannot affect the grade received in the workshop, but students who wish to be considered for the best thesis prize must present their work in this forum.

Note: The senior research workshop is also the new path to departmental honors. To graduate with Honors, a student must receive at least an A- in ECON 0700 and a GPA of at least 3.5 in all economics courses. High Honors requires an A in ECON 0700 and a GPA of 3.75 or more, and Highest Honors an A in ECON 0700 and a GPA of 3.90 or more.

Workshop Schedule

8 September Course Overview/What Makes A Good Economics Paper?

(14 September: Draft proposals and annotated bibliographies should be submitted to me before noon.)

15 September (Individual Meetings To Discuss Proposals)

(21 September: Revised research topic and literature review should be submitted to me and the designated discussant(s) before noon.)

22 September Proposal Presentations and Discussions

29 September (Individual Meetings To Discuss Methods and Data)

6 October (Individual Meetings To Discuss Methods and Data)

(19 October: Methods and data section should be submitted to me and the designated discussant(s) before noon.)

20 October Presentation of Methods and Data

(26 October: For those doing empirical work, first econometric results should be submitted to me before noon.)

27 October (Individual Meetings To Discuss Preliminary Results)

(2 November: Preliminary results and discussion section should be submitted to me and designated discussant(s) before noon.)

3 November Presentation of Preliminary Results

10 November (Individual Meetings To Discuss Results)

(16 November: Seminar presentation slides should be submitted to me, for distribution to Professor Muller and other colleagues, no later than noon.)

17 November Seminar Presentation

18 November Presentations of Professor Muller's Workshop

24 November (Individual Meetings to Discuss Final Papers)

1 December (Individual Meetings)

4 December Submission of Finished Papers