

Fall 2012 Graduate Microeconomics Seminar: Policies and Plan

Meeting Thursdays 2:30-4:15, Flanner 824

*** If you are presenting, please arrange to bring a computer and set up the projector at the start of the seminar. ***

Professionalism

At its core, this class is intended to help you develop into a successful member of this profession. Here are a few best-practices that we will adhere to in this course:

1. Be on time.
2. Ask questions, make comments, and be a good listener. The benefit of presenting is much higher when everyone participates, so the implicit contract is that if you want good participation yourself you should give it to others. And hopefully you will build some confidence in this seminar that will enable you to speak up in the big show!
3. Texting, checking email, etc. on a smart phone while someone is speaking is rude. Don't do it.

Note on Advisors

You will get a lot of advice in this seminar on your research—primarily on how you present it, but inevitably on its content. This advice should be discussed with your advisor, whose guidance is paramount. This especially goes for scheduling—I have a basic idea of who should be ready to do what and when, but your advisor's timeline overrides mine.

Agraphia Group

This semester I'd like for this class to serve as a writing support group. Each week you will identify a writing/research goal that you would like to accomplish before the next class. Some examples of acceptable goals: *Meet with my advisor to talk about x. Write 1000 words on x topic. Make an outline for my paper. Produce a table of main results.* These goals will be recorded and we will check progress at the next meeting. We may also experiment with tracking words written. The purpose of this support group is to be accountable to one another for our productivity.

Goals by Cohort (Fall)

- 5Y: Get JMP ready to send out by Thanksgiving. Present to help you toward that goal. Practice JMP talk ideally before sending out but definitely by end of semester.
- 4Ys: Prepare for a brown bag presentation of JMP this fall. Submit 2nd year papers if not done already.
- 3Ys: Intense preparation for second-year paper presentations early in semester. Present work from labor class.