

## Research Workshop Econ 996

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The purpose of this course is to propel our students into becoming active scholars, where they critically evaluate the work of others as well as begin to present their own research. Enrolling in the workshop as opposed to the seminar marks this change and entails a different set of requirements. The seminar meets every Friday from 2:10-3:30 unless otherwise noted. Presenters are drawn from our own faculty and advanced graduate students, as well as from other universities. Generally, the presenter will be given about one hour to present his or her paper. This is followed by a question and answer period. Students are encouraged to participate fully in the seminar by asking questions and commenting on the papers.

**Prerequisite:** Students must have a faculty advisor before enrolling in the research workshop. Students should confer with their advisor about the best time for them to enroll in workshop. Students are expected to have completed the Research Workshop requirement (2 terms) by the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> year.

### **Requirements – the first term\*:**

1. Read two articles (these are both posted on Bb):

**“The Young Economist’s Guide to Professional Etiquette,”** by Daniel Hamermesh in *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Winter 1992.

--reading this article will help you write the referee report and act as a discussant

**“A Guide (and Advice) for Economists on the U.S. Junior Academic Job Market,”** by John Cawley, working paper, 2003.

--reading this article will help you prepare for the PhD job market. **I also require that you write up a brief (< 1 page) plan for the job market after you read this.** The key component of this is a timeline and ideas about your choice of job paper and references. I will ask you to submit this to your faculty advisor as well.

2. Submit **ONE** thoughtful question on one of the seminar papers **PRIOR** to its presentation. I strongly encourage you to ask the speaker this question as well. The paper must be different from the one you discuss or referee.

3. **EITHER** act as a discussant for one of the seminar papers **OR** write a referee report. The referee report need not be written about a paper presented in seminar; I will coordinate with your faculty advisor and others to find you a suitable paper to referee.

4. Present your research in a professional conference-style presentation – an approximately 15-20 minutes presentation followed by a discussant and questions from the audience, time permitting.

### **Requirements – the second term\*:**

1. Submit **ONE** thoughtful question on one of the seminar papers **PRIOR** to its presentation. I strongly encourage you to ask the speaker this question as well. The paper must be different from the one you discuss or referee.
2. **EITHER** act as a discussant for one of the seminar papers **OR** write a referee report – **whichever you did not do in the first term you enrolled.**
3. Present an original research paper in seminar. You will have at least an hour to present and will be expected to ‘run the floor,’ field questions, etc. just like any other seminar speaker. Your paper must be available for distribution by Monday of the week you are presenting. It is expected that these papers/presentations will be drawn from your dissertation research. This not only provides you with feedback on your research, but provides you with the experience of presenting of your work and helps you prepare for doing so at professional conferences and during job market visits.

**Both terms** you are expected to be an active participant in the seminar. It may sound ‘hokey,’ but your actions and attitude really do have an impact on how the younger graduate students view the seminar. It is also good practice for professional conferences where the way to meet colleagues is by making thoughtful comments on their research. You are also expected to follow the professional courtesy guidelines I have laid out for graduate students new to seminar. I’ve repeated them below:

### **Professional Courtesy during Seminar:**

You are required to attend seminar; I will take attendance each session. Moreover, you are required to behave in a professional, courteous manner during the seminar presentation. Every speaker has spent a great deal of time preparing their research and their presentation; many have traveled a distance to present their work to us. Your behavior during seminar helps shape the impression they form about our department – and our graduate students.

As such, I require that you

- be on time for the seminar presentation; I will do my best to start promptly at 2:10.
- do not leave the room unless it is absolutely necessary.
- turn off your cell phone and any other electronic device.
- give the speaker your full attention.

Failure to follow these simple rules of courtesy will result in real consequences, such as revoking skip(s), requiring extra written work, or failing to pass the course.

\*These requirements are current as of Fall 2009 and are subject to change. While it is normally expected that students will do the conference-style presentation in their first term, students can instead do their full-length presentation first if other considerations arise (e.g., other students available to participate, the timing of a professional conference, etc.)