

Final Paper & Presentation Instructions

March 29, 2017

PPPA 8022 – Spring 2017

The paper is due the last day of class, April 26, 2017.

In both the paper and the presentation, a good rule of thumb to avoid plagiarism is to not use more than three words in a row from any source. See [this](#) helpful guide on what paraphrasing is and is not.

Paper

The final paper should

- be between 10 and 15 pages double-spaced, normal margins (not including tables and figures)
- appropriately cite references
 - quote if you're using the exact wording
 - cite if you are referencing ideas
- explain why you did or did not replicate the author(s)'s work
- be substantially explicable without my reading the original article
- cite data sources as appropriate, which could include relegating to an appendix if that's easier
- include a bibliography as needed
- put all tables and figures at the end
- make the comparison between your work and the author(s)'s clear in the table, figures and text
- use the active, not passive voice (not “the data were assembled,” but “I assembled the data”)

You don't need an abstract or cover page.

For formatting of citations, please use the standard economics formatting, which you can see in any of the working papers on my [website](#), or in any NBER [working paper](#).

Turn in the paper in hard and soft copy

- Hard copy: in class, with a copy of the original paper so I can look at it in tandem with what you've turned in
- Soft copy: I'll send out an email with a link that lets you upload the paper to google docs.

Please note at the top whether you'd be comfortable if I used your paper as an example for future students (and feel absolutely no obligation to do so).

Presentation

Logistics

- 11 minutes long
- with 3 minutes for questions at the end
- use slides: power point or your preferred alternative
- post slides to google drive by 3 pm the day of the presentation (I'll send a link for the folder)

Substance

- motivate why topic is of interest
- give overview of research question
- explain causality problem and empirical strategy
- describe data and relevant descriptive statistics
- explain authors' findings
- discuss your ability (or not) to replicate
- motivate and discuss your extension
- make sure you spend sufficient time on your contribution or critique!

As a viewer you will need to

- write comments on 3 presentations
- post on google drive by Friday midnight week of presentation
- name the file as [your last name]_comments_on_[presenters' last name]