

Instructions for Paper Summaries

PPPA 8022
Spring 2022

During this semester, you are required to turn in four paper summaries. I will post the assignment dates for these summaries. If you are assigned a date that is inconvenient, please try to switch dates with a classmate and let me know about the change.

The paper summary should be a page or less. Use a short paragraph or two (though one is sufficient) to summarize the article's goals and methods. Use the remainder of your space to critique the paper's causal argument.

A critique means that you point out a weakness in the logical chain that allows the author to make a causal claim. We discuss this logical chain in class and in the readings that lead up to this class.

I grade these assignments as check minus (B or below), check (B+), or check plus (A- or above). I give out few check plus assignments. A full credit assignment (check plus) makes a substantive and well-grounded critique about the causal analysis. An assignment with a check makes a sincere effort, and the logic may have some flaws. A check minus assignment shows limited interaction with the reading.

I count the three highest grades of your four summaries.

See the assignment schedule linked under "assignments and deadlines" for lecture 1. (I will create after the end of lecture 1).

How to turn in

Go to the "for students" google folder and create (if you have not already) a subfolder named "lastname_firstname". Turn this and all work in to this folder. You should name this assignment "lastname_summary_lectureX.pdf", where X is the lecture number.

The summary is due at the beginning of the lecture to which it applies.