

## Final Paper Instructions

March 23, 2022

PPPA 8022 – Spring 2022

The paper is due **Friday April 22 by 6:10 pm**. See syllabus for late policy – which is quite draconian. Do not expect full credit if you turn in the paper late. It is usually better to turn in bad work on time than better work late.

### How to submit the paper

Turn in materials to the “for students” folder on google, in the “final paper” subfolder. Specifically, create a subfolder with your name (lastname\_firstname); in this folder post

- Your replication paper
- A pdf of the original paper
- A pdf of your program
- A pdf of the associated log file
- Please name all files [lastname]\_[paper/log.file/original.paper].docx/pdf

### Don't Plagiarize

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.

### Mechanics

The final paper should

- be between 10 and 15 pages double-spaced, normal margins (not including tables and figures, which go at the end)
- have a short header at the first page that notes these two issues
  - I used data posted by author(s): [yes/no]
  - My “substantive addition” data are: [n/a or a few words – this is n/a if the data were not downloadable pre-prepared]
- appropriately cite references
  - quote if you're using the exact wording
  - cite if you are referencing ideas
- 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 (these do not count toward the page limit)

### Substance

The final paper should

- explain why you did or did not replicate the author(s)'s work
- be substantially explicable without my reading the original article
- 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”)
- present an extension of the authors' work

Remember that this class focuses on issues of causality. You need to focus on these issues in your paper and presentation.

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](#). I am mostly concerned with my ability to follow where your information came from, and less with the particular form of citation.