

AEM/ECON 7650: Development Microeconomics Graduate Research Seminar

Fall 2018

Instructors:

Fall Lead: Chris Barrett
340D Warren Hall
255-4489; cbb2@cornell.edu
Office hours: 1:00-3:30 PM Mondays

Course time, location and website:

Wednesdays 4:30-5:45 PM
Warren 137
<http://blackboard.cornell.edu/>

Spring Lead: John Hoddinott
305 Savage Hall
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Office hours: By appointment

Course description: This seminar provides a forum for graduate students writing an MS or PhD thesis in development microeconomics to present and get feedback on their research ideas and preliminary results and fosters dialogue to promote student and student-faculty research collaboration on various topics in development microeconomics. Priority for speaking slots is given to students one of us supervises; but others are always welcome. Students whose thesis committees we chair and who are in their second year or beyond (whether in a MS or PhD program) and post-docs in either research group are expected to present a seminar once each semester they are in Ithaca. At a minimum, this should be extended notes about their emerging thesis or a grant proposal, better yet, a draft paper. A schedule of presentations appears below and is posted on the course Blackboard site.

All presenters must distribute a copy of their paper or discussion notes to the whole group no later than 5 PM on the Sunday preceding their seminar in order that everyone has enough time to read it and mark it up before the discussion. Student presenters are responsible for emailing their paper (or notes) to everyone using the Tools/Send Email/All Users option in the Blackboard site. If you don't receive it directly via email from the scheduled presenter, please make sure you are indeed registered on the course Blackboard site.

All participants are expected to attend all seminars, to read and mark up the draft paper/notes in advance of the seminar, then to give the presenter substantive written comments immediately after the seminar (in addition to oral remarks offered during the discussion). This ensures that all presenters get prompt, substantive comments and edits that will help their rapid progress towards completing publishable papers and acceptable thesis chapters. We will occasionally ask for all comments to be routed through one of us in order to spot check that everyone is indeed contributing. Repeated free riding (in the form of not providing substantive, timely feedback to presenters) will result in expulsion from the seminar.

In addition to getting comments on the substance of the talk, presenters also get feedback on the presentation itself. Each week the following week's presenter is responsible for taking notes on the aesthetics of the presentation and offering constructive criticism on slides, speaking style, etc. during the final three-to-five minutes of the seminar period (i.e., providing feedback on the

cosmetics of the talk rather than the content of the talk). In the last seminar of the semester, the first week's presenter fulfills this function.

Presenters are responsible for arranging any audio-visual equipment they need for their presentation. The seminar room has an LCD projector and screen built in. Note to Mac users: if you need an adapter for your laptop, be sure to bring one (or check one out from Mann Library).

Evaluation: Grades are S/U only. Audits are permitted. Students giving presentations should sign up for 3 credits. Students not giving presentations should only sign up for 1 credit.

Readings: Some useful background readings are also posted on the course Blackboard site. These are not required.

Schedule for Fall 2018

Date of Presentation	Name of Presenter
Aug 29	No meeting
Sep 5	Maulik Jagnani
Sep. 12	Tung Dang
Sep. 19	Heidi Kaila
Sep. 26	Yaeun Han
Oct. 3	Seollee Park
Oct. 10	STAARS Fellows triple-header (extended period, details to follow)
Oct. 17	Johanne Pelletier/Cheryl Pei (two different 35 min presentations)
Oct. 24	Mumina Shibia (STAARS Fellow)
Oct. 31	No meeting: Alberto Alesina gives annual George Staller Lecture
Nov. 7	Joanna Upton
Nov. 14	Carolina Castilla
Nov. 21	No meeting: Thanksgiving
Nov. 28	Liz Bageant/Katie Fiorella (one presentation)
Dec. 5	Sylvia Blom
Dec. 12	Molly Ingram

If you wish to trade dates with another presenter, please work out the exchange between the two of you, then contact Chris to get final approval for the schedule change. If you would like to present on a date that is open, please contact Chris.