

**HOW TO SUMMARIZE ACADEMIC PAPERS BASED ON THE INTENDED  
LEARNING OUTCOMES (ILOS)  
(rev. March 19, 2024)**

**ILO1: How to critically evaluate the quality of a research idea**

- 1) What are the research questions (summarize in **one or two sentences**)?
- 2) Why are the research questions interesting?
- 3) What is the paper's contribution? (1. Find the literature; 2. Summarize the literature; 3. Summarize the **marginal contributions to the literature**)

**ILO2: How to develop a testable research hypothesis**

- 4) What hypotheses are tested in the paper? list them explicitly.
  - a) Do these hypotheses follow from and answer the research questions?
  - b) Do these hypotheses follow from theory or are they otherwise adequately developed? Please explain the logic of the hypotheses (use **visualization** if possible).

**ILO3: How to create a sound research design to test a research hypothesis**

- 5) Sample: comment on the appropriateness of the sample selection procedures.
- 6) Dependent and independent variables: comment on the appropriateness of variable definition and measurement (focus on the key dependent variables and independent variables).
- 7) Regression/prediction model specification: comment on the appropriateness of the regression/prediction model specification.

**ILO4: How to interpret and communicate the results of the research design**

- 8) What difficulties arise in drawing inferences from the empirical work?
- 9) Describe at least one publishable and feasible extension of this research.