RE: CSS 739-02 CAS and Policy - Term Project.

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Dear All,

Two options for term projects:

- Essay option: discuss the roles of CAS and ABM for policy analysis in general and in a particular field/domain, and propose a policy question and design an ABM to address it. Essays are individual based.

- ABM paper option: do an ABM and write a paper. ABM papers can be team-based. You must implement the model.

What I look for in your presentations/reports is *essentially how you did/would apply what is covered in this course to analyzing a system*. If you choose the Essay Option, please try to make your ABM design as specific as possible. The elements include:

1. Research questions
2. Theoretical background (based on your or other students' earlier presentations)
3. Model design

   Representation of the system

   - Agents (attributes, decisions/actions, interactions)
   - The environment
   - Feedback
   - Endogenous and exogenous entities

   Model parameters

   You need to justify your choices.

4. Model verification and validation

   How did/would you validate your model?

5. Experiment design and expected results

What experiments did/would you do to address your questions? What to measure?

What results did/would you expect? Why?

6. Discussion

   For example, what else would you do to improve your model, if you had more time and money?

Some of these elements may be more relevant to your research questions than others, so you may emphasize those more relevant elements.

Format: You may pick a journal paper on ABM (from class readings or other sources) that you like and whose format suits your model design, and use that as an example.

Word limit: 4000 to 6000 words excluding diagrams, tables, or references (put the word count on the first page of the report).

Use references wherever appropriate.

Cheers,

Qing