

# Advanced Topics

## Labor and Finance

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- Banking, labor&finance
- Highly simplified models to understand key insights
- The purpose of the assessment is to generate and assess research ideas
  - Referee report on two related papers
  - Description of an idea

- Single report on two related papers to understand the literature better (compare and contrast).
- 1 Understand how the paper is placed into the literature
    - Existing gaps?
    - Advantages of the papers (data, shock, new mechanism)
    - One paragraph or one slide
  - 2 Comments. Only the negative ones.
    - Be creative!
    - Does the idea make sense?
    - Does the paper actually do what it claims to do?
    - Are the results driven by something else?
- Don't make useless comments: Don't say you worry about external validity. Don't say you didn't buy the results. Don't say the empirical findings need a model. Explain why you think external validity could be a concern, etc.

- Developing ideas will be your main job. I believe we get better when we develop more ideas.
- Develop a research idea about banking, household finance, or the interaction between labor and finance. Of course, it can be related to your current research interest.
  - 1 Explain the research question
  - 2 Convince us why we should care about this question
  - 3 Place it within the literature (discuss earlier findings and your novelty)
  - 4 Discuss what you need to conduct this idea (data, model)
- 1, 2, and 4 can be done within a paragraph. Ideally, I want to see a detailed discussion of the literature (2-3 paragraphs).