

ASSIGNMENT 3

Overview: The purpose of this assignment is to help you develop a critical scholastic approach from the economist's perspective, for evaluating empirical work, both when it is presented at a seminar, and in its written form as a working paper. Following the protocol of the other two projects, I expect group collaboration, but that each person within the group should be capable of individually justifying what is written. However dissenting viewpoints documenting alternative interpretations are acceptable if the group fails to reach a consensus after repeated attempts. Your report, will be based on three seminars your group attends in the applied micro workshop:

<https://econ.tepper.cmu.edu/seminars/seminar.asp?dbaction=y&sort=1&short=Y&Restrict=All&Seminar+Area=Economics&keyword=applied+micro>

and/or the econometrics workshop (hosted by Pitt):

<https://econ.tepper.cmu.edu/seminars/seminar.asp?dbaction=y&sort=1&short=Y&Restrict=All&Seminar+Area=Economics&keyword=econometrics>

It will consist of two parts in a document that will probably run between five and ten pages of double spaced type, plus appendices (as indicated below).

Due Date and Assessment: Please email me a pdf file of your answers in the form of a report by 9:00AM Monday December 10. Hand written work will not be graded. Both parts counts equally to the perfect score. Poor grammar, unclear expression, and lack of precision, will be penalized.

Part A: For each of the three seminars you attend:

- Include a copy of the paper in an appendix to your report.
- Take notes on each (significant) question asked in the seminar.
- For each question take notes on the speaker's response.
- However ignore every question or comment that I make during the seminar, and the speaker's response. (I am not going to set up anybody!)
- Compile and organize all these notes (both questions and responses) in an orderly way (like a court record) to be included as a second appendix in your report.
- For just one of the questions or comments in the whole three seminars your group attends, discuss and analyze in about a page, the significance of the question, the speaker's response, and how this might affect future research.

Part B: Write a referee report on one of the papers that was presented at the three seminars your group attended.