

# Research Paper Assignment

MRes Contract Theory, Part 1 (Fall 2024)

Instructor: Sara Shahanaghi

September 10, 2024

- **You are encouraged to co-author this with another student in this class.** If you do, you only have to submit one paper. You can also choose to work by yourself.
- **Research topic:**
  - The topic must be something new (different from, though possibly related to, your other research). It should not be submitted as an assignment for any other class.
  - It should be related in some capacity to the themes of this class (incomplete information, moral hazard, communication, etc.)
  - It is important that this topic match your research interests (as well as the content of this class), so please talk to me if you are unsure whether it is suitable.
- **Analysis:**
  - Paper can include some combination of theory, empirical, or experimental analysis.
  - For theory work: formal proofs should be presented. If you can't prove something for full model, do so for a special case/example. Present conjectures as necessary.
  - For empirical work: discuss intended dataset(s) and estimation strategies.
  - For experimental work: present an experimental design.
- **Required sections:**
  - Introduction: Motivation, research question, summary/overview of paper.
  - Literature review: document related literature, and make clear how this paper is filling a gap in the literature
  - Model: **regardless of the type of analysis, you should present a formal theoretical model.**
  - Analysis: see above.
  - Conclusion: Plans for future work.
- **Paper length:** No formal requirements. Concise writing is better. Details can be relegated to appendix.
- **Due Date:** TBA (sometime in late December).