

Economics 799: Seminar in Economics

John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Spring 2020

Hello

Hi. The best email to reach me at is joseph@trebello@gmail.com. I'll have my regular office hours on Weds from 3-5, but if that doesn't work for you scheduling alternative meeting times should not be a problem.

Course Description

The goal of this course is to complete a serious research paper based on your training in the MA program and independent research. Students are responsible for creating a meaningful and feasible topic and identifying the appropriate research methods. We will engage in substantial peer review throughout the research process.

Evaluation

You have a significant amount of freedom to choose research topics and methods. However, I'm going to insist on following along with the class milestones along the way. Since I'm really going to insist on this I want to share my motivations. First, having your proposal ready the day everyone else's is allows us to engage in peer review and progress as a group. Procrastinating cheats the rest of the class. Second, if you are not keeping up with the milestones you simply can not write a final paper up to standards. I know you have passed many classes with papers thrown together at the end of the semester. You may have passed with A's. This is because you are smart and those papers were far superior to the work of your classmates. It is not because those papers were near the best you could do. This is fine. Time is limited. Not every class is your MA capstone. This, however, is your MA capstone. Time is still limited and your final paper will not be perfect, but it is going to be really awesome. Following along with the milestones will help make it awesome and also help document to me that whatever limitations exist in the final paper are not due to your procrastinating. But, more importantly, it just helps everyone else out to have you progressing with the group. Half of your grade will come from the final paper. Half will come from your contributions throughout the semester in the forms of submitting assignments and engaging with the group.

Outline

2020-01-29

Introductions.

2020-02-05

Initial Proposals. General topics and motivations are fine at this point. It must include a bibliography of at least 10 items. (500 words)

2020-02-19

Formal Proposals. This should include the what, why and how. It must be specific in terms of questions, motivations, and method. (750 words)

2020-02-26

Journal Articles. Summarize and present a journal article related to your topic. (750 words)

2020-03-04

Policy/Politics. Discuss the political or policy context of your research. (750 words)

2020-03-11

Methods. Discuss the methods used in your respective literature and personal research. (750 words)

2020-03-18 2020-03-25

Open. We'll decide how best to use these nights when the time approaches.

2020-04-01

Literature Review You will write and present a systemic literature review. (2,000-3,000)

2020-04-07

Literature Review Presentations of literature review continued.

2020-04-22

Outlines We'll share and edit our outlines.

2020-04-29

Presentation Drafts We'll share and edit our presentation drafts.

2020-05-06

Final Presentations

2020-05-13

Final Presentations

2020-05-26

Final Paper Due (10,000)

Accessibility and Accommodations

If you require accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible. This obviously applies to people deemed "qualified students" by our institutions, but to a certain extent applies to everyone. If there is a problem of any sort you think might get in the way of you being successful, let me know.