

# Economics Research Methods Workshop

## ECON 8219

Spring 2009 TR 11:00-12:15 Econ 5

Professor Carol H. Shiue  
Office: Economics 206B  
Office Hours: TR 12:30-2:00 p.m.  
Phone: 492-5169  
Email: [shiue@colorado.edu](mailto:shiue@colorado.edu)

### **Objectives**

This second semester research colloquium is for students working on their third-year papers to

presentation in ECON 8219.) You are strongly advised to complete the comprehensive requirement in the Spring semester of your 3<sup>rd</sup> year so that you can move on to the other papers in your dissertation. This is only one of several papers that you will have to write for your dissertation!

At least three faculty members must be present at the exam. Typically this committee will include your primary and secondary advisors. I will serve as the third member of the committee.

The written paper (i.e., your 3<sup>rd</sup> year paper) including references and all results, must be circulated to the comprehensive examiners two weeks prior to your presentation.

You can expect the format of your presentation to be similar to that of a typical economics seminar, where you may be interrupted with questions as you speak. Examiners may raise any issue that they wish, but generally, the questions and comments will be relevant to your research paper topic.

### **Departmental Research Seminars**

There will be quite a number of departmental research seminars on the schedule this semester. Many of these seminars will be given by Ph.D. students presenting a paper out of their dissertation. This is your chance to sit in the audience and consider what a job market paper and recruitment seminar might look like. The schedule of seminars is given on the economics webpage at <http://www.colorado.edu/Economics/seminars>

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January 22 - February 17. In the first round presentation, you present your paper as it currently stands, starting from the introduction and the previous literature sections. If you are writing a theoretical paper, motivate your paper with examples and anecdotes of empirical relevance. At this point, your topic, or the “question” you are asking in the paper should be clearly stated. Those who are not presenting are required to read the paper and have prepared at least three questions, comments, or suggestions. Please write out your points on paper so they can be given to the authors. The format of these presentations will be the “workshop style”, i.e. you jump in with your question at an appropriate moment.

February 24 – March 5. No class, individual meetings.

March 10 - March 19. In your second round presentation, you briefly summarize your topic and focus your presentation on your data sources, present descriptive statistics and any results obtained thus far from work in progress. Those presenting a th 4yr2in