

Economics 696, Topics in Econometrics

Minipaper Project Instructions

Your minipaper should be a short, focused paper that applies the methods we are using in the course to an identification-related question. You may choose the specific topic, and you are encouraged to come up with a topic that complements your current research or potential research areas of interest to you. If you do are not able to come up with a specific topic for your minipaper, I will work with you to define a topic.

Minipapers should have some formal identification analysis, in keeping with the theme of the course. They may also include analysis of data, in which you translate identification arguments into concrete estimators and inference procedures. There is no minimum or maximum length for a minipaper, but most minipapers should be between 5-10 pages.

Timeline

- **March 22 (Monday): Preliminary Proposal**

A short (< 1 page) statement is sufficient, but it should include a statement of the question you are trying to answer, discussion of related previous work (if any), and a brief explanation of the methods you plan to use to answer the question.

I will send you comments on your proposal by March 24

- **April 2 (Friday): Revised Proposal**

You should revise your initial proposal in light of comments and your own study of background material. In most cases this will be more detailed than your preliminary proposal, with more discussion of previous work on the topic and a more specific plan for how you will answer the question.

- **April 19 (Monday) : First Draft**

A first draft of the minipaper is due on this date. It may be rough, but it should contain a clear statement of the question you are trying to answer, and provide at least an overview of the arguments you will be using to answer the question. I will give you feedback on your first drafts.

- **May 5 (Wednesday): Final Draft**

Final drafts are due on the last day of classes.