

Economics 282/3: Third Year Literature Review
Fall 2005

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Economics 282/3, the Third Year Literature Review, Paper and Presentation, is designed to help students develop their dissertation topic and begin their research. In some senses, this course and the winter and spring courses that follow this will be the most important in your time at UCSD. We say this because the ultimate goal of the Ph.D. program is to help you to produce a high-quality thesis; this course is designed to help you make strong progress on this.

By the start of the fall quarter at the latest, you should have picked an area for your thesis, and should have an interim advisor, who will work closely with you during the year as you work on your topic.

The course will meet periodically throughout the quarter on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 – 1:50 in Room 300, with the first organizational meeting on Thursday September 22.

The course has four requirements, with deadlines as follows. No incompletes will be given (except for reasons deemed appropriate by OGSR such as illness).

A. 1) Presentation by Harold Colson:

During the Tuesday Sept. 27 class session, Harold Colson of the University Library will provide information on online literature searching, the major bibliographic databases, citation searching, e-journals, dissertations, working papers, etc.

2) Presentations by winners of 2005 Walter Heller award:

A one-hour presentation by the winner and runner-up for the 2005 Heller award will be scheduled for a date early in the quarter.

B. Topics and reading lists:

Thursday September 29, 4 p.m.: You must submit a proposed topic and a preliminary list of papers to be reviewed. Students should discuss their ideas with their interim advisors beforehand, and then submit a hard copy of the topic and list to both Professors Betts and Flavin.

C. 20-minute preliminary presentations in which you should aim for a 15-minute talk with 5 minutes for discussion. Sign up for a time slot during the first meeting. (The projected slots below assume that we will have 12 or fewer students in the class. We will have to add a session if there are more than 12 students.)

Week 3: Tuesday and Thursday, October 11 and 13

Week 4: Thursday, October 20

D. 25-minute final presentations. Again, plan for a 20 minute talk with 5 minutes for questions (Sign up for a time slot during the first meeting. Please list your first, second and third

preferences for speaking dates, and we will try to accommodate everybody while having at least 2 speakers per day):

Week 7, Tuesday November 8 and Thursday November 10 (although Flavin may be away on latter date)

Week 8, Tuesday, November 15 (although Betts may be away)

Week 9 Tuesday November 22 (although Flavin may be away) (No session on Thanksgiving Day)

Week 10, Tuesday, November 29 and Thursday Dec. 1 (although Betts will probably be away on Dec. 1)

E. Paper:

The paper is due in our boxes (and also by e-mail at jbetts@ucsd.edu and mflavin@ucsd.edu, please) on Thursday Dec. 1 by 3 P.M. There is a 5% reduction in grade for every day the paper is late up to Friday, December 9, including the weekend.