

SS223a: Syllabus

SS223a. Empirical Methods for Industrial Organization

Matt Shum
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Contact Information

- Office: 301D Baxter; email: mshum@caltech.edu
- Meeting times: Tues, Thurs 2:30-4pm
- Admin: Letty Diaz (letty.diaz@caltech.edu)
- Website: www.hss.caltech.edu/~mshum/gradio/ioclass.html
Please check website regularly for announcements; class handouts, notes, &c.

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Course outline

- Empirical research in IO involves methodology and econometrics which are distinctive to the area.
- At the same time, this is a second-year PhD class which should get you on your way research-wise.
- Therefore, on Tuesdays, we will cover lecture notes which introduce and recap the existing results and literature.
- Thursdays are research-focused, we can cover
 - Your (students') research interests. Present research ideas, brainstorm
 - Read and present recent papers of interest
 - This Thursday: each of you prepare a presentation (10 mins) introducing yourself and your (potential) research interests.
 - I welcome your input: please suggest topics or papers that you are interested in

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Course Policies

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- Ideally, paper will involve original research, and be a stepping stone to a second-year paper
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Topics to be covered

- Discrete-choice demand models (Ch 1)
- Dynamic optimization models (ch 2,3,4)
- Dynamic games (ch 5).
- Discrete games and partial identification (ch 7).
- Auction Models (ch 6). Maybe...