Structural Empirical Methods for Labor Economics (and Industrial Organization)

Joan Llull
IDEA PhD Program

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GRADING

Final exam: 40%. Problem sets: 25%. Research proposal/term paper: 35%.

RESEARCH PROPOSAL

As a part of the evaluation process (35% of the final grade), students need to elaborate a research proposal. The research proposal consists of a novel research project. The expected development stage of the project is less than that of a standard "term paper", but its ambition is expected to be larger. The proposals will be carried individually. Proposals should include motivation, related literature, a structural model, and a detailed description of identification, estimation, and proposed counterfactual/policy exercises. The format of the proposal is expected to

be that of the first few sections of a standard Structural Microeconometrics paper (i.e., all typically included sections except the results). The expected length is 8-12 pages, even though different lengths are acceptable subject to pre-approval. While all topics covered in the course are allowed, the proposals that use simpler modeling frameworks will be discounted, and further creativity will be expected in exchange, everything else constant. Each student will prepare a 20 minute presentation of the project, which will be delivered in class in the last few sessions. The order of presentations will be determined randomly in class.

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