

Home (smart) work

Objective

- ❖ Learn to read articles quickly;
- ❖ Take out the essential out of an article;
- ❖ Find an interesting topic for your thesis;
- ❖ Explore the various techniques to measure empirical facts;
- ❖ Learn how to present in public in few minutes.
- ❖ Interact (through internet!) with your fellows.
- ❖ What do you gain? You can skip the open question and earn part of your final grade before the written exam.

How to procede

- ❖ This exercise is not mandatory.
- ❖ Form a couple (2 students, joint work at the time of coronavirus -> at distance);
- ❖ Choose an article from a list of international journals;
- ❖ Use the bullet list (in the next slide) to read an article;
- ❖ Discuss the critical issues in the bullet list (bold items);
- ❖ Prepare a power point or similar software (prezi; beamer) presentation;
- ❖ One of you will play the role of an “author”, another will be the “discussant”;
- ❖ We will devote the 2 final lectures (after Easter) to this exercise.

Bullet points

Understanding:

- **Objective** (which question does the author answer?)
- Dataset: What? Where? When? (find the unit of observation)
- **Main results** (select the important few tables)
- Goodness of fit

Critical points:

- **Strength?** (ample dataset; non-obvious results; interesting relationship, etc.)
- **Weakness?** (non robust results; bad fit to data; too specific feature investigated; etc.) [n.b. Motivate your opinion]

Relation with the literature:

- Other papers that analyze a similar issue? [n.b. start from cited works in bibliography or conduct a Google Scholar research starting from title article]

How to find academic articles (printed)

❖ *Scimago* list of journals in finance:

❖ <https://www.scimagojr.com/journalrank.php?category=2003&area=2000&type=j>

❖ Select one among the most recent articles on topics related to this course.

❖ I will prepare a list, but you can propose an alternative article.

How to find academic articles (working papers)

- ❖ **Google Scholar:** <https://scholar.google.it/schhp?sourceid=sch&subid=us-et-about>
 - ❖ Especially for updates on publication status, pdf version and forward searches (“cited by”)
- ❖ **SSRN:** <https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/DisplayAbstractSearch.cfm>
- ❖ **RePEc:** <http://econpapers.repec.org/>

Thanks for your attention!