

Term Paper Guidelines

This handout is to remind you about the final paper. It should be 15 to 20 pages long (not including lengthy appendices or exhibits), double-spaced, with one-inch margins, and a font no bigger than the one used on this handout. It counts for 25 percent of your course grade.

A 1-2 page paper proposal is due by 6:00 pm on Friday November 13 (email it as an attachment to jjacobsen@wesleyan.edu). It counts for 5 percent of your course grade. It should describe the proposed topic of your paper and contain a short outline showing what the major sections of the paper would be. It can include a tentative bibliography of works that you have consulted or plan to consult in the course of your research, data you plan to collect and utilize, and primary source material you plan to utilize.

The final paper is due no later than Tuesday Dec. 15 by 6:00 pm. Please email it to me as an attachment in either Word or PDF format. If you have trouble incorporating diagrams, pictures, etc., you can hand those in on paper at my office or in the course drop-box. Papers will be graded on writing quality and structural neatness and consistency as well as on content. Make sure you include an abstract of your paper. I will pass out a sheet showing the abstracts from last class later in the term. This is a research paper, so some part of the paper must be original in nature, whether it analyzes primary documents, incorporates information from interviews, or contains some statistical analysis. This stands in contrast to a paper that would be a literature review of secondary sources.

The paper can be on any topic in the general area of urban economics. Please talk to me before the proposal due date if you want to run some possible topics by me for comments, or if you are having trouble thinking of a topic. When I return your paper proposal I will let you know if there are any potential problems with your topic. The paper may be related to work done for credit for another course only if you receive prior consent from both me and the other instructor.