

Law and Economics Colloquium – Law 208

Thursdays @ 4 pm

Antonin Scalia Law School, George Mason University, Fall 2023

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Office Hours. Wed. 4-5 pm, Thur. 2-3 pm, & by appt.

Welcome. This is an advanced course that will bring together outside scholars, resident faculty, and law school students for discussion of cutting-edge research papers in the law and economics tradition. Approximately two of every three weeks will feature a leading scholar presenting a paper growing out of his or her research in the law and economics tradition. Students must read the papers before class and write essays; they are also expected to engage in the discussion.

Learning Outcome: This course will expose students to cutting edge research in law and economics. Students will be required to produce written critiques of the papers presented and participate in the discussion during the workshop. Upon completing this course, students will be able critically read and analyze the methodology and inferential process used by the scholars in producing academic research in law and economics. Students will also be able to produce and articulate critical questions that will challenge and improve the speaker's research.

Workshops are open to all interested GMU Faculty (including non-law faculty): Class will be held only on the dates listed below. Please contact the instructor if you have any questions.

Course Requirements and Grading

Attendance:

Attendance and participation at all workshops are required.

Persons absent for more than 20% of the classroom meetings (three classes or more) will not receive a passing grade. Students are also expected to be on time.

Assignments:

Summaries - Students must write summaries (one to two paragraphs) of the papers presented in the workshop. The summaries are due 24 hours before the start of the workshop (that is, Wednesdays @ 4 pm). Summaries determine 40% of the final grade.

Q&A Workshop Comments - Students are expected to engage in the discussion during the workshop. Participation in the workshop determines 20% of the final grade.

Critique - Students must write one long critique of a selected paper presented in the workshop. The critique should be about 1,000 words. The critique is due by the last day of the semester (that is, Nov. 21, 2023). It determines 40% of the final grade.

All assignments must be submitted as a pdf file via email. Other formats will not be accepted.

Honor Code. Students are expected to adhere to the Scalia Law HONOR CODE, which may be found at https://www.law.gmu.edu/academics/honor_code/.

Class Schedule

- 8/24 Class meeting, STUDENTS ONLY
- 8/31 [Yunsieg Kim](#) (Missouri), *The Faster Horse Fallacy: How Technology Distorts Civil Procedure (and Beyond)*
- 9/7 [Joshua Teitelbaum](#) (Georgetown), *Does the 1L Curriculum Make a Difference?*
- 9/14 [Keith Hylton](#) (Boston U.), *A Patent and a Prize*
- 9/21 [Stephanie Didwania](#) (Northwestern), *Regressive White-Collar Crime*
- 9/23 (no class)
- 10/5 [Dane Thorley](#) (BYU), *Unwarranted Warrants? An Empirical Analysis of the Search and Seizure Process*
- 10/12 [Yonathan Arbel](#) (Alabama), *The Readability of Contracts: Big Data Analysis*
- 10/19 [Emma Harrington](#) (Iowa), *Prediction Mistakes in the Criminal Justice System: Evidence from Linking Prosecutor Surveys to Court Records*
- 10/26 [Michael Makowsky](#) (Clemson), *Property Crime and Felony Theft Thresholds*
- 11/2 [Sepehr Shahshahani](#) (Fordham), *The Shadow Element in Trademark Infringement*
- 11/9 [Andrew Hayashi](#) (Virginia), *Law and Economics for Empaths*
- 11/16 (no class)