

New York University
Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service

Doctoral Research Colloquium, Fall 2017

Professor Brian Elbel

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Office Hours: By Appointment

Administrative Contact: tisheya.ward@nyumc.org

Meeting Times and Places:

The regular meeting time for the Colloquium is Thursdays from 12:30 – 2pm in the Rudin Conference Room on the 2nd floor of the Puck Building. Note that at least one seminar this year is on a Thursday afternoon. In addition, class sessions will be held for enrolled students at the beginning and then again at the end of the semester, see schedule below.

Course Schedule:

The seminar schedule is below. You must attend and participate in these discussions. Further, students are expected to meet with speakers from outside of the Wagner community immediately following their talks at 2pm.

Note on the meetings with the speakers: Please note that the chance to meet with, engage with and, even in some ways, interview the speakers is not to be taken lightly. Speakers are often world class scholars and will often remember these interactions. You can learn a lot from them and I urge you to take these meetings seriously. Please remember that you are representing not only yourself but NYU/Wagner, and being unprepared or otherwise unengaged will be a real problem.

Assignments:

First, I expect your active participation in the colloquium. This does not mean you will be expected to ask questions in every seminar, and we'll discuss more in the opening session what this entails.

Second, before each formal presentation, students are required to read the paper that will be presented (when available; they generally will be available but not always) and submit to me two questions about the work. These could be questions that probe methods, consider next steps and/or otherwise get at what you think are the most critical (in a positive or negative sense) aspects of the paper. The questions do not at all have to be

long but do need to be thoughtful. You should submit these to me by 5pm Wednesday the day before the Thursday seminar, uploaded via NYU Classes.

Third, students are required to submit a critique of two of the papers presented during the semester. The critiques are due one week after the seminar in which the paper is discussed. You can pick any of the papers you want.

The critique should be 2-4 pages. You can assume that I'm familiar with the paper and do not need to summarize the contents. Instead, I want you to get at what you think are the most important and/or critical aspects of the paper. These could run the gamut from: I think there was a critical error in the model; they did not frame the premise in the right way; they ignored this aspect of the literature; the implications are wrong/important/unclear and here is why; this is a huge contribution to this literature. I'm really interested not in the small minutia of the operationalization of a single variable (unless you think that this IS one of the most important aspects) but more what you think the big takeaways or important points from the paper include, in the positive or negative direction. Give your reasoning.

Grading:

Class Participation and questions submitted:	40%
Written Critiques	60%

Seminar Schedule:

September 7, 2017

Kick off session with Brian. Regular seminar time, 12:30 in Lafayette Conference Room, Puck Building.

September 14, 2017

Donald Rubin

John L. Loeb Professor of Statistics

Department of Statistics, Harvard University

<https://statistics.fas.harvard.edu/people/donald-b-rubin>

October 5, 2017

Julia Carboni

Assistant Professor, Public Administration and International Affairs

The Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University

https://www.maxwell.syr.edu/pa/Carboni,_Julia/

October 12, 2017

Hilary Hoynes

Professor of Public Policy and Economics, Haas Distinguished Chair in Economic Disparities

Goldman School of Public Policy, University of California Berkeley

<https://gspp.berkeley.edu/directories/faculty/hilary-hoynes>

October 19, 2017

Katherine W. Phillips

Paul Calello Professor of Leadership and Ethics

Columbia Business School, Columbia University

<https://www8.gsb.columbia.edu/cbs-directory/detail/kp2447>

October 26, 2017

Andrew Breck and Davin Reed

NYU Wagner Doctoral Students

The Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York University

<https://wagner.nyu.edu/education/degrees/doctorate-public-administration/students/andrew-breck>

<https://wagner.nyu.edu/education/degrees/doctorate-public-administration/students/davin-reed>

November 9, 2017*

Jesse Shapiro

George S. and Nancy B. Parker Professor of Economics
Brown University

*Joint with NYU Behavioral Economics and Public Policy workshop;

*SPECIAL TIME: Thursday 4-5:30, NYU Law School

<http://www.brown.edu/Research/Shapiro/>

November 16, 2017

Brigitte Madrian

Aetna Professor of Public Policy and Corporate Management

John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

<https://scholar.harvard.edu/bmadrian/home>

November 30, 2017

Lawrence P. Casalino

Professor of Healthcare Policy and Research

Weill Cornell Medical College, Cornell University

<http://vivo.med.cornell.edu/display/cwid-lac2021>

December 7, 2017

Close out Session with Brian, Regular Seminar Time, 12:30 in Lafayette Conference Room, Puck Building