The objective of the course is to introduce students to cutting edge research in empirical macroeconomics. We will explore both the substantive research agendas with a bias towards macro/labor and methodological approaches more generally. There would be significant emphasis placed on helping students transition from taking classes to reading research papers, learning to evaluate papers, and identifying promising research topics and methodologically sound execution strategies. Evaluation will be based on a sequence of referee reports, class presentations and a research proposal.