

ECON 712 Dissertation Projects in Economic Theory

Fall 2019

Time and Location TBA

Instructor. Alvaro Sandroni.

Description. This course relies on student presentations and informal discussions of ideas. There are no exams. The main objective is to find good dissertation projects and, hence, to facilitate the transition from student to researcher. The topics depend on students interests and so, are typically determined in the first and second classes. Below are some initial suggestions:

Diversity and Economic Activity

Crises: Equilibrium Shifts and Large Shocks, mimeo, by Morris and Yildiz

A Theory of Strategic Uncertainty and Cultural Diversity, mimeo, by Kets and Sandroni

Statistical Discrimination and Affirmative Action in the Lab, mimeo, by Dianat, Echenique and Yariv

Censorship

Political Correctness, by Stephen Morris, Journal of Political Economy 2001, 109-2, 231-265.

Bad News Turned Good: Reversal Under Censorship, by Egor Starkov.

Selection Bias

Hot Issues Concerning use of statistical evidence in employment discrimination class action litigation. And, "Statistical evidence in pattern and practice litigation." (2009) by Michael D. Lieder.

What Happened in Hazelwood: Statistics, Employment Discrimination, and the 80% Rule. American Bar Foundation Research Journal

Fryer, Roland G (2005).; Loury, Glenn C. Affirmative Action and its Mythology. Source: The Journal of Economic Perspectives, Volume 19, Number 3, Summer 2005, pp. 147-162(16)

Fryer, Roland G. Jr. (2009). Implicit Quotas. Journal of Legal Studies 38, no. 1: 1-20.

Moro, A and H. Fang (2010) Theories of Statistical Discrimination and Affirmative Action: A Survey. NBER 2009.

What is the Value Added of a Judge? mimeo, by Katz and Sandroni

Taxes and Endogenous Social Welfare Functions

Taxes and Turnout, mimeo by Bierbrauer, Tsyvinski, and Werquin.

Contracts, Law and Economics

The Structure of Optimal Law, mimeo, by Feddersen, Katz and Sandroni

Explaining the Firm and Other Contract Substitutes, mimeo, by Katz and Sandroni

Diplomacy

Starting small and renegotiation J Watson - JET, 1999

Starting small and commitment J Watson - GEB, 2002