This Ph.D.-level course focuses on entrepreneurship research, not entrepreneurial practice.

In each session, we will read and discuss a few important articles. By design, the reading list is purposely short compared to other seminars of this type. The objective of using a discussion-based format is to actively engage the students’ mind to think deeply about what original, novel, and ground-breaking papers can be written for each theory.

I expect all seminar participants to read EVERY article and to consider what innovation can be added to the stream of literature before coming to class. My focus is on cutting-edge contemporaneous approaches. The seminar participants are therefore expected to search out and read background articles including the classics (see a recommended list shown below) to the extent they deem necessary to their understanding.

The “Classics of Entrepreneurship”

Class Meeting Format
The seminar is discussion-based and all seminar participants are expected to engage regularly in the discussions. The discussions will focus on the specific papers assigned as well as the general issues they raise. To facilitate the discussion, each assigned paper marked with * will have TWO discussants. The discussants (either self-nominated or appointed by the course instructor) will lead off the discussions and
give their reviews on the paper. The reviews are supposed to be positive and critical. The discussants are required to provide a short written summary and an outline of their review before class. This document, between 1 to 3 pages in length, should be distributed to all seminar participants before the beginning of the class meeting time.

In evaluating theory development, scholars are urged to ask the following questions:

- Are the theoretical claims unambiguous?
- Can the conclusions be derived rigorously from explicit premises?
- Do the premises sufficiently capture the core drivers of the phenomena under study?
- Have the theories produced propositions with measurable implications that can be refuted empirically?
- Do the theories merge ideas from multiple disciplines in ways that produce something greater than the simple sum of the discipline-based ideas?

In evaluating the design and execution of empirical studies, scholars are urged to ask the following questions:

- Are data presented and analyzed as transparently as possible?
- Does the research employ reliable data that conform closely to theoretical constructs? In particular, do the level of analysis and the unit of observation in the study match those of the theory? Can the empirical proxies discriminate among alternative explanations?
- Are the empirical designs and methods chosen carefully to generate valid inferences? In particular, have concerns about endogeneity and selection been addressed adequately?

**Course Requirements**

- Attend and actively engage in discussion in the weekly seminar.
- Distribute your summary and review of the assigned paper (1-3 pages) before class (electronic AND print copies).
- Serve as a “lead discussant” for at least one paper in each session.
- Write a review paper (~10 pages) targeted for a major academic journal, such as the *Academy of Management Review*, with a literature review (and references) for THEORETICAL and EMPIRICAL PERSPECTIVES on a topic of your own choice about entrepreneurship. An example of a topic is ‘gender, ethnicity and entrepreneurship’. Please email your review paper to Gwendolyn.lee@warrington.ufl.edu by March 2nd, 2018.

All journal papers are available at JSTOR: [http://www.jstor.org](http://www.jstor.org).
Session #1: Course Introduction
Assigned reading: required

Supplemental reading: optional

Session #2: The Sources of Entrepreneurs
Assigned reading: required
The sources of entrepreneurs: theory

The sources of entrepreneurs: empirics

Supplemental reading: optional


**Session #3: Entrepreneurial Labor Markets**

**Assigned reading: required**

*Entrepreneurial labor markets: theory*


*Entrepreneurial labor markets: empirics*


**Supplemental reading: optional**


**Session #4: Local Industrial Characteristics, Agglomeration, and Entrepreneurship**

**Assigned reading: required**

*Local industrial characteristics, agglomeration, and entrepreneurship: theory*


Local industrial characteristics, agglomeration, and entrepreneurship: evidence

Supplemental reading: optional

Session #5: Entrepreneurship and industry evolution
Assigned reading: required
Entrepreneurship and industry evolution: theory

Entrepreneurship and industry evolution: empirics

Supplemental reading: optional

Session #6: Capital Constraints
Assigned reading: required
Capital constraints: theory

Capital constraints: empirics

Supplemental reading: optional


**Session #7: Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Growth**

Assigned reading: required

*Entrepreneurship, innovation, and growth: theory*


*Entrepreneurship, innovation, and growth: empirics*


*Samila, Sampsa, and Olav Sorenson, 2011, Noncompete Covenants: Incentives to Innovate or Impediments to Growth, Management Science 57(3), 425-438.*


Supplemental reading: optional
