

# Summer School in Law, Business & Economic Policy

## Master Seminar in Law, Business and Economic Policy at Georgetown and New York University

### Formal Requirements

A clear and logical structure is essential for a scientific paper. Depending on the research topic, a different structure might seem more appropriate. This is to give you an idea of what is expected.

Your paper could typically consist of the following subsections:

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Introduction                  | Why is the topic relevant?<br>Present research question, main results and structure of paper.   |
| 2. Background, Facts, Literature | Definitions, some facts, some cases.<br>What has been found by others? Existing literature.   |
| 3. Theory, Methodology           | Introduce the theory that may help you to answer the question, derive hypotheses; introduce empirical methodology if the paper is mainly empirical.<br>Introduce hypothesis and data. |
| 4. Analysis                      | This is your main contribution: answer the question using Section 3. Introduce precise data or qualitative information, results, discussion and interpretation.                       |
| 5. Conclusion                    | Short Summary of your paper.<br>Limitation of own analysis, further steps to be done in future  |

Have a look at a paper in a recent edition of the *American Economic Review*. If you more or less stick to this you will be fine.

Here are some principles that are particularly important:

- Font: 12 pt., Line spacing: 1.5
- Number of pages: in general content matters more than size, but we expect something like 15-20 pages (excluding appendix), not more.
- Page numbering: Bottom in the middle.
- Labelling of images and tables: continuously, include them in the text, provide source.
- Principle of citations: *AER* (or another journal in economics).
- Your paper has to include a table of contents and a bibliography.
- Provide the title of the paper, your name, student number, the date, the title of the master seminar and an abstract with 100 words on your front page.