BENTLEY UNIVERSITY

PBU 1604.100: Business Workshop
Fall 2015

Class Hours: Occasional Wednesdays 12:30 – 3:30, G242
and workshops (scheduled during the semesters)

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Office hours: by appointment
Version: 2015-12-30

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this workshop is to help students develop their knowledge of *doing* business research (broadly conceived). The course will introduce students the elements of academic life. The course will include:

- Doing research for the PhD
- Identifying research topics and the subsequent development of research proposals prior to defense
- Submission of research papers to conferences and journals
- Presentation of draft papers
- Reviewing academic research papers
- Identifying business data sets and appropriate software
- Using business research methods
- Evaluating research methods used in academic research
- Developing one's academic profile, network and career agenda

The course will help you about the processes involved in *doing* research. The workshop also considers means by which you can become part of an academic community, building networks with like-minded colleagues, and eventually, obtaining a position at an appropriate institution. Navigating the jungle of the multitude of journals and conferences can be overwhelming at first sight, so the workshop is also designed to assist students in mapping out *their* territory. Opportunities are provided for you to understand how to go about literature searches and compiling reference lists, and more generally using library facilities effectively – physical and electronic – in addition. Interaction with current Bentley PhD candidates and past PhD graduates have been facilitated, in order for students to learn from their experiences.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course you should have:

1. Improved your understanding of how research ideas are generated in the

field of business capable of leading to potentially publishable research;
2. Learned how to constructively critique the research of others;
3. Improved your ability to interact meaningfully with authors of papers, and to collegially and collaboratively assist others in the process of performing research;
4. Demonstrated your knowledge by asking informed questions in a research workshop setting both at Bentley University and at other research-oriented universities (where appropriate);
5. Begun to develop a network of colleagues with similar research interests to your own;
6. Developed an appreciation of emerging topics in the field of business;
7. Understood how to best utilize library facilities – at Bentley and elsewhere; physical and electronic – in undertaking literature reviews and building selective, relevant lists of references
8. Begun to understand the nature of a career in academia, involving the promotion and tenure process and key conferences in your chosen field of study.
9. Produced a research paper, potentially capable of submission to a conference and/or journal.

CLASS STRUCTURE

We will meet on Wednesdays, as required. You will be informed of any changes to the scheduled dates. Full participation is required.

You should attend seminars at Bentley. This is required. The more exposure you get to seminars and observing and interacting with other academics the better. (These might substitute for the Wednesday class).

In addition, you will work on an individual research paper throughout the Fall and Spring semesters. This paper is due at the end of the second semester. More details will be provided during the course. You will identify a research topic and question that interests you. You should discuss this with your academic supervisor and identify an interesting question in your field. You should also keep me informed about your research topic.

Each semester will give 1.5 credits, and you must register for *both* the Fall *and* Spring semesters to receive 3 credit hours.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

"Academic Integrity. All students are expected to adhere to Bentley's Academic Integrity policy which includes Bentley's Honor Code (details on the policy can be found in the Undergraduate Student Handbook, the Graduate Catalog, and Bentley's academic integrity course page on Blackboard into which all students and faculty are enrolled). The essence of the policy is that you should not represent someone else's work as your own (no plagiarism, no cheating on exams, no illicit collaboration on projects, etc.). Failure to adhere to the policy can have serious consequences, including course failure, suspension, or even expulsion from the university. The best way to avoid a problem is to consult with your instructor before taking an action that might constitute a violation."

Bentley University requires that students adhere to the University's Academic Integrity System and its Academic Honor Code. Please see the Student Handbook and also refer to the Bentley website: http://www.bentley.edu/centers/alliance/academic-integrity. See also the University's vision, mission and values at: http://www.bentley.edu/about/mission-vision-and-values.

OVERALL COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade: The final course grade (Pass/Fail) will be determined by:

- Participation: 50%. -- This consists of active participation in class; mini-reviews of academic papers; presentation of a paper in class; homework write-ups; No late papers.
- Course paper: 50%. -- This will be a draft/outline of a research paper associated with the student's research interests. The precise details of the paper to be agreed with your advisor. For example, it could be an extended literature review; it could be the development of theory or presentation of a research hypotheses; it could be data collection and analyses. This work should be done independently. It is due on 29 April 2016 at 5.00 pm. Turn a hard-copy into the PhD office and post online.

Participation: The key to a meaningful and interesting seminar experience is class participation. Each student is expected to prepare for and make a significant contribution to discussions in each of the sessions. Topics of emerging interest or concern should be raised with the course professor so that these can be incorporated into the syllabus.

Reviews/Discussant Presentations: Each student is required to read each assigned paper and be prepared to discuss the paper intelligently. Each student should prepare comments on the paper as if they were serving as a discussant on the paper at a meeting or as a reviewer. Students should in addition prepare at least three comments on each paper that could be made in the workshop, which could help the author improve the work. These comments might address points such as the following: (1) alternative available theories; (2) relevant research that the author has not considered; (3) alternative methods that could be used; (4) issues of construct validity; (5) insights regarding the results that the author has not considered, etc. These comments should be developed into a formal review of research papers (identified below) for the purposes of assessment (see under grading). Students should also take the opportunity to present their own draft papers/emerging research as their ideas begin to crystallize.

Journals: In order to become more aware of current and emerging research issues in relation to business, technology and society generally, students should look at the major journals. These include in the broad management field: *Administrative Science Quarterly*, *Organization Science*, *Academy of Management Journal/Review*, *MIS Quarterly*, *Journal of Business Ethics*. In the broad economics, finance and accounting fields these include: *the American Economic Review, Econometrica, Quarterly Journal of Economics, The Economic Journal, The Review of Financial Studies, the Journal of Finance, the Journal of Financial Economics, the Journal of Corporate Finance, The Accounting Review, the Review of Accounting Studies, Contemporary Accounting Research, Journal of Management Accounting Research, Journal of Accounting and Economics.*

SCHEDULE

1. Doctoral Research

Don Davis (2001) 'Ph.D. Thesis Research: Where Do I Start?, http://tinyurl.com/ndsqwk3

Ericsson, K. Anders; Krampe, Ralf T.; Tesch-Römer, Clemens 'The role of deliberate practice in the acquisition of expert performance'. Psychological Review, Vol 100(3), Jul 1993, 363-406. http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/0033-295X.100.3.363 (*since this is assigned to the first session, read over this article quite quickly and be prepared to comment on some the insights that strike you as interesting…. But read it more carefully later in the semester*)

In this session we'll talk about doing PhD research, how it differs from your prior experiences, what you can expect during your PhD career and, most importantly, what the ultimate goals your PhD are….

2. Joining Academia

Brooke Beyer, Don Herrmann, Gary K. Meek, and Eric T. Rapley (2010) 'What It Means to be an Accounting Professor: A Concise Career Guide for Doctoral Students in Accounting' Issues in Accounting Education, Vol. 25, No. 2 DOI: 10.2308/iace.2010.25.2.227, 2010, pp. 227–244. – *(This paper is targeted at Accounting students, but the points it raises are excellent and relevant to all PhD students – except, of course, the institutional details relating to accountants in particular. This paper is required for the Accounting Workshop graduate students)*

Daniel S. Hamermesh (2011) '10 Tips for Junior Faculty', Inside HigherEd, http://tinyurl.com/pzvzmfg

In this session we'll discuss what you can expect as a Junior Faculty member, you're role at your institution and wider academia. Importantly, we'll discuss research strategies and priorities.

3. Getting Research Published

Rachel Griffith (2014) 'Getting the most out of publication process'.

Rachel Griffith (2010) 'Tips on getting published'

Don Davis (2001) 'What Makes for a Successful Paper and Seminar?', http://tinyurl.com/nlzqdqz

Which Journals to aim for?

Andrew J. Oswald (2006) 'An Examination of the Reliability of Prestigious Scholarly Journals: Evidence and Implications for Decision-Makers', Economica.

ISI Web of Knowledge Journal and Citation Reports
http://tinyurl.com/p7prujc

In this session we'll discuss what journals you should aim for and why. Prior to class, think about this issue and come prepared to offer your insights. If possible, give some concrete examples of your target outlets / favorite papers etc.

Which Journals are recruiters interested in?

Generally, the answer to this question is the major journals in your field (be it accountancy, finance, economics, management etc.). There are various sources for you to check. For example, the FT45 is sometimes seen as providing a set of quality journals.

Financial Times '45 Journals used in FT Research Rank – FT', http://tinyurl.com/o5q5gu7

Departments and universities also signal the journals they are interested in via job advertisements. For example, it is not unusual to see advertisements for Assistant Professor jobs at the Academy to highlight the kind of journals their faculty is published in. Here is an example from Lehigh University and Suffolk University in 2015 recruiting season:

"Lehigh University offers excellent conditions for research and teaching. The successful candidate will be joining faculty in the Management department who publish in top ranked journals such as Academy of Management Journal, Academy of Management Review, Administrative Science Quarterly, Journal of Applied Psychology, Organizational Behavior & Human Decision Processes, Journal of Management, Organization Science, and Industrial & Labor Relations Review."

Suffolk: "The Management and Entrepreneurship Department consists of 16 fulltime, high quality scholars and teachers. Our faculty members have experience publishing in top tier journals such as Academy of Management Journal, Journal of Applied Psychology, Journal of Management, Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes, Academy of Management Annals, Personnel Psychology, Academy of Management Learning and Education, and Journal of Organizational Behavior. Our commitment to research is further evidenced by the availability of internal grants and benefits afforded to faculty research initiatives." Suffolk University's Sawyer Business School

These examples seem to signal the target journals that management scholars see as important. Implicitly, it seems to be encouraging applicants from individuals who have an interest in publishing in these kinds of journals too.

4. Identifying Your Research Question

The following are important sources of information to begin identifying your research question.

Author / Article / Topic search on Google Scholar:
https://scholar.google.com/

Thomsen-Reuters Web of Science (Social Science):
http://tinyurl.com/nv4wx6m
'Web of Science provides a single destination to access the most reliable, integrated, multidisciplinary research.' – Web of Science / Thomsen-Reuters

Social Science Research Network (SSRN):
http://www.ssrn.com/en/

Annual Reviews:

Examples:
http://www.annualreviews.org/journal/orgpsych
http://www.annualreviews.org/journal/financial
http://www.annualreviews.org/journal/economics

Experts in the field write the Annual Reviews. For example, 'The Annual Review of Organizational Psychology and Organizational Behavior, launched in March 2014, is devoted to publishing reviews of the I/O Psychology and HRM/OB literature. Topics for review include motivation, selection, teams, training and development, leadership, job performance, strategic HR, cross-cultural issues, work attitudes, entrepreneurship, affect and emotion, organizational change and development, gender and diversity, and statistics and research methodologies.' See the other Annual Reviews too.

EBSCO:
http://tinyurl.com/pjmqozb
This is a widely used database. It covers thousands of journal articles from different suppliers and publishers all in one place.

Science Direct:
Science Director 'is a leading full-text scientific database offering journal articles and book chapters from nearly 2,500 journals and more than 30,000 books.'
http://www.sciencedirect.com/

At Bentley a list of available databases are at:
http://library.bentley.edu/research/databasesaz.asp

Also, make an appointment to see a librarian (if you want to) and see what other research materials are available for PhD students at Bentley.

In this session we'll discuss potential research questions and how to go about researching it. Before class, think about an interesting research question in your field that you might want to investigate.

5. Business Data Sets

This session is devoted to identifying databases that are central in business research. Prof. Bayer Tumennasan in the Academic Technology Center (AAC 168) will introduce you to the data sets that are held at Bentley.

Following the session, I want you to get usernames / passwords / access to databases that are of interest to you. Then download some data into an excel file from one of these databases. Find out something interesting. Bring it along to our next session to discuss…. (If you know how to use Stata at this stage, choose that format for your download too. If not, don't worry, as we'll be covering Stata soon).

Important databases:

Wharton Research Data Services (WRDS):
WRDS is the major supplier of business to the academic community. They have provided consistent high-value distributions for many, many years. They house many different data sets. An academic institution can subscribe to those it elects too. Bentley subscribes to several important data sets.

Go to:
http://atc.bentley.edu/

or directly as:
http://atc.bentley.edu/research-support/databases/

Listed at Bentley are Audit Analytics, BoardEx, CRSP Compustat, I/B/E/S, OptionMetrics, KLD, Riskmetrics, S&P ExecuComp, SDC Platinum. (BoardEx is not WRDS distributed but by the vendor instead – UK based firm). Many of these databases are corporate level and governance related. However, there are many other types of databases too. Many are in the public domain and we will discuss these too.

Federal Reserve Banks at St Louis data (FRED).
https://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/

This dataset allows you to 'Download, graph, and track 268,000 US and international time series from 80 sources.' Academics and practitioners routinely use the data and graphs supplied from FRED.

6. Analyzing Data

In your research you will use software to analyze data. Here are some frequently used packages.

Stata:
http://www.stata.com/
This is a very popular package. I recommend it. Good for data management, advanced statistical methods (panel data, micro-econometrics, times series econometrics, discrete data modeling etc.), graphing abilities, great diagnostic testing and so on.

The R Project for Statistical Computing:
https://www.r-project.org/
'R is a free software environment for statistical computing and graphics. It compiles and runs on a wide variety of UNIX platforms, Windows and MacOS.' This is an outstanding resource. Very popular – has a slightly steep learning curve, but worth the effort.

Eviews:
http://www.eviews.com/home.html
Basic data handling, time series econometrics, standard statistics.

Mathematica:
http://www.wolfram.com/mathematica/
Outstanding software, uses symbolic language, data analysis, graph theory, mathematical computation, etc. Used a lot by mathematicians / engineers and quants. But is very amenable to use by those with a general interest in science and social science.

Maple:
http://www.maplesoft.com/products/maple/
Numerical analysis, data analysis, time series analysis, lots of numerical capabilities etc. Used by finance people (e.g. pricing derivatives, modeling stock prices, FOREX etc.)

Pajek:
http://mrvar.fdv.uni-lj.si/pajek/
This is a package for studying social networks. Presents graphs (vertices and edges) and provides various analyses of those graphs / social networks such as degree centrality and path length etc.

Ucinet:
https://sites.google.com/site/ucinetsoftware/home
'UCINET 6 for Windows is a software package for the analysis of social network data. It was developed by Lin Freeman, Martin Everett and Steve Borgatti. It comes with the NetDraw network visualization tool.'

Nvivo:
http://atc.bentley.edu/research-support/software/
http://www.qsrinternational.com/products_nvivo.aspx
'NVivo is software for qualitative research and textual analysis. With excellent visuals, flexibility, and user-friendliness, NVivo is superb for organizing and analyzing text based data, such as interview transcripts.'

SPSS:
http://www-01.ibm.com/software/analytics/spss/
Now known as IBM SPSS. "With SPSS predictive analytics software, you can predict with confidence what will happen next so that you can make smarter decisions, solve problems and improve outcomes."

Other useful software listed at: http://atc.bentley.edu/research-support/software/

In this session we'll discuss some of the available software. I'll concentrate on Stata. You will want to discuss this topic with your advisors too. Stata is a popular package. I'll introduce it to you, as noted. Before the session, if you are interested, get a copy from Bentley's Academic Technology Center. Generally, think about what software you might need for your research. Come to class and discuss this.

Ultimately, the choice of software you use is yours. However, some PhD classes might require you to use one particular package and you will have to learn that if that is the chosen package by the professor. Generally, it is a good idea to learn more than one package anyway. Why? A) It enables you to cross-check your results across different packages and platforms to make sure that you are getting the same results in in different workflows if they offer the same model options. B) It enables you to see strengths, weaknesses and opportunities across different platforms. C) It enables you to become flexible in reading, managing, and analyzing data.

7. Empirical Modeling: Stata

From AMJ / SMJ / ASQ to JFE / Rev. Fin Studies / JOF to TAR / Rev.Acc. Studies / CAR to MIS Quarterly there is a common feature throughout: the use of data. This gives rise to evidence based production of knowledge.

You must become very comfortable with seeing tables of results / understanding what they mean / their implications etc. The best way to understand the output you see in journals is to produce output yourself, step-by-step. That way you'll know the strengths and limitations of the data and know what it all really means (and, more importantly, what it cannot claim). There is no substitute for actual practice and hands-on experience. Start now. A very good package to handle data is Stata.

In this session we'll go through some basics of how to get some data into Stata, how to transform variables, do some elementary algebraic functions, produce some simple graphs and do some simple linear regressions…..

8. Management Theories and Empirical Investigation

Donald C. Hambrick, Vilmos F. Misangyi, and Chuljin A. Park (2015) 'The Quad Model for Identifying a Corporate Director's Potential for Effective Monitoring: Toward a New Theory of Board Sufficiency', Academy of Management Review, 40:3 323-344; (published ahead of print October 21, 2014, doi:10.5465/amr.2014.0066)

Hambrick, Don (2007). The field of management's devotion to theory: Too much of a good thing? Academy of Management Journal, 50: 1346–1352.

Read and write-up a summary review of the above research paper (no more than 3-sides of paper maximum, but can be less) and hand in to me at the beginning of next class.

Roy Suddaby (2014) 'Editor's Comments: Why Theory?' Academy of Management Review October 2014 39:4 407-411; doi:10.5465/amr.2014.0252

Hillman, Amy (2011) Editor's Comments: What Is The Future of Theory? Academy of Management Review, Oct 01, 2011; Vol. 36, No. 4, p. 607-609

There is an important debate in the business academic field (especially management) regarding the appropriate balance between theoretical work and empirical work. Evaluate the approach of Academy of Management Review.

9. Research Papers: Strategic Management

Tang, Y., Qian, C., Chen, G. and Shen, R. (2015), "How CEO hubris affects corporate social (ir)responsibility. Strategic Management Journal 36: 1338–1357. doi: 10.1002/smj.2286"

Read and write-up a summary review of the above research paper (no more than 3-sides of paper maximum, but can be less) and hand in to me at the beginning of next class.

Strategic Management: It is important to look at contemporary papers in your field. These give you a flavor of the style of the journal, how it presents its material, structure of the article and so on. Critically evaluate the above papers, focusing on their theoretical contribution, the empirical contribution, the type of method used, the type of data and key findings. What areas do you think that they might be improved?

The above paper is selected because it is a new paper appearing in the Strategic Management Journal. It will give you an idea of the contemporary way in which material is presented in this major journal.

10. Authoring academic papers

Guest speaker: Professor Jill Brown, Bentley University
Class Date: November 4, 2015

Professor Brown is a highly regarded scholar whose research interests span Corporate Governance, Corporate Social Responsibility, Ethics, Strategic Leadership and Innovation. Professor Brown holds a Ph.D. in Strategic Management from University of Georgia and an MBA from Augusta State University, and a BA from Lehigh University. She has over 10 years experience in banking industry and small business consulting.

An accomplished researcher, Professor Brown is very active in the Academy of Management where she has led very successful PhD Doctoral colloquia. Professor Brown's research has appeared in many top-tier journals including Organization Science and the Journal of Business Ethics.

To get to know Professor Brown's research please read her paper:

Cynthia Clark and Jill A. Brown (2014) "Multinational Corporations and Governance Effectiveness: Toward a More Integrative Board", Journal of Business Ethics, pages 1-13.

Professor Brown's profile can be accessed here:

https://faculty.bentley.edu/details.asp?uname=jbrown

In this session we will cover a myriad of issues relating to authorship of papers, authorship policies and procedures, ethical issues surrounding authorship, and managing research projects and research networks.

Professor Brown will lead this session and may require you to some advance reading of her own. If so, we'll let you know in advance.

However, regardless of what Prof. Brown might set as reading requirements you might also find it useful to look at the professional associations, or do some other research of your own, to think about how you might approach the issue of authorship. I found this link on the Academy of Management (AOM) website that might be useful. It deals with ethics issues generally, but has a section on PhD authorship of papers, presentations, general ethical conduct etc. It is presented in the form of mini-cases.

Read also:

http://ethicist.aom.org/2014/10/twenty-questions-ethical-research-dilemmas-for-phd-students-phd-students-and-research-ethics-part-a/

11. The Journal Review Process

Oler, Derek and Pasewark, William R., "How to Review a Paper" (January 28, 2014). Available at SSRN: http://ssrn.com/abstract=2194232 or http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.2194232 (forthcoming, Issues in Accounting Education)

Read the above paper. Be prepared to answer the following questions in class: How should you review a paper? What are the main points that you should cover? What is the purpose of the review process?

As an academic you will be asked to review research papers submitted for review at journals. Your research papers lodged at journals will be double-blind reviewed. The system 'works' by all academics volunteering their time and reciprocating in this process.

<u>*Case study:*</u>

Martin J. Conyon and Lerong He (2014) 'Executive Compensation and Corporate Fraud in China', Journal of Business Ethics, Published online: 4th December 2014

Read and write-up a summary review of the above research paper (no more than 3-sides of paper maximum, but can be less) and hand in to me at the beginning of next class.

The above paper was published in the Journal of Business Ethics recently (I'm one of the authors, my former graduate student and long-time colleague and writing partner Lerong He is the other author). Read it and see what you make of it. Then in class, I'll show you the reports that we received on the paper prior to publication (!!!) and talk you through how we responded to these reviews as we navigated the paper through to publication. There were several rounds of reviews (quite normal) and there are several steps you need to consider as you address reviewers comments on your paper…. The reviews of the paper are to be used only in class.

Also, for your interest, look-up the history of one of the most famous papers in economics: the 'Market for Lemons'. Nobel Laureate George Akerlof authored this highly influential paper. Once you check the history of this paper you'll realize the hazards on the road to publication…. Give some feedback on what you think in class….

Read the following set of slides by Rachel Griffith. These are the Economic Journal version and are useful guidance on getting published and how the review process works. Also, look at the Academy of Management's web site too.

Rachel Griffith (2014) 'Getting the most out of publication process'. – Economic Journal version.

12. Working paper review

Marianne Bertrand, Sandra E. Black, Sissel Jensen, Adriana Lleras-Muney (2014) "Breaking the Glass Ceiling? The Effect of Board Quotas on Female Labor Market Outcomes in Norway", NBER Working Paper No. 20256 Issued in June 2014

Read and write-up a summary review of the above research paper (no more than 3-sides of paper maximum, but can be less) and hand in to me at the beginning of next class.

Read and write up the above paper using the insights you have learned from the previous session on the Journal Review process. Evaluate the strengths and potential limitations of the paper. Suggest future directions for the research paper. How would you evaluate the paper for publication in a major journal?

13. The Literature Review

Thanksgiving this year is on Thursday, November 26. This means the standard 'Wednesday class' will be re-scheduled to allow for people to travel.

Mason Carpenter (2007). "Course outline for Theory Development and Testing in Organization-Related Empirical Research." – This contains important information on how to conduct a literature review

Available at the AOM website:

http://aom.org/uploadedfiles/publications/amr/carpenteruwisconsin.pdf

There are many online sources for literature reviews. The above paper by Mason Carpenter contains such information and recommendation.

Here is an example of a literature review:

Murphy, Kevin J.,(2012) Executive Compensation: Where We are, and How We Got There (August 12, 2012). George Constantinides, Milton Harris, and René Stulz (eds.), Handbook of the Economics of Finance. Elsevier Science North Holland (Forthcoming); Marshall School of Business Working Paper No. FBE 07.12. Available at SSRN: http://ssrn.com/abstract=2041679 or http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.2041679

What do you notice about this review? Discuss the topic and structure of this paper. How will *you* structure your literature review for your PhD?

Also, revisit some the earlier material on literature review:

Social Science Research Network (SSRN):

http://www.ssrn.com/en/

Annual Reviews:

http://www.annualreviews.org/journal/orgpsych
http://www.annualreviews.org/journal/financial
http://www.annualreviews.org/journal/economics

14. Ethics and Academic Integrity in Research

Class Date: December 2, 2015

Ethical behavior and integrity in conducting research is central to the fabric of academic life. High moral standards in carrying out research are expected. When researchers breach this there are at least three immediate outcomes (i) Ones own academic reputation is adversely affected (ii) the academic reputation of others is potentially jeopardized (iii) trust in the academic system as the producers of credible new knowledge is potentially jeopardized.

An accounting professor at Bentley University committed such a breach of trust and this was discovered around 2012. Data and research findings were falsified. His name is Professor James Hunton and he has subsequently left the university.

The conclusion that an academic fraud was perpetrated is based on a report by Bentley University, investigations by the academic accounting community, and retractions of research papers from leading scholarly journals. I am unaware of Mr. Hunton's formal position regarding the allegations against him or any legal outcomes.

Given the seriousness of such situations, this session is dedicated to integrity in research with a focus on the Hunton affair and its aftermath. The following recently published paper by Dan Stone should be read.

This session is compulsory for <u>all</u> PhD students studying the PhD in Accounting and the PhD in Business. Professors Bedard and Conyon will jointly co-ordinate the session.

For Professor Conyon's students: read and write-up a summary review of the following research paper (no more than 3-sides of paper maximum, but can be less) and hand in to me at the beginning of next class.

Dan N. Stone (2015) "Post-Hunton: Reclaiming Our Integrity and Literature", Journal of Information Systems, Vol. 29, No. 2, pp. 211–227

"ABSTRACT: A Bentley University investigation of allegations of data fabrication by Jim Hunton concludes that "[t]he whole body of Dr. Hunton's extensive research while a faculty member at Bentley University must now be considered suspect" (Malone 2014, 5). Jim served as president of the Information Systems (IS) Section of the American

Accounting Association (AAA) in 2002–2003, and is the most cited author in the Journal of Information Systems (JIS) (Guffey and Harp 2013). This essay is a personal reflection on, with proposed lessons for the AIS community from, the Hunton fraud. These include developing skepticism, recognizing the limited usefulness of Cressey's fraud ''stump'' (formerly triangle), noting the dysfunctional implications of agency theory, and adopting contemplative practices designed to increase observational awareness."

See the session below which contains information on: **Ethics and Human Participants in Research.** This is an important issue to address ethically. Any research that includes manipulations of human subjects requires that you get permission from the University. You are responsible for this. If you are doing research that involves work that includes humans in any way, talk to your adviser about how to proceed.

15. Concluding Session for Semester One

The final session will also offer some concluding remarks.

[A] I draw your attention to the required end of course paper. You will work on an individual research paper throughout the Fall and Spring semesters. This paper is due at the end of the second semester. You have identified a research topic and question that interests you. You should continue to discuss this with your academic supervisor and identify the interesting question in your field. You should also keep me informed about your research topic.

[B] We will also discuss topics for any sessions in Semester 2.

[C] There will be a discussion or short presentation by students on learning outcomes, as appropriate.

[D] One important announcement of a forthcoming session: Tentative date: Friday, March 25, 2016. There is an "Integrity in Research" conference at Bentley University. See below for more details.

SESSION DATES SEMESTER 1

Session dates:

9/2/15	1
9/9/15	2
9/16/15	3
9/23/15	4
9/30/15	5

10/7/15	6
10/14/15	7
10/21/15	8
10/28/15	9
11/4/15	10
11/11/15	11
11/18/15	12
11/25/15	13
12/2/15	14
12/9/15	15

SESSION DATES SEMESTER 2

At the moment there are no scheduled formal classes for Semester two. ***You must work with you adviser to produce your end of semester / course paper***.

It is possible that I will hold sessions during the Semester where students will come and present to class the outline of their research project. The dates for these sessions are still to be decided as they are not part of the formal course outline. They will be formed on an ad hoc basis and, if they run, might run on two consecutive days. All students are expected to attend regardless of whether they are presenting or not.

Final Comments:

The above is a preliminary / suggested schedule of classes and readings. These may change and different readings and topics might be assigned as required. I'll base this decision on an assessment of student needs and my on-going review of the course.

EXTRA MATERIAL

JOINING ACADEMIA: PROFESSIONAL ACADEMIC ASSOCIATIONS

As a PhD student it is important to identify your professional community and get involved. The following are examples. Make sure you are aware of your academic community and how you can get involved.

The American Accounting Association (AAA)

http://aaahq.org/

The AAA coordinates activities for early-stage professionals. For example, the PhD Rookie camp ….

"The 2015 Accounting PhD Rookie Recruiting & Research Camp is a two-day forum for faculty and recruiters to meet and network with PhD candidates, attend 15-minute research presentations by job-seeking candidates, and interview a number of candidates interested in faculty or private sector positions.

"Who should attend?
PhD candidates from all research backgrounds (audit, financial, information systems, tax, analytical, experimental, behavioral, empirical, etc.) with expected graduation in Spring 2016 are encouraged to apply to attend the Camp. Registered recruiters will receive a convenient resume/"bio book" of all PhD candidates organized by dissertation topic. Recruiters may schedule interviews with candidates both before the camp and during the camp (i.e. a recruiter may see an interesting presentation and want to schedule an on-site interview)."

Source: http://aaahq.org/Meetings/2015/RookieCamp/FAQs

The Academy of Management (AOM)

http://aom.org/

The Academy of Management meets annually (usually early August).

http://aom.org/annualmeeting/

"You increase your chance of meeting other student members by attending sessions designed for students. There are doctoral workshops available in the weekend before the paper sessions begin (e.g., New Doctoral Student Consortium)."
http://obweb.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2420&Itemid=79

Examples of the New Doctoral Consortium

http://group.aomonline.org/ndsc/

The American Finance Association (AFA)

"The American Finance Association (AFA) is the premier academic organization devoted to the study and promotion of knowledge about financial economics. The AFA was planned at a meeting in December 1939 in Philadelphia. The first journal of the American Finance Association was …"

http://www.afajof.org/view/index.html

The American Economics Association (AEA)

https://www.aeaweb.org/

"The American Economic Association was organized in 1885 at a meeting in Saratoga, New York, by a small group interested in economics. It was incorporated in Washington, DC, on February 3, 1923. The purposes of the Association are:

- The encouragement of economic research, especially the historical and statistical study of the actual conditions of industrial life.
- The issue of publications on economic subjects.
- The encouragement of perfect freedom of economic discussion. The Association as such will take no partisan attitude, nor will it commit its members to any position on practical economic questions."

Source: https://www.aeaweb.org/AboutAEA/gen_info.php

Membership for students is available:

https://www.aeaweb.org/membership.php

The conferences are held at the American Statistical Science Association (ASSA). Usually, take place in the early part of January. Covers Finance too.

2016 Program:
https://www.aeaweb.org/aea/2016conference/program/preliminary.php

ETHICS AND HUMAN PARTICIPANTS IN RESEARCH.

Bentley University: Institutional Review Board

"In accordance with Bentley University's mission, our Institutional Review Board (IRB) is committed to ensuring the safe and ethical treatment of human participants in our research. Federal and university regulations stipulate that all faculty, staff, and student research projects, involving human subjects, are reviewed and approved by the IRB prior to their initiation. This requirement covers all human participant research conducted at, or sponsored by, Bentley, and all research involving human subjects conducted at other institutions in which Bentley faculty, staff, or students will be involved. Our ultimate goal is to provide timely service, support and assistance in promoting the ethical conduct of all research involving human subjects and to assure the safety, rights and welfare of all participants in our research projects."

Source: http://www.bentley.edu/centers/alliance/institutional-review-board

The National Science Foundation has espoused rules for researchers dealing with humans. The Common Rule for the Protection of Human Subjects can be found here:

http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/docs/45cfr690.pdf

At Bentley University these are implemented by the IRB. Importantly: "Research means a systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge. Human subject means a living individual about whom an investigator (whether professional or student) conducting research obtains:

1. Data through intervention or interaction with the individual, or
2. Identifiable private information."

Source: http://www.bentley.edu/centers/alliance/irb-policies

Compliance forms can be obtained at:

http://www.bentley.edu/centers/alliance/irb-compliance-forms

SEMINARS & CONFERENCES

Participating in seminars & conferences is central to academic life. Presenting papers, receiving constructive feedback, and amended papers is crucial in the development of a paper. Only when this has been done should papers be sent to journals. You should therefore attend seminars as part of your PhD career at Bentley.

Attending as many seminars as fits your schedule is important. The seminars do not need to be in your field of study. Going to seminars in accounting, finance, information systems and management all bring benefits. You learn how the different disciplines present research. You learn social norms of discourse, answers and questions in seminars. And these can differ across the different fields. In sort, consume as many seminars as you can.

General:

Date: 30th September 2015:

Title & Speaker: **Assessing Scholarly Impact** by Dr. Rudy Hirschheim

Location: Smith 301, 2.00 pm (check nearer the date).

Dr. Rudy Hirschheim discusses his insights into how we assess scholarly impact. This should be of interest to a wide range of members of the Bentley community.

Abstract: "As we move into an era where academic assessment is mandated by funding/government agencies, discussed at length in the press, it is imperative that academics identify the most appropriate measures by which to evaluate their efforts. Either academics can come up with measures that they believe – and can support - are a reasonable way to evaluate their work, or someone else will develop measures that may or may not be appropriate. To this end, Professor Hirschheim will explore the thorny issue of how an academic's 'contribution' to the community is assessed. Often such 'assessments' are opaque, not well formulated, nor clearly articulated. But this need not be the case. In his talk, Professor Hirschheim will examine what 'scholarly influence' means, and how it is, or can be, assessed. He will look not only at the various citation metrics but also the journals, their rankings, and whether such rankings can be supported and how."

Integrity in Research Conference:

Tentative date: Friday, March 25, 2016

Intended audience: Bentley faculty, doctoral students, academic administrators

Keynote speaker: Ivan Oransky, co-founder of Retraction Watch. Ivan frequently addresses academic and other audiences on topics related to research misconduct (further information at http://retractionwatch.com/meet- the-retraction-watch-staff/about/). Unless we have something specific we would like him to address, his talk for us would follow his standard pattern: (1) an overview of the current situation with regard to detected research misconduct, including statistics on frequencies; (2) some specific illustrative examples; and (3) strategies for prevention and detection.

Accounting:
Accounting workshops at Bentley are organized through the Scholarly Activities

Committee (also known as “SAC meetings”). The Accounting Department can supply you with more information if you want to attend these. Several are held at locations off-campus.

Finance:
http://www.bentley.edu/academics/departments/finance/finance-seminars

September 11, Speaker - Raj Aggerwal, Northeastern University. Speaker will present the paper entitled: TBA

September 25, Speaker - Daniel Bergstresser, Brandeis University. Speaker will present the paper entitled: TBA

October 30, Speaker - Bill Johnson, Suffolk University. Speaker will present the paper entitled: TBA

December 4, Speaker - Mila Sherman, U Mass Amherst. Speaker will present paper entitled: TBA

Valente Center:
http://www.bentley.edu/centers/valente-center

Seminars TBA

Center for Business Ethics:
http://www.bentley.edu/centers/center-for-business-ethics

Seminars TBA

OTHER READINGS

I’ll add some other readings that you might find interesting or valuable over the two semesters. These might be books, research papers, observations on methodology etc.

To start, the following two books were recommending by Bob Galliers.

Shoemaker, P.J., Tankard, Jr., J.W. & Lasorsa, D.L. 2004. How to Build Social Science Theories. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. 2004.

Lawler III, E.E., Mohrman, Jr., A.M., Mohrman, S.A., Ledford, Jr., G.E., Cummings, T.G. and Associates. Doing Research That Is Useful for Theory and Practice. The New Lexington Press Management and Organization Sciences Series, 1985.

The above texts are useful to give you a broad overview of research in the general business. They discuss how to develop theory and generate empirical hypotheses. Importantly, they discuss qualitative and quantitative research methods. Make sure you go to seminars where both types of methods are used. Use these (and similar books) as a guide to 'how-to-do' research.

DATA POLICY

Cochrane, John (2015) "Secret Data" – Source: John Cochrane's Blog site "The Grumpy Economist". http://johnhcochrane.blogspot.com/2015/12/secret-data.html?spref=bl

Prof. John Cochrane is a Senior Fellow of the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. He was previously a professor at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. He is an economist.

Prof. Cochrane discusses the importance of openness, transparency and replication in social sciences. He sets up the problem thus:

"Science demands transparency. Yet much research in economics and finance uses secret data. The journals publish results and conclusions, but the data and sometimes even the programs are not available for review or inspection. Replication, even just checking what the author(s) did given their data, is getting harder. ....."

The solution he contends is straight forward:

"The solution is pretty obvious: to be considered peer-reviewed "scientific" research, authors should post their programs and data. If the world cannot see your lab methods, you have an anecdote, an undocumented claim, you don't have research. An empirical paper without data and programs is like a theoretical paper without proofs….."

Please read Prof. Cochrane's blog relating to this matter (as cited above). It is helpful, illustrates problems of not having open and transparent data policies, and sets standards for good practice in doing social science research.