

## Reading Assignments

Your objective in these reading assignments is to (1) **briefly** summarize the major points of the paper and (2) think about the limitations of the paper and how it might be improved.

We expect your referee reports to be **less than one-page long** (around 400 words) and to briefly address each of the following questions (you can use bullet points if you like):

1. What is the research question?
  - a. How does the research question relate to existing literature?
  - b. Why is it worth asking?
2. What is the empirical strategy for answering this research question?
  - a. What would the ideal dataset look like? How is the dataset in this paper different from that ideal dataset?
  - b. How does identification work in this paper?
  - c. What are the sources of exogenous variation?
3. What are the main conclusions of the author(s)?
4. What alternative interpretations of the results are plausible? Does the author test his/her conclusions against alternative interpretations or provide any practical reason why they are less likely?