1 Course Requirements
Below are the course requirements to complete 6907 and 6908 as well as the ongoing requirements for those students who do not complete by the end of this semester.

1.1 Final Course Requirement
Presentation and defence of 1st (6907) or 2nd (6908) workshop paper which is evaluated by at least three faculty members and graded as SAT (satisfactory).

1.2 Preliminary Course Requirements
Students are expected to present at least once per semester. A compulsory presentation at either the FPA Graduate Student Conference in March or the PhD students’ workshop in April is required from students not completing the final course requirements for either 6907 or 6908 this semester. This presentation is an opportunity to showcase your ongoing work towards your PhD thesis and may be in one of the following categories:

- A particular paper in your area of interest.
- Some preliminary research (either empirical or theoretical)
- Ongoing thesis work (Chapter 1 or 2 of the dissertation)

All students will be expected to actively participate in the FPA Graduate Student conference and the workshop. Students who meet these requirements but not the final course requirements will receive a grade of INP (in progress).

By the last day of classes (April 9th) please provide me with a one page update on your progress with some related information.

2 A Few Tips
To help the transition from a “consumer” of research (i.e. course work) to a “producer” of research (i.e. thesis writing), you are encouraged to do the following.

2.1 Papers, Presentations, Bibliographies
Learn LaTeX for writing papers, Beamer for presentations, and Bibtex for references/bibliographies. These are the discipline standards.

2.2 Learn Best Practices in Empirical Research
Learn how you can become better and more efficient in doing empirical research. An excellent resource is the paper Working with data: two empiricists’ experience by Christopher R. Knittel and Kostas Metaxoglou. You should read this paper. Also go through Professor Metaxoglou’s slides from his presentation at Carleton.
2.3 Monthly Log
Keep a monthly log of your output, call it myoutput.pdf for example. That is, any research piece that you write. This could be a page or two of an idea-sketch or a brief summary of a paper that you are writing. It could be a research question and a brief motivation for why that particular question is interesting and what are the closest papers in the literature that are relevant. By the end of the term could be a 6-7 page document. If you would like feedback on this or some thoughts on which faculty members might be a good fit as supervisors for projects feel free to email me.

2.4 Establish a Research Connection with Faculty
Find out which OCGSE faculty members are doing research in areas you are interested in. An easy way to do this is by going to their webpages and look up their recent publications. You can also check the Carleton Economic Paper series. Following that, actively seek opportunities to interact with those faculty members. Once a faculty member has agreed to be your thesis supervisor, you should remain in frequent contact and keep him or her updated on your progress.

2.5 Seminars, Brown-Bags etc
Attend as many workshops, seminars and brown bags as possible during the term. These are excellent opportunities to learn not only about new research but also presentational skills and handling seminar questions. The Departmental Brown Bag seminar series is an excellent opportunity to learn how early stages of research develops into a paper. Students who have completed their 1st Workshop should present their Chapter 1 (or 2) of the thesis in this seminar series. You can simply add your name to an available time slot along with a presentation title using this link Brown Bag Series Google Sheet 2018-19 If you are interested in attending the Applied Micro Reading Group group then please contact Professor Matt Webb ASAP.

2.6 Keep Up With the Literature:
Sign up on NBER working paper alert and NEP alert in your area of interest to keep up with the latest research. Become familiar with the top general interest and top field journals (in your area of interest)

2.7 Embrace Professional Etiquette:
Read the Tips for job interviews, meetings, and conference participations that Alison will circulate at the beginning of the term