# Economics of Innovation

**Fall 2018**

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Friday 15:10 – 18:00 pm, Room

First class Sep 14, Final class Dec 28 | No class on Oct 5

**Course objective:** The objective of this course is to introduce students to empirical research in economics of innovation. A tentative list of topics includes research and development, government policy, patent measures, returns to innovation, and the impact of competition and trade. We will also discuss related empirical approaches and explore these topics in the Chinese context. Students will improve their skills in reviewing, presenting, and discussing papers as well as developing individual research proposals. Term papers may conceivably become part of your dissertation.

## Course requirements: This course is intended as a graduate course. Econometrics are pre-requisites. Advanced undergraduate students with appropriate preparation and interest are welcome.

## The class will be run as a seminar class including lectures, student presentations and discussions. For each class, students are expected to have done assigned readings and come prepared for discussion. To this end, discussion questions will be provided prior to the classes, and students will be expected to provide answers in a 2-3 page discussion paper based on the readings for each week (and submit these prior to class). In addition, each student is expected to present one of these assigned key papers during the course.

## Students will also write a term paper (extended research proposal). A one page draft for the topic should be submitted to the instructor before the 5th class and presented in the 8th class to receive comments. The paper should be related to the broad themes of economics of innovation (in the Chinese context). Students will present the advanced term paper at the end of the course and submit the final term paper four weeks after the last class.

**Grading:** Grading will be based on course participation and presentations (25%), weekly discussion papers (25%) and the term paper (50%). Five points of the final score will be deduced for each overdue day passing a deadline.

The primary criterion for the discussion papers is to demonstrate that students have read and digested the readings assigned. A maximum of two discussion papers may be missed without hurting the average grade (i.e., the worst two papers will be dropped). Students are exempted from this assignment in the weeks of their key and term paper presentations.