

Instructors:

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Seminar Information and Schedule: <http://www.cts.pdx.edu/seminars>

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This weekly seminar features a different speaker each week covering various topics in transportation research and practice. The seminar is open to the public. PSU students may take the seminar for one-unit credit. Course objectives:

- Introduce students to a variety of current transportation issues and topics;
- Provide an opportunity for students to interact with local professionals in the transportation field; and
- Provide a forum for students to present the results of their research.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Students may take the course on a Pass/No Pass basis or for a Letter Grade.

(Note: MURP students should not take the course P/NP if it will count towards graduation.)

	Pass/No Pass	Letter Grade
Attendance	✓	60%
Questions	✓	20%
Written assignment or presentation at a seminar	none	20%

Attendance

P/NP: You are expected to attend a minimum of seven of the weekly seminars to pass.

Grade: Your grade is based upon frequency of attendance. The more you attend, the higher the grade. Attending the minimum seven of nine seminars will not earn an A.

If you must miss a class, you may watch the archived seminar on the web and email your question to your instructor within one week of the seminar, and no later than the Tuesday after the last seminar. You may do this no more than three times in the quarter. Watching the seminar live on the web counts the same as attending live. If you do this, to be counted as watching and asking a question, you must:

- Send an email to psuseminar@yahoo.com within the first 10 minutes of the seminar, letting the instructors know that you are in attendance; and
- Send in a question to psuseminar@yahoo.com when the speaker concludes his/her presentation. If you have a clarification question during the presentation, you may send that in when appropriate.

TURN PAGE OVER!!!

Questions are Required

Both: For each seminar that you attend, you must directly ask a question of speaker. Only if for some reason there is not time to ask the question directly, you should submit the question in writing to the instructor with the attendance sheet. If you ask the question verbally during the seminar, make sure the instructor with the attendance sheet recorded it. To make sure, you can turn in a written version.

Written Assignment is Required

Grade: You have three options:

(1) A reflective journal – writing approximately one page each for each of the seminars attended/viewed. Journal entries should not just be summaries of what the speaker presented. They should include your thoughts, critiques, and questions about the presentation. Your reflection should be thoughtful and substantive, i.e. more than “I enjoyed this talk.” For example, can you link what was presented to topics in other seminars, classes, or readings? Due to your instructor the Tuesday of finals week, just after the last seminar by 5 pm. You may submit the journal by email, but please note that the journal must be submitted as a single document (Word or pdf), covering the entire quarter.

(2) Paper – You may choose one topic presented at a seminar to explore in more depth through additional reading and research (e.g. journal articles, reports, etc.). 10 pages (double-spaced) *maximum*. Due the Tuesday after the last seminar (finals week) by 5 pm.

(3) Seminar Presentation – Make a presentation at a seminar. This could be your field area paper, your M.S. project or thesis, a work-related project, or another appropriate topic. You should schedule this **well before the quarter begins**.

Revised January 7, 2011