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Senior Project Reflection

After doing the senior project I have a new respect for the meticulousness required to produce successful economic research. I had the most difficult time making an analytical research question; I hear that many other students have the same difficulty. Why is an analytical question important? The type of knowledge that results from research depends significantly on whether the research question is analytical or descriptive in nature. Thus, if you want to produce new knowledge, in a scientific manner, than having an analytical question is a must.

Before I started working on the senior project I read Greenlaw. I found this reading to be useful at every stage of my research. Greenlaw not only discusses common errors of amateur researchers, but also discusses the significance of those errors in the learning process. I recommend Greenlaw for anyone about to do their senior project, both for pedagogical and research purposes.

I did my senior project over summer, which is unorthodox. This being the case, I had many different problems and benefits that may not normally be experienced when doing the senior project. For example, I had the limitation of about 10 weeks to do the project. I also did not have peers that were available to bounce ideas off of. I benefited from having a one on one advisor, and helpful staff that were available to assist me with my research. I am sincerely thankful for their help. By doing this project I learned the significance of thoroughness in research. I also learned that the creation of new knowledge is a difficult but valuable endeavor.