## 2016 Limperg Seminar **Prof. Robert Bloomfield** rjb9@cornell.edu

My 2016 Limperg seminar is devoted to helping you develop a new empirical research project that employs at least two of the five data-gathering tasks described in Bloomfield, Nelson and Soltes (2016, "BNS"). Ideally, you'll end up making progress on a new publishable study, but our primary goal will be to use the proposals to help everyone learn more about the research process.

The five data gathering tasks listed in BNS are:

- 1. Recording observations
- 2. Hand-collecting records
- 3. Eliciting dependent variables
- 4. Manipulating independent variables and
- 5. Controlling the setting in which data are generated

As you'll see in BNS, the methods we usually talk about (like experiments and surveys) use different combinations of these data-gathering tasks. For example, a survey entails eliciting dependent variables and recording observations; if you also manipulate independent variables, you have a field study; control the setting as well and you have a laboratory experiment. Only two common methods are ruled out by requiring that you undertake at least two data gathering tasks: you can't propose a pure field study (only recording) or a pure archival study (only hand-collection, if that).

Please email me a short write-up on a <u>new</u> proposal—two pages of text or 5-10 powerpoint slides---by **September 11**<sup>th</sup>. It can be an idea you've thought about before, but it can't be something you've made progress on. No dissertations in progress, early-stage co-authored papers, etc. We will devote the week to helping everyone make progress toward a more promising study.

Here is a rough schedule for the course:

- Day 1 (15 Sept)
  - Morning: Gathering Data (01), Rethinking Managerial Accounting (02), How to be a Good Professor (03), Baby Factory (04)
  - o Afternoon: Student Proposals
- Day 2 (16 Sept)
  - Making Up Users (05), Soltes (06), Graham, Harvey, Rajgopal (07), Pink Sheets & Discussion (08a, 08b), Reductive Allure (09), Kool-Aid (10)
- WEEKEND
  - Work on Proposals
- Day 3 (19 Sept)
  - Student Proposals
  - 3pm: Special guest presentation (field study)
- Day 4 (20 Sept)
  - Discussion of Readings/Topics TBD
  - 3pm Workshop Presentation (survey)
- Day 5 (21 Sept)
  - Morning/Early Afternoon: Student Proposals
  - o Late Afternoon: Wrap-up