Course 14 Minor
Instructions and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. How do I get my Minor Application form signed?

Just leave it in the mail trays for Course 14 Minor in the lobby outside E52-542. When your form is approved by the Minor Advisor we will email you a copy signed by him.

Please make sure that all fields in the Application form are filled in (including your Major Advisor’s information). Your Application cannot be processed otherwise. Similarly, please check the subjects that will be used to fulfill HASS requirement. This can be changed later if necessary (prior to your Completion form being signed).

2. How do I get my Minor Completion form signed?

Follow the same procedure as for the Minor Application form above. When you turn in your Completion form, please attach (but do not staple) your unofficial transcript (free copies of which are available from the Student Service Center or the Registrar’s Office), your Registration Form (if relevant – see item 7 below), and a signed copy of your completed Minor Application form (if you do not have this then please also fill out a new Minor Application form and submit this along with your Completion form). (Put everything in a labeled envelope if you wish.) Please be sure that your Completion form is filled out completely (including your Major Advisor’s information) and correctly or it will not be processed. Please also ensure that the transcript you include has your name on it. Note: your application will not be processed without an (unofficial) transcript which verifies that you have completed the requirements successfully. The Minor Advisor will email you back with a signed copy of the form or of any outstanding issues.

3. What are the applicable deadlines?

Minor application and completion forms must be filled out, reviewed and approved by the minor advisor and submitted to SHASS administration, by the end of the day of the third Friday of your last term.

Accordingly, please submit your forms to your minor advisor no later than the second Friday of your last term, so that he has time to review it. The minor advisor cannot guarantee that forms received later than this will move on to SHASS administration on time.

SHASS may choose to receive forms after its third-Friday deadline at its sole discretion. If it accepts a late form it may impose a $50 late fee.
4. Where do I turn in my forms?

Turn forms in at the mail trays at the cubicles across from E52-542.

5. How do I pick up blank forms?

You can pick them up at the mail trays for the Course 14 Minor outside E52-542.

6. How can I get advice on the Course 14 Minor?

Please email Professor Olken at bolken@mit.edu. He is happy to offer advice on all aspects of the Minor.

Professor Olken’s assistant is Brendan O’Brine at bobrine@povertyactionlab.org.

7. When do I need to turn in the Minor Application?

In theory, by the end of the sophomore year and no later than two full terms before receiving the S.B. degree.

In practice, you must turn in the Application for Minor no later than the Application for Completion of Minor. The risk in filing your Application for Minor late is that we may not approve your plan if it doesn’t conform to the current rules. Hence, you are wise to get our agreement early— and you can always change your plan later (with our approval).

8. How can I submit a Completion Form if I’m taking my last Minor classes during my last semester at MIT?

Follow the procedure under item 2 above but be sure to include your current Registration form along with your Minor Completion Form and unofficial transcript. Professor Olken can sign your Completion Form as long as you are enrolled in the classes that you will need to complete your minor.

Note: We cannot sign the Completion Form until you are officially registered in your final minor class(es) and the semester has begun.

9. What are the approved substitutes for 1.010, 14.30 or 18.05 in the Tier I statistics requirement?

The only acceptable substitutes are the following: 6.041 or 18.600 AND one of these three: 14.32, 15.075, or 18.650. For example, 6.041 and 15.075 is an
acceptable pair. ANY of these courses ALONE is not a substitute for 14.30 or 18.05 or 1.010. NOTE: 18.600 and 18.650 are the new course numbers for 18.440 and 18.443 respectively.

10. Can I take classes outside of Course 14 and count them as Course 14 Tier III electives?

Generally, no. It is not sufficient for a class to use economic tools. It must be about economics. Course 14 classes are about economics. Almost all other classes are not.