UNIVERSITÄT MANNHEIM
Abteilung Volkswirtschaftslehre

Veranstaltungen des Spezialisierungsbereichs im HWS 2020

B. Sc. Volkswirtschaftslehre

Diese Zusammenstellung wurde erstmals am 22. Mai 2020 veröffentlicht. Änderungen nach diesem Datum finden sich am Ende des Dokuments. Vorlesungsbegleitende Übungen sind nicht separat aufgeführt, sie ergeben sich jedoch aus dem Kommentar.

Bitte beachten Sie, dass für alle Bachelor-Seminare im HWS 2020 ein gemeinsamer Anmeldezeitraum vom 26. Mai bis 8. Juni 2020 vereinbart wurde.

Die Vorlesungen, die mit *** gekennzeichnet sind, sind für Studierende des dritten Fachsemesters geeignet. Sie können die entsprechenden Vorlesungen über die Suchfunktion schnell identifizieren.

Stand: 01.09.2020

Inhaltsverzeichnis

Spezialisierungsbereich

Vorlesungen

Antitrust / Competition Policy

Responsible teacher: Harim Kim, Ph.D. / Prof. Michelle Sovinsky, Ph.D.
Cycle of offer: irregular
ECTS credits: 6
Teaching method (hours per week): lecture (2) + exercise class (1)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Mikroökonomik A + B, Grundlagen der Ökonometrie
Grading: written final exam, 120 min.

Goals and contents of the module: This course is designed to provide an introduction to theoretical models and empirical methods in industrial organization, focusing on competition policy/antitrust. Monopoly and strategic interactions between firms will be studied using research papers and antitrust cases. Specifically, topics include collusion, horizontal merger, predation, and vertical restraints.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: Upon completion of the course, students will be able to evaluate firm interactions to determine if they violate current antitrust/competition policy laws, to analyze the welfare and competitive impact of firm interactions in the light of policy; and enhancement of communication skills through presentation in the exercise session.

Contact person: Harim Kim, Ph.D., Tel. (0621) 181 - 1873, E-Mail: harkim@mail.uni-mannheim.de, Office: L7, 3-5 room 3.09, Office hours: by appointment.

Applied Multivariate Statistics (AMS)

Responsible teacher of the module: Dr. Toni Stocker
Cycle of offer: each Fall Semester
ECTS credits: 7
Teaching method (hours per week): lecture (2) + exercise (2)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Statistik 1 + 2, Grundlagen der Ökonometrie, Laptop required. The final grade is based on points from the tutorials and points from the final written exam.
Grading: final written exam (takes place in the PC-Pool, 120 minutes) + homework assignments to submit plus cooperative learning in tutorials during the semester. Achieving a minimum of points in the homework gradings is required for participating in the exam (please check the course guidelines for details). The final grade is based on points from the tutorials and points form the final written exam. At maximum, there are 100 points to earn, where 20 points are from the tutorials and 80 points from the written exam.

Goals and contents of the module: Subject of this course is to provide an overview about classical methods for describing and analyzing high-dimensional data. Thereby the main focus is on their practical application. The Statistical Software R will intensively be used upon many real data examples. Contents: Introduction to AMS, Matrix Algebra, Multivariate Samples, Principal Component Analysis (PCA), Biplots, Factor Analysis, Multidimensional Scaling (MDS), Cluster Analysis, Linear Discriminant Analysis (LDA), Binary Response Models, Statistical Methods for Data Science

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: At the end of the semester students know and understand most common methods for analyzing multivariate data and their theoretical background can proficiently use R when using multivariate techniques: data import, constructing graphics, inference, model diagnosis and assessment have experienced the possibilities and limitations of multivariate methods on the basis of real data examples

Further information: Students should have a solid background in Statistics (e.g. two or more courses in Statistics). A course in Basic Econometrics is helpful but not strictly required. Students are not allowed to enter this course after the 3rd lecture.

Contact Information: Dr. Toni Stocker; Phone: +49 621 181 3963; eMail: stocker(at)uni-mannheim.de
Office: L7,3-5; 1st floor, room 143; Office hours: Wednesday, 3:00-4:30 p.m. or upon appointment

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Economics of European Integration

Responsible teacher of the module: Prof. Dr. Eckhard Janeba
Cycle of offer: irregular
ECTS credits: 7
Teaching method (hours per week): lecture (3)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Finanzwissenschaft, Wirtschaftspolitik; recommended: Internationale Ökonomik
Grading: Final Exam (90 min, 100%)

Goals and contents of the module: The course provides an introduction into the economic and political aspects of integration in the European Union. It covers a variety of fields including the historical development of the EU integration process, the integration of product (trade in goods and services) and factor markets (FDI and migration), the governance structures in the EU, as well as the monetary integration and fiscal coordination process. Current policy issues such as Brexit or the reform of institutional structures are addressed.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: Students will learn to understand core ideas and key problems of the European integration process, and be able to apply their knowledge and understanding in existing but also new situations as the European integration process moves on. Students will also learn theoretical and empirical methodologies used in the current research of this area. This includes the knowledge of major sources of data and documents from EU websites and other sources relating to the EU.

Contact Information: Prof. Dr. Eckhard Janeba; Phone: (0621) 181-1795; email: janeba@uni-mannheim.de; Office: L7, 3-5, room 2.29; Office Hours: by appointment.

Economics of Social Insurance and Social Policies

Responsible teacher: Prof. Arthur Seibold, Ph.D.
Cycle of offer: each fall semester
ECTS credits: 5
Method (hours per week): lecture (2)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: introductory classes in Microeconomics and Econometrics; having taken Introductory Public Economics is desirable
Grading: take-home assignment (20%) and written exam (90 min, 80%)

Goals and contents of the module: This course offers an introduction to the economics of Social Insurance and other public social expenditure policies. The first part focuses on social insurance, including unemployment insurance, health insurance and retirement pensions. The second part deals with other social expenditure policies, including education and low-income transfers. The course discusses the rationales for government intervention in different areas, as well as potential problems associated with it. Students will become familiar with recent empirical evidence on individual behavioral responses as well as the effectiveness of different government policies.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: By the end of the course, students should be able to:
- Critically analyze government intervention based on theoretical reasoning and empirical evidence
- Apply microeconomic methods to the area of social insurance and social policies
- Critically evaluate empirical evidence based on their knowledge of econometrics
- Have an understanding of the topics covered corresponding to recent research, and usefully apply this to real-world issues in public policy

Contact Information: Prof. Arthur Seibold, Ph.D.; Phone: +49 621 181-1781; E-mail: seibold(at)uni-mannheim.de; L 7, 3-5 – Room 224; Consultation hour(s): Wed, 5 – 6 p.m.

Experimental Economics***

Responsible teacher of the module: Dr. Franziska Heinicke
Cycle of offer: irregular
ECTS credits: 7
Teaching method (hours per week): lecture (2) + exercise (2)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: none
Grading: 50% final exam (90 minutes) + 25% individual assignment + 25% group assignment
Expected number of students in class: depends on students' choice (max. 41).

Please note that you have to preregister via Portal2! (date tba)

Goals and contents of the module: This course will introduce students to the method of experimental economics, which has become an established tool for economic analysis. Economists make use of experimental methods to test theoretical predictions, gain a better understanding of human behavior and to search for regularities in economic activity. This course will introduce students to the method of experimental economics and familiarize them with the principles of conducting and analyzing an experiment.

We will address the complete process of conducting an experiment including the decision between various treatment forms, choosing an appropriate research setting, the basics of translating an experimental design into a computer interface, and drawing conclusion from collected data. By discussing the designs and findings of influential experiments, this course will address the different design challenges of laboratory and field experiments as well as the generalizability of experimental findings.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: The goal of this course is to enable students to critically analyze experimental research and to provide them with the necessary practical knowledge to plan an experimental research project. Successful students will have a thorough understanding of the benefits and limits of experimental economics and be familiar with core concepts of experimental economics. In the group assignment, students will design their own experiment and present their project to the course, which allows them to engage with the material more actively and gain research skills on how to conduct economic experiments. In the individual assignment, students will complete short programming exercises to get a practical understanding of how to transfer a design idea to the computer screen.

Contact Information: Dr. Franziska Heinicke, email: f.heinicke@uni-mannheim.de, Office: L7, 3-5 room 4.04, Office hours: by appointment.

Financial Econometrics

Responsible teacher of the module: PD Dr. Mehdi Hosseinkouchack
Cycle of offer: irregular
ECTS credits: 7
Teaching method (hours per week): lecture (2) + exercise (2)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Statistik I + II, Grundlagen der Ökonometrie, basic knowledge in Stata/R
Grading: final exam (120 min, 70%) + assignments (30%)

Goals and contents of the module: This course provides an introduction to financial econometrics. The course reviews some the most widely used econometric methods while attuning them to answering questions that financial analysts face. The course in general looks into univariate models – focusing on linear regression models, OLS, and forecasting – and also reviews some important multivariate models. Volatility models as well as panel data models are also discussed. All through the course, empirical examples will be discussed.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: Upon completing this course, students will learn how use different econometric models to answer questions that are of particular interest in finance.

Further information: the main reference for this course is Introductory Econometrics for Finance (2008) by Chris Brooks, Cambridge University Press.
Contact Information: PD Dr. Mehdi Hosseinkouchack, Phone: +49 621 181-1927, E-mail: hosseinkouchack(at)uni-mannheim.de

Geldtheorie und Geldpolitik***

Modulverantwortliche/r: Dr. Sebastian K. Rüth
Turnus des Angebots: unregelmäßig
ECTS-Punkte: 6
Lehrmethode: Vorlesung (2 SWS) + Übung (1 SWS)
Unterrichtssprache: Deutsch
Teilnahmevoraussetzungen: Spezielle Vorkenntnisse werden nicht vorausgesetzt. Es ist jedoch von großem Vorteil, Kurse zu Makroökonomik bereits erfolgreich belegt zu haben, da diese Kenntnisse weiter vertieft werden sollen.
Benotung: Die Prüfungsleistung muss in Form einer Klausur (90 Minuten) erbracht werden.

Ziele und Inhalte des Moduls: Der Kurs bietet eine Einführung in die Geldtheorie und behandelt aktuelle Aspekte der Geldpolitik. Insbesondere werden Funktionsweise und geldpolitische Praxis der EZB sowie geldpolitische Herausforderungen in der Europäischen Währungsunion behandelt. Außerdem thematisiert der Kurs die „Große Rezession" aus geldpolitischer Sicht und bietet einen Überblick über verschiedene „unkonventionelle" geldpolitische Instrumente, die von Zentralbanken in den vergangenen Jahren eingesetzt werden.

Gliederung:
1. Ziele der Geldpolitik
2. Geldkonzepte
3. Die Rolle von Banken in einer Volkswirtschaft und für die Geldpolitik
4. Die Kontrolle der EZB über den Geldmarkt
5. Unkonventionelle Geldpolitik: der neue Standard?
6. Wie eine Zentralbank die Makroökonomie beeinflusst: das Neu-Keynesianische Modell (in komparativ statischer Form)
7. Strategien der Geldpolitik
8. Warum ist die Unabhängigkeit der Geldpolitik so wichtig?
9. Neu-Keynesianische Modelle in der geldpolitischen Praxis
10. Herausforderungen in der Eurozone

Erwartete Kompetenzen nach Abschluss des Moduls: Nach erfolgreichem Absolvieren des Moduls sind die Studierenden in der Lage, aktuelle geldpolitische Maßnahmen und Diskussion nachzuvollziehen, zu bewerten und etwaige Probleme zu erkennen. Die Studierenden können geldpolitische Maßnahmen in einen theoretischen Rahmen übertragen und somit trade-offs und andere Herausforderungen der Geldpolitik formalisieren. Darüber hinaus verfügen Studierende über Kenntnisse in der empirischen Analyse relevanter Daten (vor allem Zeitreihen), um aktuelle geldpolitische Entwicklungen zu quantifizieren. Diese Kompetenzen versetzen Studierende in die Lage, Ihre Kenntnisse in die gesellschaftspolitische Diskussion einzubringen, aktuelle Forschungs-entwicklungen im Bereich der Geldpolitik zu verstehen sowie eigene Forschungsvorhaben abzuleiten.

Weitere Informationen: Literatur (weitere Literatur wird bekannt gegeben)
- Bofinger, P. (2001): Monetary Policy, Oxford University Press.
- De Grauwe, P. (2014), Economics of Monetary Union, Oxford University Press.
- Galí, J. (2008): Monetary Policy, Inflation, and the Business Cycle: An Introduction to the New Keynesian Framework. Princeton University Press.
- Hartmann, P. and Smets, F. (2018): "The first twenty years of the European Central Bank: Monetary Policy", ECB Working Paper Series No 2219.

- Taylor, John B. (1993): "Discretion Versus Policy Rules in Practice," Carnegie-Rochester Conference Series on Public Policy 39, pp. 195–214.
- Coibion, O., and Gorodnichenko, Y. (2012): "Why Are Target Interest Rate Changes So Persistent?", American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics 4(4), pp. 126–162.
- Woodford, M. (2001): "The Taylor Rule and Optimal Monetary Policy," American Economic Review 91(2), pp. 232–237.
- Barro, R. and Gordon, D. (1983): "Rules, discretion and reputation in a model of monetary policy," Journal of Monetary Economics, 12(1), pp. 101–121.
- Clarida, R., Galí, J., and Gertler, M. (1999): "The Science of Monetary Policy: A New Keynesian Perspective," Journal of Economic Literature 37(4), pp. 1661–1707.
- Bofinger, P., Mayer, E., and Wollmershäuser, T. (2006): The BMW Model, The Journal of Economic Education 37, p.98–117.
- Bundesbank: laufende Monatsberichte (www.bundesbank.de).
- EZB: laufende Berichte (www.ecb.int).

Kontakt: Dr. Sebastian K. Rüth, E-Mail: sebastian.rueth@awi.uni-heidelberg.de

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Industrial Organization

Responsible teacher of the module: Prof. Nicolas Schutz, Ph.D.
Cycle of offer: every fall term
Duration: 1 semester
ECTS credits: 6
Teaching method (hours per week): lecture (2) + practical exercise (1)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Microeconomics A and B
Grading: written, 90 minutes

Goals and contents of the module: In a market economy, firms are in charge of deciding what and how much to produce, and consumers respond to this by shopping for the best alternative. This course analyzes the behavior of firms. It aims to answer the following questions: What is a firm? What defines the boundaries of a firm? Given established boundaries, how do firms make production decisions and how do they compete with each other? Should government meddle with the operation of firms?

The course is organized as follows:
1. Review on perfect competition
2. Review on game theory
3. Monopoly
4. Static oligopoly
5. Dynamic oligopoly and collusion
6. Product differentiation
7. Information
8. Advertising
9. Merger, entry and market structure
10. Network effects
11. Vertical relations
12. Patents and R&D
13. Antitrust

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: Students acquire a broad knowledge in the field of industrial organization. They understand, among others, why monopolies harm social welfare, why price discrimination may benefit final consumers, why firms have incentives to escape the so-called Bertrand paradox, why collusion becomes harder to sustain in a shrinking industry, why firms have incentives to differentiate themselves as much as possible from their competitors, etc. To deal with these issues, and to solve the relevant theoretical models, students apply various game theoretical and mathematical tools, such as optimization methods and multivariate calculus. Students should not mindlessly memorize the theories presented in this course, but rather understand where the models come from, and why they have been developed. They will understand the limitations of these theories, and how these limitations can be overcome. The focus on model-building, and not on mindless memorization, will enable students to deepen their knowledge in the field of industrial organization if they need to do so. In particular, students will be able to teach themselves theories which are not dealt with in this course, or to read more advanced research articles.

The field of industrial organization has a lot of real-world applications. For instance, a graduate working in an antitrust authority will be able to apply monopoly, oligopoly and cartel theory, when deciding whether to clear a horizontal merger. A graduate working for a management consulting firm, or for any corporation, will be able to apply industrial organization theory to pricing strategy. More generally, this course promotes strategic, analytical and critical thinking, which is crucial in any professional career. Graduates are able to apply industrial organization theory to real world situations. For instance, when conducting a market analysis, they are able to identify what are the most important characteristics of this specific market. What are the available technologies? Are they likely to evolve in the near future? Is there a scope for product differentiation? Is entry likely to occur in the short run? In the longer run? The field of industrial organization uses analytical and quantitative tools. Theories are formulated using formal, mathematical models. However, as already pointed out, graduates should not only be able to solve these models mathematically, but also to understand the intuition at work. Importantly, students are expected to be able to state this intuition in words. Therefore, graduates will be able to exchange information, ideas, and solutions both with experts of the field (using models, maths and jargon) and with laymen (in plain English). Finally, this course is taught in English, and graduates therefore acquire a profound knowledge of the English terminology in the field of industrial organization.

Contact Information: Prof. Nicolas Schutz, Ph.D., E-Mail: schutz@uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, room 310, Tel. 181-1872, Office hours: Monday, 2:15 pm to 4:15 pm.

Internationale Ökonomik***

Responsible teacher of the module: Prof. Harald Fadinger, Ph.D.
Further instructor(s): teaching assistants for exercise classes.
Cycle of offer: each fall semester
ECTS credits: 6
Teaching method (hours per week): lecture (2) and practical exercise (2)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Mikroökonomik A, Makroökonomik A
Grading: written exam (90 minutes)

Goals and contents of the module: The course gives an introduction to international economics. The covered material corresponds to the international standard for a course in international economics.

The first half of the course covers core models of international trade, such as classical theories of comparative advantage (Ricardo and Heckscher-Ohlin) and trade models with scale economies (Krugman), and fundamentals of trade policy and the World Trade Organization. The second half of the course covers international macroeconomics. We will discuss the intertemporal approach to the current account, international capital flows, exchange rates, fiscal and monetary policy in open economies.

1. International Trade
   - Introduction and facts about international trade
   - The Ricardian model of international trade
   - The Heckscher-Ohlin model
   - Trade models with imperfect competition
   - Trade policy and the WTO
   - Foreign direct investment (FDI) and offshoring

2. International Macroeconomics
   - The balance of payments
   - Theories of international financial flows and the current account
   - Short-run theories of exchange rates
   - Long-run theories of exchange rates
   - Fiscal and monetary policy in open economies
   - Sovereign debt crises/exchange rate crises

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: The student is acquainted with the core theories in international economics, as well as basic knowledge of the relevant international institutions. The student has learned to analyze and evaluate questions in international economics independently. The ability to analyze complex situations using analytical tools and logical thinking is increased.

Further information: Literature:
- Feenstra and Taylor (2011), International Economics, Second Edition, Worth Publishers.
- Schmitt-Grohe and Uribe: International Macroeconomics, Lecture Notes, Duke University.
- Krugman, Obstfeld und Melitz (2014): International Economics, 10th Edition, Pearson.
Contact Information: Prof. Harald Fadinger, Ph.D.; E-Mail: harald.fadinger@unimannheim.de; Tel: (0621) 181 3505, Office: L7, 3-5, 419.

Macroeconomic Shocks and Their Propagation

Responsible teacher of the module: Dr. Sebastian K. Rüth
Cycle of offer: irregular
ECTS credits: 7
Teaching method (hours per week): lecture (2) + exercise (2)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Statistik I + II and Grundlagen der Ökonometrie. In addition, students should be willing to learn using the software MATLAB (the course starts from scratch) and should have an interest in macroeconomic phenomena, more generally.
Laptop with MATLAB installed required. Please find information here: https://www2.uni-mannheim.de/rum/ueber_uns/arbeitsgruppen/csi/beschaffung/soft/matlab/
Grading: grading will be based on a 90-minutes exam.

Goals and contents of the module: The course introduces students to the Vector Autoregressive (VAR) modeling approach to analyze the interplay of macroeconomic and financial time-series. Beyond the estimation of these models, particular attention will be devoted to structural analysis to study macroeconomic questions. Practical applications will focus on examples from the fields of monetary/fiscal policy, crude oil and other commodity markets, volatility/uncertainty, and financial markets in general. The course starts with an introduction to time-series econometrics followed by a description of reduced-form VARs. The main part of the course is devoted to different approaches to identify shocks in structural VARs (SVARs) and to apply these approaches to the data. The course is based on three textbooks that cover the econometric toolkits of VAR modeling. In addition, students will be required to read several research papers that make use of the techniques that we discuss in class. The lectures are accompanied by weekly tutorials in which students will use MATLAB to implement the techniques discussed in the lectures. There will also be selected problem sets that students have to deal with at home.

Outline:
3. The Idea of Structural Macroeconomic Shocks
4. Univariate Time-Series Models
5. Vector Autoregressive (VAR) Models
6. Structural Vector Autoregressive (SVAR) Models
7. Shock Identification: Short-Run Restrictions
8. Shock Identification: Long-Run Restrictions
9. Shock Identification: Sign-Restrictions
10. Shock Identification: External Instruments
11. Recent Applications in the Literature

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: After taking the module, students are able to understand recent progress in the literature on structural VAR models. They have the ability to effectively structure and communicate economic content in both written and oral forms to audiences from academia, government and business.
Students have advanced theoretical, methodological and empirical knowledge in topics including monetary policy, finance, and international economics and economic policy. Students further have the ability to conduct quantitative policy and financial analyses and draft recommendations through the application of scientific methods, further enabling them to derive own empirical research projects.

Further information: Literature
- Kilian, L. and Lütkepohl, H. (2017), Structural Vector Autoregressive Analysis, Cambridge University Press. Preliminary chapters of the textbook can be downloaded via: https://sites.google.com/site/lkilian2019/textbook/preliminary-chapters
- Enders, W. (2010), Applied Econometric Time Series, 3rd edition, Wiley.
- Lütkepohl, H. (2005), New Introduction to Multiple Time Series Analysis, Springer-Verlag, Berlin.
- Stock, J. and Watson, M. (2001), Vector Autoregressions, Journal of Economic Perspectives (15) 4, pp. 101–115.

Several readings (mainly research papers) will be announced during the semester.
Contact Information: Dr. Sebastian K. Rüth; email: sebastian.rueth@awi.uni-heidelberg.de

Markov-Ketten

Modulverantwortliche/r: Dr. Ingo Steinke
Turnus des Angebots: etwa jedes zweite Herbstsemester
ECTS-Punkte: 8
Lehrmethode: Vorlesung (3 SWS) plus Übung (1 SWS)
Unterrichtssprache: Deutsch
Teilnahmevoraussetzungen: Statistik I und II
Benotung: Hausaufgaben (20%), Klausur im Umfang von 90 Minuten (80%)

Ziele und Inhalte des Moduls: Die Vorlesung stellt eine Einführung in die Theorie der Markov-Ketten mit diskretem Zustandsraum dar. Es werden grundlegende Eigenschaften von Markov-Ketten untersucht mit einem besonderen Augenmerk auf das Verhalten von Markov-Ketten über längere Zeiträume. Es werden Beispiele für ihre Anwendung in der Biologie, den Wirtschafts- und Sozialwissenschaften vorgestellt. Neben Beispielrechnungen wird ein Einblick in die wahrscheinlichkeitstheoretischen Grundlagen gegeben. Markov-Prozesse, Markov-Ketten mit stetigem Zustandsraum und Markov-Chain-Monte-Carlo-Methoden zur Simulation von speziellen Verteilungen von Zufallsvariablen werden diskutiert. Der Kurs nutzt eine mathematische Notation und enthält teilweise formale mathematische Herleitungen.

Erwartete Kompetenzen nach Abschluss des Moduls: Die Studierenden haben ihre Kenntnisse im Umgang mit diskreten Zufallsvektoren und bedingten Wahrscheinlichkeiten vertieft. Sie kennen das Konzept der bedingten Unabhängigkeit und können es anwenden.

Sie kennen die Definition und wichtige Eigenschaften sowie Anwendungen von Markov-Ketten. Sie können die Markov-Eigenschaft prüfen und für Markov-Ketten Absorptionswahrscheinlichkeiten, Absorptionszeiten und Grenzverteilungen ausrechnen. Zu Markovprozessen können sie Generatormatrizen aufstellen und stationäre Verteilungen ermitteln. Die Studierenden sind in der Lage, Beweise nachzuvollziehen bzw. selbst einfache Beweise zu führen.

Kontakt: Ingo Steinke, Tel. (0621) 181 1940, E-Mail: isteinke(at)rumms.uni-mannheim.de, Büro: L7, 3-5, Raum 142, Sprechzeiten: Di und Mi, 17:15-18:15 Uhr.

Microeconometrics

Responsible teacher of the module: Yoshiyasu Rai, Ph.D.
Cycle of offer: fall term
ECTS credits: 6
Teaching method (hours per week): lecture (2) + exercise (1)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Statistik I + II und Grundlagen der Ökonometrie
Grading: final exam (120 min, 70%) + assignments (30%)

Goals and contents of the module: The purpose of this module is to provide an introduction to modern microeconometrics – the statistical methods that economists use to analyze microlevel data. This module is primarily designed for Bachelor students who already have some background knowledge in econometrics and would like to learn more econometric tools and theories. We will cover various topics including OLS; Panel data models; Causal inference; Binary choice models; Generalized method of moments; Nonparametric models and Penalized regression in the module.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: Upon course completion, students will be able to understand microeconometric methods that are used in applied econometric papers. They will also be able to apply these microeconometric methods for their own project. In addition to that, students will acquire knowledge of theoretical foundations behind these methods.

Further information: References used for this course are
- Bruce E. Hansen (2020), Econometrics, Manuscript, University of Wisconsin.
- Guido W. Imbens and Donald B. Rubin (2015), Causal Inference, Cambridge University Press.
- Joshua D. Angrist and Jorn-Steffen Pischke (2014), Mastering 'Metrics, Princeton University Press.
- Gareth James, Daniela Witten, Trevor Hastie, and Robert Tibshirani (2013), An Introduction to Statistical Learning, Springer.

Contact Information: Name Yoshiyasu Rai, Phone: +49 621 181-1930, email: yrai(at)mail.uni-mannheim.de, Office: L7, 3-5 – Room 1.45, Office hours: By appointment

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Öffentliche Investitionen und inklusives Wachstum

Modulverantwortliche/r: Prof. Tom Krebs, Ph.D.
Turnus des Angebots: unregelmäßig
ECTS-Punkte: 7
Lehrmethode: Vorlesung (3 SWS)
Unterrichtssprache: Deutsch
Teilnahmevoraussetzungen: Makroökonomik A und B, Mikroökonomik A und B, Wirtschaftspolitik und Finanzwissenschaft
Benotung: Klausur (90 Minuten)

Ziele und Inhalte des Moduls: Diese Vorlesung beschäftigt sich mit den Auswirkungen öffentlicher Investitionen auf Wachstum, öffentliche Finanzen und Ungleichheit. Dabei werden sowohl Investitionen in Sachkapital (Verkehrsinfrastruktur, digitale Infrastruktur, Wohnungsbau) als auch Bildungsinvestitionen besprochen. Ein besonderer Fokus liegt auf der Frage, inwieweit öffentlichen Investitionen die Chancengerechtigkeit stärken (Verteilung der Lebenschancen).

Erwartete Kompetenzen nach Abschluss des Moduls: Studierende sollen die Fähigkeit entwickeln, die Auswirkungen öffentlicher Investitionen auf Wohlstand und Chancengleichheit auf Basis ökonomischer Methoden zu analysieren. Darüber hinaus soll den Studierenden die Möglichkeit geboten werden, sich kritisch mit der ökonomischen Literatur zum Thema auseinanderzusetzen.

Weitere Informationen: Eine Literaturliste wird in der ersten Vorlesung ausgegeben.
Kontakt: Prof. Tom Krebs, Ph.D.; Tel.: (0621) 181-17625; E-Mail: tkrebs@uni-mannheim.de; Büro: L7, 3-5, P05/06.

Organizational Economics

Responsible teacher of the module: Prof. Dr. Harald Fadinger; Dr. Jan Schymik
Cycle of offer: Irregular
ECTS credits: 5
Teaching method (hours per week): lecture (2)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Microeconomics A + B, Principles of Econometrics
Grading: final exam (90 min); in addition, students may hand in a midterm assignment to earn bonus points on the exam

Goals and contents of the module: The course gives an introduction into organizational economics. The covered materials meet the international standard of a course in organizational economics and combines the discussion of microeconomic models with modern data analysis. The course covers the following topics:

Part I: Within-Firms
- Management Practices
- Moral Hazard and Incentives
- Hierarchies and the Division of Labor
- Authority and Decision-Making in Organizations
- Corporate Governance

Part II: Between Firms
- Misallocation of Production Factors
- Boundaries of the Firm: Property Rights Approach
- Boundaries of the Firm: Transaction Cost Approach
- Firms and Capital Markets

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: Graduates have developed a critical understanding of the most important theories in organizational economics. They are able to evaluate problems inside organizations and other social environments. Graduates are able to apply their understanding of organizations for their professional careers.

Contact Information: Dr. Jan Schymik; Phone: (0621) 181 - 3426; Mail: jschymik@mail.uni-mannheim.de

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Public Choice Theory***

Responsible teacher of the module: Prof. Duk Gyoo Kim, Ph.D.
Cycle of offer: each fall semester
ECTS credits: 6
Teaching method (hours per week): lecture (2) + exercise (1)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: basic knowledge in game theory, macroeconomics, and calculus. The course assumes knowledge of concepts that are covered in Microeconomics A, Macroeconomics A, and calculus.
This is an advanced course intended for upper level economics undergraduates who enjoy learning about and analyzing economic models. Economic models of politics tend to be game theoretic, so familiarity with game theoretic reasoning is useful.
Grading: Midterm exam (60 min, 40%) + Final exam (90 min, 60%)

Goals and contents of the module: This course provides an introduction to the economic analysis of politics. This course consists of three parts.

Part I provides an overview of economic theories on the political behavior of the key actors in the political arena: voters, candidates, legislatures, political parties, and interest groups. Part II discusses alternative voting rules and introduces some important ideas from social choice theory. Part III discusses how political decisions are distorted away from those that would be made by the benevolent governments from economics textbooks. If time permits, we also discuss contemporary issues in politics, including citizen initiatives, media bias, and campaign finance reforms.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: The students are able to describe core concepts widely used in political economy and formal political science theory.

The students can explain the economic incentives and strategic actions of agents in the political arena, such as voters, candidates, legislators, political parties, interest groups, and citizen's initiatives. The topics require an advanced level of analyzing skills. The students are able to apply game-theoretic models to various political issues.

Contact Information: Prof. Duk Gyoo Kim, Ph.D.; Phone: (0621) 181-1797; email: d.kim@uni-mannheim.de; Office: L7, 3-5, room 2.25; Office Hours: by appointment

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Public Policy and Macroeconomics

Responsible teacher of the module: Prof. Minchul Yum, Ph.D.
Cycle of offer: each fall semester
ECTS credits: 5
Teaching method (hours per week): lecture (2)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Microeconomics A + B, Macroeconomics A + B
Grading: final exam, 90 min (70%); assignment (30%)

Goals and contents of the module: This course aims to understand various public policies in the advanced economies, and how they affect the macroeconomy. An important content of the lecture is to review and understand various, mostly descriptive, empirical facts on public policy in the US and some other European counties as well.

In the meantime, we also review empirical evidence on economic inequality and study how it is related to public policy. Another important content of this lecture is to apply economic theories to understand the effects of public policy on the macroeconomy while taking into account people's optimal responses to such a policy. We will review the basic theoretical framework, and consider more advanced theoretical frameworks relevant for macroeconomic analysis.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: At the end of the semester, students are expected to

- Deepen the understanding of empirical facts on public policy in advanced countries
- Develop a critical understanding of the key theoretical methods useful for policy analysis
- Apply the theoretical frameworks to the macroeconomic problems
- Evaluate policy reforms based on their own thought processes and social processes in groups

Contact information: Prof. Minchul Yum, Ph.D. (0621) 181-1853; myum@mail.uni-mannheim.de; L7, 3-5, P09; Tue 4-5 pm

Statistische Lernverfahren

Modulverantwortlicher: Dr. Ingo Steinke
Turnus des Angebots: etwa jedes Herbstsemester
ECTS-Punkte: 8
Lehrmethode: Vorlesung (3 SWS) plus Übung (1 SWS)
Unterrichtssprache: Deutsch
Teilnahmevoraussetzungen: Statistik I und II, Grundlagen der Ökonometrie
Benotung: Hausaufgaben (20%), Klausur im Umfang von 90 Minuten (80%)

Ziele und Inhalte des Moduls: Statistisches Lernen umfasst eine Reihe von statistischen Verfahren, mit deren Hilfe es möglich ist, Zusammenhänge zwischen den Variablen eines Datensatzes zu erkennen, Prognosen aufzustellen und Entscheidungen in Form von Gruppenzuordnungen durchzuführen. In der Vorlesung werden eine Reihe von Verfahren besprochen. Dazu gehören neben den klassischen Verfahren der lineare Regression und Klassifikation mit logistischer Regression und Diskriminanzanalyse auch Resampling-Verfahren, die häufig zur Wahl eines geeigneten Modells verwendet werden, nichtlineare Modellansätze und Baum-basierte Verfahren wie Regressions- und Klassifikationsbäume. Neben der Motivation für die Verfahren werden auch einige ihrer theoretischen Eigenschaften besprochen. Im Rahmen der Vorlesung und in der begleitenden Übung wird von der Programmiersprache R Gebrauch gemacht. Grundkenntnisse in R sollten vorhanden sein.

Erwartete Kompetenzen nach Abschluss des Moduls: Die Studierenden kennen verschiedene Verfahren des statistischen Lernens. Sie wissen, wie sie Modelle anpassen können, können mittels der Modelle Prognosen und Klassifikationen vornehmen. Sie beherrschen die Grundfunktionalität des Statistikprogramms R und können R benutzen, um Verfahren des statischen Lernens auf Datensätze anzuwenden und die resultierenden Ergebnisse zu interpretieren.

Kontakt: Ingo Steinke, Tel. (0621) 181 1940, E-Mail: isteinke(at)rumms.uni-mannheim.de

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Von Adam Smith bis Reinhard Selten. Eine Einführung in die Ideen- und Theoriegeschichte der Ökonomik***

Modulverantwortliche/r: PD Dr. Stefanie van de Kerkhof
Turnus des Angebots: unregelmäßig
ECTS-Punkte: 6
Lehrmethode: Vorlesung (2 SWS) + Übung (1 SWS)
Unterrichtssprache: Deutsch
Teilnahmevoraussetzungen: Grundlagen der Volkswirtschaftslehre
Benotung: Klausur, 90 Minuten.

Ziele und Inhalte des Moduls: Was bedeuten Wachstum, Wohlstand und Gerechtigkeit – und wie entstand das ökonomische Denken darüber im 18. Jahrhundert bei Adam Smith, David Riccardo und John Locke? Was verstehen wir unter der Historischen Schule der Nationalökonomie und welche Rolle spielen ihre Protagonisten heute? Wann entstand der Liberalismus, Monetarismus und die Neoklassische Theorie und welche Unterschiede kennzeichnen den Ordoliberalismus? Welche Inhalte der Werke von Karl Marx und Friedrich Engels werden heute noch diskutiert? Und welche Erweiterungen bieten Institutionenökonomik, Spieltheorie, Verhaltensökonomik und Postwachstumsökonomie in der Gegenwart? Diese Fragen behandelt die Vorlesung anhand der wichtigsten ökonomischen Ideen und der bedeutendsten ökonomischen Denker, die in einen historischen Kontext eingeordnet werden.

Sie ist damit nicht nur hilfreich um sich einen Überblick über die Ideengeschichte im Sinne einer Pluralen Ökonomik zu verschaffen, sondern dient auch der Einordnung ökonomischer Theorien und der Reflexion eigener (wissenschaftlicher) Positionen. In der Übung lesen und diskutieren wir gemeinsam ausgewählte und zentrale Texte, die in der Vorlesung einführend behandelt werden. Sie dient damit der Vertiefung mittels eigener Lektüre und Input (ggf. auch Kurzvortrag).

Erwartete Kompetenzen nach Abschluss des Moduls: Fach- und Methodenkompetenzen: Studierende können wesentliche ökonomische Theorieansätze bedeutender Ökonomen und Ökonominnen vom Beginn der Neuzeit (u.a. Smith, Ricardo, Malthus) bis zur Gegenwart (u.a. von Menger, Walras, Jevons, Keynes, Robinson, Friedman, Ostrom, Nash, Selten) erkennen, differenzieren, ihren Gehalt bewerten und ihre Tragfähigkeit im Hinblick auf neue Fragestellungen überprüfen. Sie können verschiedene theoretische Ansätze vom Liberalismus bis zur Spieltheorie und Postwachstumsökonomik verstehen, ihre Prämissen, Ziele, Themen und wesentlichen Erkenntnisse für das Fach kritisch diskutieren. Zudem sind sie in der Lage, bereits in den Grundlagen der VWL kennengelernte Inhalte vertieft zu verstehen, in ihren sozioökonomischen Kontext einzuordnen und anhand von Rezeption (Vorlesung) und eigener Textanalyse (Übung) kritisch zu reflektieren.

- Kommunikative Kompetenzen: In Vorlesung und Übung erlernen Studierende die Fähigkeit, in großen und kleinen Gruppen eigene Fragen zur theoretischen Entwicklung der VWL zu entwickeln und ihre Positionen dazu mündlich wie schriftlich (Klausur) zu vertreten.
- Soziale Kompetenzen: Studierende erlernen in der Übung in Kleingruppen miteinander theoretische Konzepte kritisch zu reflektieren und einander zentrale Ideen und theoretische Ansätze der Ökonomik vorzustellen.

Weitere Informationen: Literaturempfehlungen zur Einführung:
- Toni Pierenkemper: Geschichte des modernen ökonomischen Denkens: Große Ökonomen und ihre Ideen, Göttingen 2012 (UTB)
- Joachim Starbatty (Hg.): Klassiker des ökonomischen Denkens von Platon bis John Maynard Keynes (2 Teile in einer Gesamtausgabe), Hamburg 2008
- Gerhard Kolb: Geschichte der VWL. Dogmenhistorische Positionen des ökonomischen Denkens, München 1997.

Kontakt: PD Dr. Stefanie van de Kerkhof, E-Mail: stefanie@vandekerkhof.de

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Wirtschaftsgeschichte der Weimarer Republik***

Modulverantwortliche/r: Dr. Alexander Donges
Turnus des Angebots: jedes Herbstsemester
ECTS-Punkte: 7
Lehrmethode: Vorlesung (3 SWS)
Unterrichtssprache: Deutsch
Teilnahmevoraussetzungen: keine Vorkenntnisse erforderlich.
Benotung: Klausur (120 Minuten)

Ziele und Inhalte des Moduls: In dieser Vorlesung betrachten wir die Wirtschaftsgeschichte Deutschlands während der Weimarer Republik (1919-33), die von tiefgreifenden Krisen geprägt war. Der erste Teil der Vorlesung konzentriert sich auf die Inflationsjahre (1919-24), die durch politische und wirtschaftliche Instabilität gekennzeichnet waren. Im Fokus stehen hier die wirtschaftlichen Folgen des Versailler Vertrags, die Ursachen, der Verlauf und die Auswirkungen der Hyperinflation sowie die Währungsreform des Jahres 1924. Darauf aufbauend betrachten wir den Zeitraum zwischen 1924 und 1929, die vermeintlich „goldenen" Zwanziger, in denen die deutsche Wirtschaft eine kurze Scheinblüte erlebte.

Hierbei stehen die Entwicklung der Investitionen, des Kapitalmarkts, die Wiedereingliederung in die Weltwirtschaft sowie Kartelle und Unternehmenskonzentration im Vordergrund. Schließlich konzentrieren wir uns im letzten Drittel auf die Zeit der Weltwirtschaftskrise (1929-33). Im Fokus stehen Ursachen, Verlauf und Auswirkungen der Weltwirtschaftskrise sowie die Bankenkrise von 1931. Am Ende der Vorlesung diskutieren wir die Ursachen der politischen Radikalisierung und die Frage, ob der Untergang der Weimarer Republik unter anderen wirtschaftlichen Rahmenbedingungen und alternativen wirtschaftspolitischen Maßnahmen hätte verhindert werden können.

Erwartete Kompetenzen nach Abschluss des Moduls: Die Studierenden haben die fachlichen Kenntnisse und methodischen Fertigkeiten zur Analyse und Interpretation empirischer Zusammenhänge erworben. Dabei haben sie insbesondere gelernt, die Erkenntnisse aus empirischen Daten mit qualitativen Quellen sinnvoll zu verknüpfen und ökonomische Theorie anhand historischer Beispiele zu diskutieren.

Einführende Literatur:
- Balderston, Theo (2002): Economics and politics in the Weimar Republic, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- Knortz, Heike (2010): Wirtschaftsgeschichte der Weimarer Republik. Eine Einführung in Ökonomie und Gesellschaft der ersten Deutschen Republik, Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht

Kontakt: Dr. Alexander Donges; Telefon: 0621-181-3428; E-Mail: donges@uni-mannheim.de; Büro: L7, 3-5, Raum S10.

Seminare

Applied econometrics: time series analysis

Responsible teacher of the module: PD Dr. Mehdi Hosseinkouchack
Cycle of offer: irregular
ECTS credits: 6
Teaching method (hours per week): seminar (2)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Grundlagen der Ökonometrie, Statistik I + II
Grading: seminar paper (75%), hand-out and presentation (25%)
Expected number of students in class: depends on students' choice (max. 14)

Goals and contents of the module: students will carry out their own applied research project. The students will also learn new topics with a major focus on time series analysis methods. The seminar topics will mainly refer to the application of time series models. Details regarding the seminar topics will be announced on the seminar's webpage during the summer break.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: The seminar provides the students with a platform to share their findings and discuss their ideas on how to conduct empirical research. They will be able to relate their research with the existing literature and learn how to resolve problems one generally faces when doing empirical work. When presenting their works will practice and learn how to effectively resent their research outputs.

Further information: Please register within the common registration week.
Contact Information: PD Dr. Mehdi Hosseinkouchack, E-mail: hosseinkouchack@uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, room 125, Phone: +49 181-1927

Biases in economic decision making

Responsible teacher of the module: Prof. Dr. Henrik Orzen
Cycle of offer: each fall semester
ECTS credits: 6
Teaching method (hours per week): blockseminar (2)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Microeconomics A + B
Grading: seminar paper (50%), presentation (40%), classroom discussion (10%)
Expected number of students in class: depends on students' choices. Maximum number of students in class: 13.

Goals and contents of the module: The goal of this seminar is to introduce students to a range of empirical and experimental findings that reveal systematic biases in human decision making—behavior which deviates systematically from the rational choice benchmark. Thus, these biases directly contradict conventional homo economicus assumptions and therefore raise the question to what extent traditional modelling approaches are tenable. In this seminar we will discuss various topics in this field.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: By the end of the module participants will be able to demonstrate a critical understanding of particular behavioral biases in the context of individual choice and strategic decision making.

Students will have gained knowledge of where and how conventional assumptions in economics such as unlimited rationality and own-payoff maximization can fail. They will have improved their ability to critically evaluate empirical evidence and theoretical approaches in economics. Furthermore, they will have improved their presentation and communications skills.

Further information: Please note that you have to register for this seminar within the common registration week.

Contact Information: Prof. Dr. Henrik Orzen; Phone: (0621) 181 - 1890; email: henrik.orzen@uni-mannheim.de; Office: Room 4.01; Office hours: Tuesdays, 4-5pm (by appointment only).

Das Wirtschaftssystem des Nationalsozialismus*

Modulverantwortliche/r: Dr. Alexander Donges
Turnus des Angebots: unregelmäßig
ECTS-Punkte: 6
Lehrmethode: Blockseminar (2 SWS)
Unterrichtssprache: Deutsch
Teilnahmevoraussetzungen: keine
Benotung: Seminararbeit (70%), Präsentation (20%) und Diskussionsbeteiligung (10%)
Erwartete Zahl der Teilnehmer/innen: maximal 14 Teilnehmer.

Ziele und Inhalte des Moduls: In diesem Seminar diskutieren wir die jüngere Forschungsliteratur zum Wirtschaftssystem des Nationalsozialismus. Schwerpunktmäßig betrachten wir die Auswirkungen staatlicher Lenkungsmaßnahmen und Marktrestriktionen (z.B. staatliche Preissetzung oder die Kontingentierung von Rohstoffen) sowie die Frage, wie groß die Handlungsspielräume privater Unternehmen im „Dritten Reich" waren (z.B. bei Investitionsentscheidungen).

Erwartete Kompetenzen nach Abschluss des Moduls: Zentrales Anliegen des Blockseminars ist es, die Teilnehmer zur eigenständigen Bearbeitung einer mit dem Lehrenden abgestimmten wissenschaftlichen Problemstellung zu befähigen. Die Studierenden sind nach dem Besuch der Veranstaltung in der Lage, die für eine abgegrenzte Problemstellung einschlägige Literatur systematisch zu identifizieren, deren Inhalte zu durchdringen, einzuordnen und kritisch zu hinterfragen, die zu behandelnde Fragestellung im jeweiligen Forschungszusammenhang zu positionieren und mit Hilfe historischer und ökonomischer Methoden zu bearbeiten. Darüber hinaus sind sie damit vertraut, die Ergebnisse ihrer Arbeit zu präsentieren und in einer fachlichen Diskussion zu vertreten.

Weitere Informationen: Themenliste und Literaturangaben finden Sie ab Mai auf meiner Homepage (http://donges.vwl.uni-mannheim.de/). Die Anmeldung zum Seminar erfolgt während des zentralen Anmeldezeitraums im Frühjahrssemester 2020 (26.05.2020 - 08.06.2020). Die zu bearbeitenden Seminarthemen werden nach der Zuteilung der Seminarplätze vergeben.

Kontakt: Dr. Alexander Donges; Telefon: 0621-181-3428; E-Mail: donges@uni-mannheim.de; Büro: L7, 3-5, Raum S10.

Empirical Topics in Monetary and Financial Economics

Responsible teacher of the module: Dr. Sebastian K. Rüth
Cycle of offer: irregular
ECTS credits: 6
Teaching method (hours per week): blockseminar (2)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Statistik I + II and Grundlagen der Ökonometrie. In addition, students should be willing to use the software Stata for which code will be provided (or an alternative software of their choice) and should have a keen interest in monetary and financial economics.
Grading: grading will be based on a student paper (80 percent) and an on-site presentation of the paper (20 percent).
Expected number of students in class: depends on students' choice (max: 14).

Goals and contents of the module: The course studies selected topics in the fields of monetary and financial economics. Students have to choose one topic and have to write a seminar paper that aims to answer the question at hand. After the first meeting, there will be an online survey (details will be explained during the meeting) to assign each student with a specific topic. Potential collaboration in teams of a maximum of two students (that both participate in the course) is possible. All of the topics are empirical in nature and students are required to take a quantitative perspective in their papers. Specifically, it is required to analyze time-series (available from publicly available sources that will be announced during the first meeting) and apply regression techniques, so-called Local-Projections, to study dynamic effects over time. In a first meeting, this empirical framework will be covered and Stata code will be explained to practically implement Local-Projections. In addition, for each empirical topic, the most important reference paper(s) will be provided. Topics will be announced in the first meeting.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: Students master quantitative methods. They have factual knowledge from the fields of monetary and financial economics and can apply it in their professional practice. They have intermediate proficiency in operating software and data tools. They are able to cooperate with others in reaching common goals. They have soft skills, in particular, in oral and written expression of their knowledge and ideas to a broader audience. In addition, they are able to understand recent progress in the scientific literature and to derive own research projects.

Further information: Literature: Ramey, V., 2016. Macroeconomic shocks and their propagation. Elsevier. Volume 2A of Handbook of Macroeconomics. Chapter 2. pp. 71-162.
Further literature will be announced in the first meeting.
Contact Information: Dr. Sebastian K. Rüth; email: sebastian.rueth@awi.uni-heidelberg.de

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Entwicklungsökonomie

Modulverantwortliche/r: Prof. Dr. Markus Frölich
Turnus des Angebots: jedes Semester
ECTS-Punkte: 6
Lehrmethode (Umfang): Blockseminar (2 SWS)
Unterrichtssprache: Deutsch
Teilnahmevoraussetzungen: Grundlagen der Ökonometrie
Benotung: schriftliche Seminararbeit (50%), Vortrag (25%), Koreferat (25%)
Erwartete Zahl der Teilnehmer/innen: max. 13

Ziele und Inhalte des Moduls: Das Seminar umfasst aktuelle Themen bezogen auf Arbeitsmärkte in Entwicklungsländern mit einem empirischen mikroökonometrischen Fokus. Die Themen beinhalten unter anderem: Kinderarbeit, informelle Arbeitsmärkte, Unternehmertum, die Schaffung von Firmen, Arbeitsmarktregulierungen, Mikrokredite, Mikroversicherungen, etc. Die Seminartermine werden nach den Wünschen der Studierenden ausgewählt. Die Studierenden sollen aktuelle Probleme von Entwicklungsländern erörtern und erkennen sowie empirische Studien zu diesen Fragen bewerten und diskutieren. In diesem Sinne ist es eine Mischung zwischen einem reinen Seminar zu Entwicklungsländern und einem angewandten Ökonometrieseminar. Die Studierenden sollen also auch angewandte ökonometrische Papiere verstehen, diskutieren und vorstellen, um die konkrete empirische Forschungsweise zu erlernen. Das Seminar ist insbesondere auch als eine Vorbereitung auf eine mögliche Bachelorarbeit im Bereich der angewandten empirischen Forschung gedacht, welche dann üblicherweise eine eigenständige ökonometrische Analyse mit Sekundärdaten verlangt. Das Seminar stellt somit eine Brückenfunktion zwischen den Grundlagenvorlesungen zur Ökonometrie, welche eher das Methodenwissen vermitteln, und der eigenständigen empirischen Analyse in der wissenschaftlichen Forschung dar.

Erwartete Kompetenzen nach Abschluss des Moduls: Die Studierenden haben gelernt, einen Aufsatz zu einem Thema aus der Entwicklungsökonomie zu schreiben und zu präsentieren, wobei sie den Bezug zu mikroökonomischen Modellen und insbesondere empirisch-ökonometrischer Analyse herausgearbeitet haben. Dies umfasst somit auch eine kritische Analyse und Begutachtung von empirischen Studien und deren Methodik, insbesondere der Ökonometrie, der Datengrundlage und der Umsetzung der empirischen Herangehensweise.

Weitere Informationen: Bitte beachten Sie den gemeinsamen Anmeldezeitraum für Seminare des Bachelorstudiengangs VWL.
Kontakt: Prof. Dr. Markus Frölich, Tel. 0621/181-1920 (Sekretariat: Anja Dostert), E-Mail: dostert(a)uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, Raum 1.21/1.22.

Family Policies - An Economic Perspective

Responsible teachers of the module: Prof. Klaus Adam, Ph.D. / Effrosyni Adamopoulou, Ph.D.
Cycle of offer: irregular
ECTS credits: 6
Teaching method (hours per week): seminar (2)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Micro A + B, Macro A + B, Statistik I + II, Grundlagen der Ökonometrie.
Grading: term paper (50%) + presentation (50%)
Expected number of students in class: depends on student's choice (max. 13).

Goals and contents of the module: This is a seminar for Bachelor students interested in family economics, and more specifically family policies. It will analyze policies all over the world affecting various aspects of family life such as subsidized day-care, tax breaks for children, parental leave policies and divorce law. The goal is to study both from a positive and a normative perspective (i.e. what is optimal) how these policies affect fertility and labor force participation. This is a seminar. Therefore, each student will be assigned a topic to study in depth and then explain in class.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: Students will acquire knowledge about the effects of a large set of different family policies and will be able to assess them both from a positive and a normative perspective.

They will learn to work independently, synthesize the literature, and formulate the most important arguments regarding a topic. Throughout the seminar, students will develop communication, presentation and writing skills in English.

Contact Information: Effrosyni Adamopoulou, Ph.D., email: adamopoulou@uni-mannheim.de, Office: L7, 3-5, Room P.26, Office hours: Wednesdays 15:00-16:30.

Epidemien aus wirtschaftshistorischer Perspektive***

Modulverantwortliche/r: Prof. Dr. Jochen Streb
Turnus des Angebots: unregelmäßig
ECTS-Punkte: 6
Lehrmethode: Blockseminar (2 SWS)
Unterrichtssprache: Deutsch
Teilnahmevoraussetzungen: Empfohlene Voraussetzung ist der Besuch der Vorlesung „Einführung in die Wirtschaftsgeschichte" oder des Proseminars in Wirtschaftsgeschichte
Benotung: Der Leistungsnachweis wird durch das Anfertigen einer schriftlichen Hausarbeit (80%), ein Referat zum gleichen Thema (10%) und die Übernahme eines Koreferats (10%) erbracht.
Erwartete Zahl der Teilnehmer/innen: maximal 15 Teilnehmer

Ziele und Inhalte des Moduls: In diesem Seminar diskutieren wir Ursachen und Folgen von Epidemien aus wirtschaftshistorischer Perspektive.

Erwartete Kompetenzen nach Abschluss des Moduls: Zentrales Anliegen des Seminars ist es, die Teilnehmer zur eigenständigen wissenschaftlichen Bearbeitung einer wirtschaftshistorischen Problemstellung zu befähigen. Die Studierenden sind nach dem Besuch der Veranstaltung in der Lage, einschlägige Literatur systematisch zu identifizieren, deren Inhalte zu durchdringen, einzuordnen und kritisch zu hinterfragen, die eigene Fragestellung im jeweiligen Forschungszusammenhang zu positionieren und mit Hilfe historischer und ökonomischer Methoden zu bearbeiten. Darüber hinaus sind sie damit vertraut, die Ergebnisse ihrer Arbeit zu präsentieren und in einer fachlichen Diskussion zu vertreten.

Weitere Informationen: Themenliste und Literaturangaben finden Sie ab Mai 2020 auf meiner Homepage (http://www.vwl.uni-mannheim.de/streb/). Die Anmeldung zum Seminar erfolgt während des zentralen Anmeldezeitraums von 26.05.2020 bis 08.06.2020.
Kontakt: Prof. Dr. Jochen Streb; Telefon: 0621-181-1932; E-Mail: streb@uni-mannheim.de; Büro: L7, 3-5, Raum P19/20. Sprechstunde: Di 15:45–16:45 Uhr. Um Termin-vereinbarung per E-Mail wird gebeten.

Firm Dynamics and Economic Growth

Responsible teachers of the module: Prof. Anne Hannusch, Ph.D.
Cycle of offer: irregular
ECTS credits: 6
Teaching method (hours per week): blockseminar (2)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Microeconomics A + B, Macroeconomics A, Introduction to Econometrics (recommended for empirical papers)
Grading: presentation (40%), term paper (50%), classroom discussion (10%)
Expected number of students in class: max. 13

Goals and contents of the module: This block seminar will focus on the theory and empirics of modern economic growth. We will follow a micro-to-macro approach, that is, we will study microfoundations for aggregate trends in total factor productivity. Special emphasis will be given to firms and inventors to uncover forces that shape total factor productivity.

The main focus of the seminar will be on recent ideas in economic growth theory, including but not limited to:
- Economic Growth and the Data Economy
- Declining Business Dynamism
- Environment and Directed Technical Change
- Inequality, Taxation and Innovation

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: At the end of the course, students are able to compare and contrast various theories that link firm decisions to aggregate trends in productivity. Students learn to analyze, summarize, and critically evaluate original articles at the frontier of economic growth theory. The seminar also serves as a bridge towards the Bachelor Thesis. Students learn to develop new and exciting research ideas based on their critical evaluation of the material presented in this seminar. All of these skills are essential for the successful completion of the thesis.

Contact Information: Prof. Anne Hannusch, Ph.D.; Phone: (0621) 181 - 3751; E-mail: hannusch@uni-mannheim.de, Office: L7, 3-5 room P.03, Office hours: by appointment

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Grundlagen der Postwachstumsökonomie***

Modulverantwortliche/r: Dr. Christoph Gran
Turnus des Angebots: unregelmäßig
ECTS-Punkte: 6
Lehrmethode: Blockseminar (2 SWS)
Unterrichtssprache: Deutsch
Teilnahmevoraussetzungen: keine
Benotung: Die von den Studierenden zu erbringende Seminarleistung umfasst eine schriftliche Seminararbeit (ca. 5000 Wörter; 70%) sowie einen Seminarvortrag (ca. 30 Minuten; 30%) mit anschließender Diskussion. Die Referate dienen der Einführung in das benannte Themengebiet, einer kritischen Reflexion dessen sowie dem Aufwerfen diskussionswürdiger Fragen.
Maximale Zahl der Teilnehmer/innen: 18

Ziele und Inhalte des Moduls: In der Geschichte des ökonomischen Denkens gab es jeher die Frage, welche Rolle Wirtschaftswachstum bei der Entwicklung von Gesellschaft zukommt: Ist es ein eigenständiges Ziel, nur ein Mittel, um Wohlstand zu erreichen, lässt es sich überhaupt vermeiden? Das Seminar beschäftigt sich mit (Post)Wachstumstheorien, dem Zusammenhang zwischen Wachstum und Umwelt, der Messung von Fortschritt sowie der Funktionsweise einer Wirtschaft ohne Wachstum. Es gibt einen Einblick in das noch junge Forschungsfeld der Ökologischen Makroökonomik und greift aktuelle wie historische Debatten um die „Grenzen des Wachstums" auf.

Erwartete Kompetenzen nach Abschluss des Moduls: Die Studierenden haben einen Überblick über historische und kontemporäre Zugänge zum Thema Wirtschaftswachstum. Sie sind in der Lage, sich kritisch mit der Rolle von Wirtschaftswachstum sowie Ansätzen einer Postwachstumswirtschaft auseinander-zusetzen, und können aufzeigen, worin Chancen und Risiken einer Wirtschaft ohne Wachstum liegen.

Darüber hinaus lernen sie, eigenständig ein Thema zu behandeln und dieses mündlich (Vortrag) und schriftlich (Hausarbeit) wissenschaftlich zu erörtern.

Kontakt: Dr. Christoph Gran, E-Mail: christoph.gran@zoe-institut.de

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Historical Stock-Market Bubbles***

Responsible teacher of the module: Dr. Alexander Donges
Cycle of offer: irregular
ECTS credits: 6
Teaching method (hours per week): blockseminar (2 SWS)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: none
Grading: seminar paper (70%), presentation (20%), and classroom discussion (10%)
Expected number of students in class: The maximum number of participants is 14.

Goals and contents of the module: The history of stock-market cycles is a history about bubbles and crashes. Although the long-run behavior of stock prices should reflect the firms' actual ability to generate profits, stock price movements are often driven by irrational expectations about future profits in the short-run. As a consequence, the adjustment process often leads to a severe crash. In this seminar we look back in the past to get a better understanding of stock market cycles. Our seminar includes bubbles of three centuries, e.g. the South Sea Bubble of 1719/20, various railway manias in the 19th century, as well as the Dotcom Bubble at the end of the 20th century.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: The participants have learned to work independently on a given research question. In particular, they have learned how to search, identify, and critically discuss the relevant literature in a specific field, how to write a research paper, and how to present and defend a paper in front of a scientific audience.

Further information: Please note that you have to register for this seminar within the common registration week. I will allocate the seminar topics after the final assignment of seminar places. In April, I will upload the list of seminar topics (including introductory literature) on my website (http://donges.vwl.uni-mannheim.de/).
Contact Information: Dr. Alexander Donges; phone: 181-3428; e-mail: donges@uni-mannheim.de; office: L7, 3-5, room S10.

Introduction to Statistical Learning

Responsible teacher of the module: Prof. Dr. Cathrine Aeckerle-Willems
Cycle of offer: irregular
ECTS credits: 6
Teaching method (hours per week): seminar (2) (presentations will be held during the semester)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Grundlagen der Ökonometrie and Statistik I + II
Grading: seminar paper and hand-out (50%), and presentation (50%)
Expected number of students in class: depends on students' choice, max. 13

Goals and contents of the module: Technical advances in particular in the computer and information science have revolutionized the possibilities to collect, to store and to work with huge amounts of data. As a result statisticians have been and still are confronted with new complexity in problems arising in particular from size and high dimensionality and with the need to develop methods suitable to make sense of the data. The fields of machine/statistical learning have emerged and grown rapidly. This seminar focuses on theory and methods in statistical learning, mostly supervised learning. Roughly speaking, this is about learning from training data in order to predict an outcome. Topics will cover e.g. kernel smoothing methods, trees, neural networks, support vector machines, random forests.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: Upon successfully completing the seminar, students will have gained an overview of important methods in statistical learning. They will have learned to independently familiarize themselves with the theory and they will be able to summarize and explain their acquired knowledge. They will have trained their presentation and communication skills in written and oral form. Students will have gained experience in discussing advances concerning the theory in current research literature and critically examining developments and application examples.

Further information: The seminar will be based on the book: Hastie, Trevor, Robert Tibshirani, and Jerome Friedman. The elements of statistical learning: data mining, inference, and prediction. Springer Science & Business Media, 2009.
Contact information: Prof. Dr. Cathrine Aeckerle-Willems, Tel. 181-1929, E-mail: aeckerle<at>uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, room 129

Makroökonomische Analyse der Hartz-Reformen

Modulverantwortliche/r: Prof. Tom Krebs, Ph.D.
Turnus des Angebots: jedes Semester
ECTS-Punkte: 6
Lehrmethode (Umfang): Blockseminar (2 SWS)
Unterrichtssprache: Deutsch
Teilnahmevoraussetzungen: Makroökonomik A und B, Mikroökonomik A und B
Benotung: Vortrag (einfach gewichtet) und schriftliche Seminararbeit (doppelt gewichtet).
Erwartete Zahl der Teilnehmer/innen: max. 16

Ziele und Inhalte des Moduls: Das Seminar beschäftigt sich mit den gesamtwirtschaftlichen Auswirkungen der Hartz-Reformen. Das Ziel der Veranstaltung besteht in der Diskussion der theoretischen Erklärungsansätze für die einzelnen Reformen wie auch in der empirischen Überprüfung des Reformerfolgs. Jede der vier Hartz-Reformen I-IV wird hierbei als Thema an mehrere Studierende vergeben. Das jeweilige Thema wird als Gruppe vorgetragen, die Seminararbeiten jedoch individuell verfasst.

Erwartete Kompetenzen nach Abschluss des Moduls: Die Studierenden lernen, selbstständig wirtschaftswissenschaftliche Fragestellungen durch Literaturrecherche und eigenständige Bewertung der Quellen zu beantworten. Dabei wenden die Studierenden die in den Vorlesungen Makroökonomik A und B sowie Mikroökonomik A und B erworbenen Kompetenzen in konkreten Beispielen an. Für die Präsentation der Ergebnisse im Rahmen des Blockseminars entscheiden die Studierenden selbst kooperativ über die Verteilung der einzelnen Präsentationsschwerpunkte untereinander.

Kontakt: Corinna Jann-Grahovac, Tel: (0621) 181-1851, E-Mail: cjann@uni-mannheim.de, Montag - Donnerstag, 9:00 - 13:00 Uhr.

Recent Empirical Evidence on the Causes of (Under-)Development

Responsible teacher of the module: Prof. Dr. Antonio Ciccone
Cycle of offer: each semester
ECTS credits: 6
Teaching method (hours per week): blockseminar (2)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Analysis und lineare Algebra A, Statistik I + II, Grundlagen der Ökonometrie, Makroökonomik A + B
Grading: presentation (50%) and seminar paper (50%)
Expected number of students in class: depends on students' choice (max. 15)

Goals and contents of the module: We will discuss recent and influential research papers on the causes of development and underdevelopment.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module:
- Students learn to read empirical research papers in economics, which directly confronts them with scientific language and argument.
- Students learn to synthesize the contribution research papers aim for.
- Students learn to communicate the contribution research papers aim for.
- Students learn to put the contribution of research papers into perspective using related research in economics and elsewhere.
- They also learn to evaluate recent research.

Contact Information: Prof. Dr. Antonio Ciccone; Phone: (0621) 181-1830; E-mail: antonio.ciccone@uni-mannheim.de; Office: L7, 3-5, room 2.19

Seminar Finanzwissenschaft: Finanzpolitik in Europa - Probleme und Reformvorschläge

Modulverantwortliche/r: Prof. Dr. Eckhard Janeba
Turnus des Angebots: Mindestens einmal alle drei Semester
ECTS-Punkte: 6
Lehrmethode (Umfang): Blockseminar (2 SWS)
Unterrichtssprache: Deutsch
Teilnahmevoraussetzungen: Zulassungsvoraussetzung für Bachelor-Studierende ist die erfolgreiche Absolvierung der Veranstaltung „Finanzwissenschaft für Bachelor".
Benotung: Für Bachelor-Studierende gilt die Gewichtung Seminararbeit 60%, Vortrag 40% (Vortragslänge ca. 45 min. + 15 min. anschließende Diskussion), Diskussionsbeteiligung an allen Seminarvorträgen erwünscht. Wird die Seminararbeit mit „nicht ausreichend" bewertet, gilt das Seminar unabhängig von den anderen Leistungen als nicht bestanden. Es wird erwartet, dass sich alle Seminarteilnehmer vor jeder Sitzung mit den zugehörigen Seminararbeiten vertraut machen und zur Diskussion der einzelnen Vorträge beitragen. Die Seminararbeit muss schriftlich am Lehrstuhl zu einem Stichtag im Oktober 2020 eingereicht werden (Stichtag wird bei der Vorbesprechung festgelegt); sie muss einseitig getippt sein und einen Umfang von 11-13 Seiten haben. Details zu den Anforderungen an eine Seminararbeit befinden sich im Dokument „Leitfaden zur Erstellung einer Seminararbeit", das auf der Homepage des Lehrstuhls zu finden ist. Eine vorläufige Gliederung und Literaturliste ist bis Ende September 2020 dem Betreuer vorzulegen.
Erwartete Zahl der Teilnehmer/innen: Maximum 13

Ziele und Inhalte des Moduls: Das Seminar beschäftigt sich mit wirtschafts- und finanzpolitischen Themen in der Europäischen Union, die sowohl wissenschaftlich als auch in der wirtschaftspolitischen Debatte von Interesse sind. Dazu zählen u.a. Reformen der Fiskalregeln, Vorschläge einer Digitalsteuer oder eines Eurozonenbudgets, die Finanzpolitik in Italien, Auswirkungen des Brexit auf Steuerwettbewerb, Fragen der wirtschaftliche Konvergenz in Europa, und die Schuldenbewältigung in Griechenland.

Erwartete Kompetenzen nach Abschluss des Moduls: Die Studierenden vertiefen die Fähigkeit, finanzwissenschaftliche Themen auf der Basis der wissenschaftlichen Literatur selbständig zu studieren, deren Inhalte präzise zusammenzufassen und im Gesamtzusammenhang der finanzpolitischen Debatte einzuordnen. Die Studierenden erweitern die Kompetenz, einen Fachvortrag zu halten und in der Diskussion ihre eigene Position zu verteidigen, gleichzeitig aber auch auf berechtigte Einwände einzugehen.

Weitere Informationen: Die Anmeldung erfolgt zentral während des gemeinsamen Anmeldezeitraums für Seminare des Bachelorstudiengangs VWL: 26.05.-08.06.2020. Eine Zuteilung der Themen erfolgt nach Abschluss des Anmeldeprozesses (Themenwünsche werden nach Möglichkeit berücksichtigt). Die Themenliste/Syllabus kann in Kürze auf der Website des Lehrstuhls eingesehen werden. Ganztägiges Blockseminar, voraussichtlich an zwei Freitagen im November. Abgabe der Arbeit in der zweiten Oktoberhälfte (Tag wird an der Vorbesprechung festgelegt), Vorbesprechung Anfang September.
Kontakt: Prof. Dr. Eckhard Janeba, Tel.: (0621) 181-1795, E-Mail: janeba@uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, Raum 229.

Topics in Digital Markets

Responsible teacher of the module: Prof. Dr. Volker Nocke / Daniel Savelle
Cycle of offer: once a year
ECTS credits: 6
Teaching method (hours per week): blockseminar (2)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Microeconomics A + B (prerequisite), Introduction to Econometrics (recommended for empirical papers)
Grading: presentation (40%) and report (60%)
Expected number of students in class: max. 15

Goals and contents of the module: Students are required to pick a paper in selected topics relating to Digital Markets and give a presentation to discuss the paper's strengths and weaknesses. Based on their work, and the comments that they receive in the presentation, students are required to write a report summarizing and critically discussing the paper, and synthesizing the findings in related papers presented by other students.

Topics can include platforms, network goods, reputation systems, online auctions, big data techniques, machine learning and other topics relevant for digital markets. A detailed list of topics and associated papers will be circulated once the seminar spots have been allocated.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: Students learn to analyze, summarize, and critically discuss original articles at the frontier of current research in digital markets. They improve the skills to communicate complex topics both orally and in writing, and further their presentation skills. The seminar also serves as a bridge towards the Bachelor Thesis. Students learn to engage with current research papers, to critically assess those, and to develop their own ideas based on their findings – all skills which are essential for the successful completion of the thesis.

Further information: The reading list will be provided in the first meeting (September). Please note that you have to register for this seminar within the common registration week.

Contact Information: Daniel Savelle, E-Mail: dsavelle@mail.uni-mannheim.de

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Topics in Game Theory

Responsible teacher of the module: Prof. Dr. Thomas Tröger

Cycle of offer: once a year

ECTS credits: 6

Teaching method (hours per week): seminar (2)

Course language: English

Prerequisites: lecture Game Theory

Grading: seminar presentation (2/3), seminar paper (1/3)

Expected number of students in class: max. 13

Goals and contents of the module: Building on the abilities obtained in the course on game theory, students are led to independent reading of scientific articles. To this end, selected articles from current research are used. The students present these articles in front of other students and in a written homework assignment.

Expected Competences acquired after completion of the module: Successful participants can grasp scientific contributions building on game-theoretic methods at a level of difficulty that is appropriate to advanced undergraduate studies. They can communicate the essential hypotheses of such works to fellow students. They begin to have the ability to judge these hypotheses critically. They can communicate and defend these judgments convincingly to experts and laymen.

Contact: Prof. Dr. Thomas Tröger, Phone: +49 621 181-3423, E-mail: troeger@uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, Room 3.47

Topics of Empirical Industrial Organization and Competition Policy

Responsible teacher of the module: Prof. Laura Grigolon, Ph.D.

Cycle of offer: each fall semester

ECTS credits: 6

Teaching method (hours per week): blockseminar (2)

Course language: English

Prerequisites: Grundlagen der Ökonometrie and Industrial Organization

Grading: seminar paper (completion within 4 weeks, approx. 10 pages with figures and tables) and presentation (approx. 20 minutes); seminar paper (50%), presentation (50%).

Expected number of students in class: max. 13

Goals and contents of the module: The seminar has the main goal to train the necessary skills to read, understand, summarize and present scientific work applied to policy-relevant questions in Industrial Organization, with a focus on competition policy.

There will be a choice of papers for which a dataset is also available. Students will receive the paper and, depending on their interest, the dataset and code that allows an empirical study of the paper.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: Students will be able to:

- Understand the general motivation of the subject: What is the topic about? Why is it an important policy problem?
- (Optional) Perform their own empirical analysis. Based on the dataset and code, students can implement their own empirical analysis. Papers may sometimes use complex econometric methods and it is not the intention to copy or replicate the paper exactly.
- Reflect about the application of the policy to Germany or other countries. Students will be able to discuss policy issues applied to industrial organization, with a focus on competition issues, and whether the problem is interesting for Germany (or other countries) and how a policy recommendation can be applied.

Further information: Please note that you have to register for this seminar within the common registration week.

Contact information: Prof. Laura Grigolon, Ph.D.; Phone: 0621-181 1913; laura.grigolon@uni-mannheim.de

Zusätzliches Studienangebot für Volkswirte

Forschungsseminar in Wirtschaftsgeschichte

Modulverantwortlicher: Prof. Dr. Jochen Streb
Turnus des Angebots: jedes Semester
ECTS-Punkte: keine
Lehrmethode: Seminar (2 SWS)
Arbeitsaufwand: Präsenzzeit 21 Stunden
Unterrichtssprache: Deutsch oder Englisch je nach Vortrag
Teilnahmevoraussetzungen: keine
Benotung: keine

Ziele und Inhalte des Moduls: Im Forschungsseminar präsentieren Wissenschaftler aus Mannheim und auswärts ihre aktuellen Forschungsergebnisse.

Erwartete Kompetenzen nach Abschluss des Moduls: Die Teilnehmer setzen sich mit dem aktuellen Forschungsstand in bestimmten wirtschaftshistorischen Themenfeldern auseinander und nutzen diese Erkenntnisse für ihre eigenen wissenschaftlichen Abschlussarbeiten.

Weitere Informationen: Für Studierende, die im aktuellen Semester eine Bachelor- oder Masterarbeit am Lehrstuhl für Wirtschaftsgeschichte anfertigen, wird der Besuch des Forschungsseminars empfohlen.
Kontakt: Prof. Dr. Jochen Streb, Tel. 0621/ 181 -1932, E-Mail: streb@uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, Zimmer P19/20, Sprechzeiten: Di 15:45 Uhr bis 16:45 Uhr, um Terminvereinbarung wird gebeten.
Das aktuelle Programm entnehmen Sie bitte dem gesonderten Aushang „Research in Economic History" unter folgenden Link: https://www.vwl.uni-mannheim.de/streb/forschung/aktuelle-vortraege/

Ringvorlesung

Die genauen Termine der einzelnen Veranstaltungen werden noch bekannt gegeben.

Bitte beachten Sie die Ankündigungen über die Webseite der Fachschaft VWL, die sich für die Organisation der Ringvorlesung verantwortlich zeichnet, unter http://fsvwl.uni-mannheim.de/cms/index.php/ringvorlesungen.html.

Updates

Veranstaltungen entfallen

~~**Energy, Environment and Development**~~

~~Responsible teacher of the module: Dana Kassem, Ph.D.; Prof. Ulrich Wagner, Ph.D.~~
~~Cycle of offer: irregular~~
~~ECTS credits: 7~~
~~Teaching method (hours per week): lecture (2) + exercise (2)~~
~~Course language: English~~
~~Prerequisites: Microeconomics A + B, Principles of Econometrics. A good background in applied~~
~~econometrics is essential.~~
~~Grading: written final exam, 90 minutes~~

~~Goals and contents of the module: This course covers topics in energy and environmental economics with a~~
~~special focus on developing countries. The overall goal of the course is to introduce advanced undergraduate~~
~~students to the recent surge in research on environmental and energy economics as applied to developing~~
~~countries. There are three broad topics. The first topic examines the relationship between access to energy~~
~~and economic development. We will explore the recent findings on how access to energy and the reliability~~
~~of its supply affect various economic outcomes. The second broad topic is about the environment and~~
~~development. In this part, we will cover topics like pollution problems in developing countries and the role~~
~~of political economy (institutions, regulation, enforcement) in developing countries in affecting the~~
~~environment. The final topic focuses on climate change and development. This part will cover papers on the~~
~~effect of climate change, including rising temperatures, on people in developing countries and their~~
~~adaptation risk. This includes the effect of climate change on agriculture, migration, and mortality.~~

~~Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: The first goal is to understand the nature~~
~~of energy and environmental issues faced by developing countries, where these issues are different from~~
~~those faced by developed countries.~~
~~The second goal is to have an overview of the frontier economic research in energy and environmental~~
~~economics applied to developing countries. By the end of this course, students are expected to understand~~
~~and be able to explain the intuition behind the results of the covered papers.~~

~~Contact Information: Dana Kassem, Ph.D.; e-mail: d.kassem@uni-mannheim.de~~
~~Prof. Ulrich Wagner, Ph.D.; ulrich.wagner@uni-mannheim.de~~

~~**Energy Economics - Markets and Regulation**~~

~~Responsible teacher of the module: Dr. Dominik Schober~~
~~Cycle of offer: irregular~~
~~ECTS credits: 7~~
~~Teaching method (hours per week): lecture (2) and exercise (2)~~
~~Course language: English~~
~~Prerequisites: Microeconomics A + B~~
~~Grading: final exam (90 min, 70%) + assignments (30%)~~

~~Goals and contents of the module: This module provides an introduction to energy economics and policy~~
~~covering topics such as the technical and economic characteristics of energy production and demand.~~

In light of the energy transition ("Energiewende"), a focus is set on the electricity system, direct and external costs of electricity production, design of energy markets such as long term, short term and reserve markets as well as regulation and policy issues. The course is primarily based in microeconomics but also considers the interface of energy economics with other disciplines, such as decision economics, operations research, and environmental economics.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: In this module, students will get an overview of the main characteristics of energy markets and the major theories and principles in these markets. They are able to determine optimal investment and dispatch decisions in electricity markets. Furthermore, they have an understanding of renewable energies and their impact on energy markets. The students know the different market failures occurring in energy markets and are able to determine optimal regulations to address these market failures, e.g. CO_2 taxes vs. emission rights trading. In addition, the students are able to evaluate current energy policies and to develop propositions for improvements based on thorough economic analysis and reasoning.

Further information: Literature: Stoft, Steven (2002), Power System Economics, 1st Edition, Wiley-IEEE Press Contact Information: Dr. Dominik Schober, E-mail: dominik.schober@zew.de

Zusätzliche Vorlesungen des Spezialisierungsbereichs

Personalization and Price Discrimination***

Responsible teacher of the module: Dr. Adrian Hillenbrand
Cycle of offer: irregular
ECTS credits: 6
Teaching method (hours per week): lecture (2) + exercise (1)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Microeconomics A
Grading: written exam 90 min. (100 %)

Goals and contents of the module: Prices determine the allocation of resources, impacts business success, and ultimately, the social welfare of societies. Rapid technological advancements provide sellers with detailed information about consumers and their preferences. This allows fine-grained personalization of offers and advertisement and in the extreme can lead to perfect price discrimination.
In this lecture personalization and price discrimination are discussed theoretically as well as conceptually with some examples from the business world. Starting from basic models of monopolistic pricing and dynamic prices, we discuss different types of price discrimination like history based price discrimination and behavior-based price discrimination. Implications for policy and consumer protection are debated. Further, we discuss boundaries on price discrimination due to competition as well as behavioral factors.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: Students will get an overview over the theoretical underpinnings of price discrimination and personalization. Students will be able to address policy implications. They will be able to discuss the effect of price discrimination on the business world and consequences for consumer protection.

Contact information: tba