# Updates zum Kommentierten Vorlesungsverzeichnis
# für das Herbst-/Wintersemester 2021
# B. Sc. Volkswirtschaftslehre

**21.09.2021**

**Die Vorlesung „Öffentliche Investitionen und inklusives Wachstum“ wurde um eine 2stündige wöchentliche (Online)Übung freitags von 10.15 bis 11.45 Uhr ergänzt. Die Veranstaltung ist damit neu mit insgesamt 9 ECTS-Punkten bewertet.**

**31.08.2021**

**Zusätzliche Veranstaltung**

**Topics in Empirical Political Economy**

Course dates / form of participation

Responsible teacher of the module: Prof. Dr. Camille Urvoy
Cycle of offer: fall semester
ECTS credits: 6
Teaching method (hours per week): lecture (2) + exercise (1)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Statistik I and II, Grundlagen der Ökonometrie (basic knowledge of statistics and econometrics)
Grading: classroom discussion (10%) + mid-term exam (60 minutes, 40%) + final take-home assignment (50%)

Goals and contents of the module: In this course, we will study recent advances in empirical political economy. We will first study elections: to what extent elections allow representation and accountability in representative democracies, why people vote and what happens when they do not, who runs for elections and how does the identity of the winner impact policy making. We will also talk about other ways some interest groups can influence policy making: campaign contributions, lobbying, and collective action. We will also study the role of information (and in particular the media), both in democracies and non-democracies. Finally, we will study how recent technological changes (internet, social media) reshape media and political landscapes. We will focus on empirical work that provide case studies of important reforms or policies. The goal is to provide students with evidence-based answers on how policies determine how voters’ interests are represented and mapped into public policies.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: Students are expected to familiarize with reading academic articles. The goal is that they understand how a research question fits in a broader literature, develop a basic understanding of the econometric methods employed and become able to gauge the credibility of the results. They should also gain a deeper understanding of the topics covered in class and be able to critically analyze policies based on empirical evidence.

Contact information: Prof. Dr. Camille Urvoy; phone: (0621) 181 - 1885; email: camille.urvoy@gmail.com, office: L7 3-5, 2nd floor, 208, office hours: Tuesday, 5-6pm.

**01.07.2021**

**Aktualisierung**

**Family Policies - An Economic Perspective**

Course dates / form of participation

Responsible teacher of the module: Effrosyni Adamopoulou, Ph.D. / ~~Prof. Dr. Michèle Tertilt~~ **Prof. Philipp Ager, 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, Skype name: adefi81, Office hours via skype: Tuesdays 13:30-15:00.

**22.06.2021**

**Korrektur**

**Applied Multivariate Statistics (AMS)**

Course dates / form of participation

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 I + II, 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 (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.~~ **The course should be attended from the first session. Entering the course later is strongly discouraged.**
Contact Information: Dr. Toni Stocker; Phone: +49 621 181 3963; e-mail: 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.

**14.06.2021**

**Zusätzliche Veranstaltung**

**Applied Economics**

Course dates / form of participation

Responsible teacher of the module: Prof. Philipp Ager, Ph.D.
Cycle of offer: fall semester 2021
ECTS credits: 6
Teaching method (hours per week): lectures (2) and exercises (1)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Statistik I + II, Grundlagen der Ökonometrie
Grading: based on three assignments (each 25%) and a presentation (25%).

Goals and contents of the module: The course introduces three main empirical strategies that are used in applied work to establish causality: difference-in-differences, event-study designs, and instrumental variables. For example, in applied microeconomics the number of papers in top-5 economics journals with explicit reference to identification has increased from less than 5% at the beginning of the 1980s to around 50% as of today. In these outlets, the use of difference-in-differences and event-studies in applied work gained in popularity over the last 10 years complementing traditional methods such as instrumental variables and fixed effects. Students will be introduced to each concept and we will discuss common pitfalls of every method that applied researchers might encounter and potential remedies based on recent advances in the field. For each empirical strategy, students are asked to hand in an empirical assignment; each is due after the concept was covered in class. For the assignments, students are allowed to work in groups (maximum 3 students per group). At the end of the semester, students have to present a research article individually. The list of articles for the presentation sessions will be handed out at the beginning of the semester. The students have to pick one of the papers on the list, which will be allocated on a first come and first served basis. The presentation should be 30 minutes long, containing a detailed summary of the presented article (60% of the presentation), a critical evaluation (20%), and an open discussion at the end of the presentation which the presenting student is leading (20%).

Expected competences acquired after completion of the course: Students understand the empirical methods learned in class, know their potential pitfalls and remedies how to solve/circumvent them. Students learn how to implement the empirical methods covered in class and they are able to critically evaluate research papers using these methods.

Further information: Useful background material:
Angrist J. and Pischke, J. (2009): Mostly Harmless Econometrics: An Empiricist's Companion
Contact Information: Prof. Philipp Ager, Ph.D.; E-mail: pager@uni-mannheim.de

**09.06.2021**

**Zusätzliche Veranstaltung**

**Resource Economics: Energy and Water**

Course dates / form of participation

Responsible teacher of the module: Prof. Ulrich Wagner, Ph.D.
Instructors: Dr. Robert Germeshausen / Kinga Tchorzewska, Ph.D.
Cycle of offer: irregular
ECTS credits: 8
Teaching method (hours per two weeks): lecture (3) + exercise (1)
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Microeconomics A + B
Grading: final exam (50%) + two problem sets (40%) + classroom discussion/presentation (10%)

Goals and contents of the module: The class provides an introduction to resource economics with a focus on energy and water. Part one introduces the fundamental technical and economic characteristics underlying the supply and demand of energy. Particular attention will be given to electricity markets where direct and external costs of electricity generation as well as the above mentioned characteristics have important implications for prices and regulation. In addition, selected economic aspects of the ongoing transition of the energy system will be discussed. Part two covers the economics of water resources by applying microeconomic analysis to topics in water resource policy and management. In particular, students will learn about water rights, agricultural water use, groundwater management, urban water use, and water markets.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: In each of the above subject areas, students will be familiarized with the canonical economic concepts and models. Furthermore, students will apply these insights to discuss recent research papers and applications in energy and water economics.

Contact information: Dr. Robert Germeshausen; e-mail: germeshausen@zew.de / Kinga Tchorzewska, Ph.D.; e-mail: Kinga.Tchorzewska@zew.de