

**Aktuelle Forschungsfragen der
Wirtschaftspolitik/Wirtschaftspolitisches Seminar
WiSe 09/10**

**Thema: Empirische Wirtschaftsforschung und Wirtschaftspolitik /
Empirical Economics and Economic Policy**

**Content /
Summary:**

The focus of the seminar is on the empirical evaluation of the effects of government policies, in particular fiscal and social policies. Topics covered are typically analyzed using micro data on households and firms using appropriate empirical methods. The main requirement for the course is a basic knowledge of microeconometrics at the level of, e.g., J. Wooldridge, *Introductory Econometrics*. A list of selected research topics will be made available at the preliminary meeting (Vorbereitung, see below). At that meeting, I will also present a survey of empirical evaluation methods based on:

Richard Blundell, Monica Costa Dias: „Alternative Approaches to Evaluation in Empirical Microeconomics”, IZA DP No. 3800
(downloadable from www.iza.org)

Each student is expected to prepare and present a short paper (not more than 15 pages). The paper may either be a review of a couple of research papers on a specific topic or, preferably, an own original research paper. In the latter case, the student may also suggest a topic on her/his own, if suitable for the seminar.

Both the required paper and the presentation may be in German or English, as preferred by the student.

Schedule:

Thursday, October 15, 2009, 16.00 – 18.00: Preliminary meeting (Vorbereitung) with presentation of evaluation methods and registration.

Venue: DIW Berlin; Mohrenstr. 58, 10117 (see www.diw.de), first floor, SR 1.2.026

January 21, 2010: Deadline for submission of seminar paper

February 5-6, 2010: Seminar paper presentations and discussion

Venue: DIW Berlin, Mohrenstr. 58, 10117