

Aktuelle Forschungsfragen der Empirischen Finanzwissenschaft und Wirtschaftspolitik / Ökonometrie

WS 2010/11

Thema: Topics in Empirical Public Economics

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.

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. Joint work of two students is also possible in this case. Both the required paper and the presentation may be in German or English, as preferred by the student.

A list of selected research topics will be made available at the preliminary meeting (Vorbereitung, see below).

Some of the common evaluation methods in empirical public economics are surveyed in:

Richard Blundell, Monica Costa Dias: „Alternative Approaches to Evaluation in Empirical Microeconomics”, The Journal of Human Resources 44, 3, 2009

(also available as IZA DP No. 3800, downloadable from www.iza.org)

Schedule:

Tuesday, 19.10. 2009, 18.00 – 19.30: Preliminary meeting (Vorbereitung) with allocation of topics for seminar papers
Venue: Boltzmannstr. 20, HS 328.

14.01.2010: Brief presentation of research topic, proposed methodology, data, etc. (exact time and venue tba)

24.- 25.01.2010: Paper presentation and discussion (exact time and venue tba)

14.02.2010: Submission of final paper