

**Seminar: Aktuelle Forschungsfragen der Empirischen  
Finanzwissenschaft und Wirtschaftspolitik  
„Topics in Empirical Public Economics”**

**WS 2014/15  
Prüfungsnr.: 107077b/107078b**

The focus of the seminar is on the empirical analysis of the economic effects of government policies, in particular fiscal and social policies. Basic knowledge of microeconometrics and some experience with the analysis of micro data is assumed.

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. The grade will be made up of the seminar paper, its presentation and the student's participation in the seminar.

A list of selected research topics with basic references will be made available at the **preliminary meeting (*Vorbesprechung*)** which will take place on

**Wednesday, 15 October, 17.00 – 18.30**

The venue of the first meeting will be announced on our homepage soon. There will be another two meetings, one in mid-December and the other at the end of January (the exact dates will be decided at the preliminary meeting). In the first of these meetings each student will present a brief presentation of the selected research topic, proposed methodology, data, etc.; in the second meeting the research paper will be presented and discussed. Within two weeks after this meeting, the final paper has to be submitted.

If you want to participate in the seminar but cannot attend the preliminary meeting, send an email to [viktor.steiner@fu-berlin.de](mailto:viktor.steiner@fu-berlin.de) stating your preferred topic for the seminar paper.