Aim of the seminar
Each student is expected to write an empirical paper on empirical public economics/applied microeconometrics, broadly defined, and present it in the seminar. The paper may be a replication of an earlier study or an original study (more difficult). The replication study would also involve a critical assessment of the underlying assumptions, alternative specifications of regression equations, and alternative sample selections, and could also apply the methodology of a previous paper to another data set.
A brief introduction to the seminar and possible research topics (see list below) are presented by the organizers at the preliminary meeting ("Vorbesprechung"). Own research topics may also be suggested by the student, if appropriate for the seminar.
Knowledge of microeconometrics at the level of the MSc Economics course “Applied Microeconometrics” is assumed.

Requirements
In addition to the preliminary meeting, there will be two meetings: In the first of these students will briefly present their research topic including a summary of previous research, the proposed methodology, data to be used, and perhaps already some preliminary descriptive analyses. In the second meeting the study will be presented and discussed. The final paper is due a couple of weeks after this second meeting. The paper and the presentation may be in English or German. The paper should be about 15 pages including figures and tables, relevant supplementary material can be included in an Appendix.

Time table
- **Preliminary meeting**: Tuesday, 16 October, 16:00 – 17:30, Boltzmannstr. 20, HS 328
- **Second meeting**: End of November (exact date to be determined at the preliminary meeting)
- **Third meeting**: Mid-February (exact date to be determined at the preliminary meeting)

Inquiries about the seminar to: **Benjamin.Fischer@fu-berlin.de /Dominik.Huegle@fu-berlin.de**
Topics

1. Explaining changes in the German income distribution
   Replicate parts of and/or update Biewen et al. (2016) using SOEP panel data and decomposition techniques

2. Educational assortative mating and the distribution of household incomes
   Replicate/extend German part of Eika et al. (2017)

3. Labor market transitions over the business cycle
   Estimate unemployment-employment transition models similarly to Nagore Garcia/van Soest (2015) using SOEP panel data before/after the 2009 recession or before/after the labor market reforms 2003-2006

4. Labor market effects of parental leave policies
   Replicate Bergemann/Riphahn (2017) using SOEP data

5. Disability, pension reform and early retirement in Germany
   Replicate/extend extend Boersch-Supan and Juerges (2011); Hanel (2010) using more recent SOEP data

6. Long-term care insurance and female labor supply
   Replicate/extend Geyer/Korfhage (2014) using SOEP data; structural labor supply model incorporating choice of formal/informal care

7. Overeducation/Educational mismatch
   Replicate Boll and Leppin (2014) or Boll, Leppin and Schömann (2016)

8. Educational choices: Higher education enrolment
   Replicate parts of Lauer (2000) or a simpler version of Fossen and Glocker (2011)

9. The creation and resolution of working hour discrepancies over the life course

10. Informal home care and labor-force participation of household members
    Update Meng (2013) using SOEP panel data.

References:


