

EMPIRICAL PUBLIC ECONOMICS Empirische Finanzwissenschaft und Wirtschaftspolitik SS 2012

2 SWS VL (Lectures) + 1 SWS Ü (Classes)

Aim and contents of the course: The aim of the course is to teach students how to interpret empirical research in public economics and to apply modern econometric methods commonly used in the field. Topics covered include: Effects of taxes and government transfers on labor supply and savings of households; taxable income literature; welfare analysis of tax reforms; incentive and welfare effects of social insurance programs. Empirical approaches covered in the course include both structural and non-structural estimation methodologies, such as “natural experiments”, treatment effects estimation, ex-ante policy evaluation and microsimulation.

The lectures and classes are given in English. The final exam may be written in English or German.

Lectures/ Classes:	Prof. Steiner
Location:	HS 105, Garystr.
Time:	Weekly, Thursday, 14.30 – 17.00
Requirements:	The course assumes basic knowledge of econometrics (basically linear regression analysis), simple microeconomic methods (discrete choice models and panel data estimators) will be briefly reviewed as required in the course.
Credit points:	M.Sc. Public Economics: Core course (Pflichtveranstaltung) M.Sc. Economics: Selective course (Wahlveranstaltung), only available for students enrolled before the winter term 2010/11 VWL Diplom: Core course (4 BP) for Economic Policy (Volkswirtschaftspolitik), not together with Ökonometrie, and selective course (4 BP) for Econometrics (Ökonometrie)
Grading:	2 hours' final exam, bonus points may be obtained for class presentations of research papers.
Literature:	lecture notes and research papers made available under FU Learning Blackboard