

## Seminar Volkswirtschaftspolitik / Economic Policy Seminar SS07: Empirische Wirtschaftspolitik / Empirical Economic Policy

- Content / Summary:** The focus of the seminar is on **topics in economic policy** which are typically analyzed using **micro data** and appropriate **microeconomic methods**. Each student is expected to prepare and present a short **research paper** (not more than 15 pages) based on original empirical analysis of some topic in economic policy applying appropriate econometric methods. The paper could be used as a starting point for a master thesis. Both the required research 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 first meeting (see below), but the student may also suggest a topic, if suitable for the course. There will be **three meetings** during the term: In the **first meeting** at the beginning of the term, I will present the various approaches used in empirical policy evaluation and selected applications of these methods. At the end of this meeting, topics will be allocated to students. In the **second (mid-term) meeting**, each student will present her/his topic (literature review, outline of own project, data and methods, first descriptive analysis). In the **third meeting** at the end of the term, each student will present her/his empirical paper in the seminar. There will also be an appointed discussant and a general discussion of the paper.
- Requirements:** **Basic knowledge** of microeconometrics and some experience in the analysis of empirical data is assumed (at the level of Microeconometrics I, Microeconometrics II is strongly recommended – see homepage of the chair Empirical Economics). Each student is expected to participate in all three meetings. The **grading** will be made up of: research paper (60 %), presentation of paper in seminar (20 %), and role as discussant (20 %). The seminar counts **4 BP (credit points)** as “*Wahlpflichtveranstaltung*” for Economic Policy.
- Organization:** **First meeting:** Friday, April 20, 2 – 5 pm  
**Second meeting:** Thursday, May 31, 9 am – 5 pm  
 Friday, June 1, 9 am – 5 pm  
**Third meeting:** Monday, July 16, 9 am – 5 pm  
 Tuesday, July 17, 9 am – 5 pm
- Venue:** DIW Berlin, Königin-Luise-Str. 5, 14195 Berlin (see [www.diw.de](http://www.diw.de)), second floor, SR A2 (**first meeting**)
- Registration** for the seminar: Please register via **Blackboard** until 27<sup>th</sup> April. (I will put all further information concerning this course on the Blackboard – course “Empirische Wirtschaftspolitik / Empirical Economic Policy”).