

**Summer term 2019**

**Modul: Aktuelle Forschungsfragen der Arbeitsmarktökonomik (Nr. 107061/107062)  
(Master Economics and Master Public Economics)**

**Seminar “Household Behavior in Developing Countries”**

This course aims to familiarize students with relevant concepts, current debates and methods of the empirical analysis of household welfare in developing countries. By focusing on the determinants and consequences of household behavior, this course introduces microeconomic aspects of economic development. Households make decisions concerning consumption, time use, labor supply, health and fertility, education and human capital investment in children.

From this perspective a variety of research questions emerge: How are resources distributed within households? Which factors influence the division of labor within households? How does globalization influence labor supply decisions of women? Are micro-credit schemes an effective tool to lift households out of poverty? How do households cope with and adapt to environmental and income shocks? How does education influence fertility patterns? How did the phenomenon of “missing women” prominent in several developing countries emerge?

During the meetings, the lecturers will introduce microeconomic theories of family and household economics and give an overview on microeconomic methods of policy evaluation (RCTs and quasi-experimental methods) as well as an introduction to Stata. This course focuses on (1) basic microeconomic models concerning household behavior, (2) methods and skills to empirically analyze household behavior and (3) the specific conditions of developing countries concerning the economic context and data availability.

To complete this course, students are expected to elaborate the current state of research on a specific topic within the scope of the seminar and to provide a (descriptive) empirical analysis using micro data. A detailed list of topics for the term papers (including main references) and information on the course structure will be provided and discussed in the first meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The number of spots is limited to 16. In case of exceedingly high demand, the lecturers will assign the available slots (by lottery).

**Examination and language:**

- Term paper (about 15 pages)
- Presentation of term paper in seminar (approximately 30 minutes)
- Language: English

**Course prerequisites:**

- Microeconomics and (micro-)econometrics at master program level is recommended.

**Important Dates and Locations:**

Friday, April 5 <sup>th</sup> : 10:00 am – 5:00 pm	Introductory meeting, Lectures on the microeconomic analysis of households (topics and methods), Presentation of possible term paper topics	Room 202 (Kaminzimmer), Boltzmannstr. 20
Friday, April 12 <sup>th</sup> :	Assignment to topics, official registration via email (binding)	-
Friday, May 3 <sup>rd</sup> : 10:00 am – 5:00 pm	Hand-on-Stata-and-data sessions Discussion of the progress of the term paper	PC-Pool (K 006b PC-Pool 2)
Friday, June 21 <sup>st</sup> : 11 am – 5 pm	Student presentations I	Seminar room 315, Garystr. 21
Saturday, June 22 <sup>st</sup> : 9 am – 4 pm	Student presentations II	Room 202 (Kaminzimmer), Boltzmannstr. 20
Friday, August 16 <sup>th</sup> :	Submission of term paper (by email to <a href="mailto:ls-danzer@fu-berlin.de">ls-danzer@fu-berlin.de</a> )	-

**Course information, material and readings**

Further course material and news will be posted on Blackboard. To get access, please register on Blackboard for this course (<https://lms.fu-berlin.de/webapps/login/>).

**Lecturers**

- Prof. Natalia Danzer, Ph.D
- Theresa Neef, M.Sc.