HEIDELBERG UNIVERSITY
CHAIR OF INTERNATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT POLITICS
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Heidelberg, August 9, 2022

Winter Term 2022-2023
Research Seminar Development Economics (Master)

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Participants will write and present an empirical seminar paper on a research question in development economics. The topic can be chosen based on personal interest. Examples are given below; please contact the supervisor that your own interests are most closely aligned to based on these topics. The paper is then presented in the seminar, followed by group discussion.

First Meeting:	Wednesday, October 26, 2pm – 2.15pm, Zoom https://zoom.us/j/95905604507?pwd=ZGdnQ3RtcmVvSjlvaGFiRktSRjk5QT09 Meeting ID: 959 0560 4507 Passcode: 221453
Seminar:	Friday, February 10, 9am – 6pm, AWI 1.034 (no online option)
	Saturday, February 11, 10am – 6pm, AWI 1.034 (no online option)
Registration deadline:	Friday, November 4 (per email at jingke.pan@awi.uni-heidelberg.de)
Deadline for paper submissions:	Sunday, February 5, 23:59h
	Please send an electronic version of your seminar paper (in pdf) to jingke.pan@awi.uni-heidelberg.de. If you fail to meet this deadline, you fail the course.
	Should your paper not be graded as at least "sufficient" (grade 4.0), you will not be able to attend the seminar.
Grading will be based on:	Your seminar paper (60 percent) Your presentation (15 minutes, 30 percent) Your participation during discussions (10 percent)
	(You will only be graded when present during all presentations.)
Language:	Papers have to be written in English. Seminar meetings and all presentations will take place in English.

Guideline for Seminar Papers

Editing
You may use any word processing software that you feel comfortable with. Preferentially make use of LaTeX in case you decide to use a lot of formulas in your paper. Papers have to be submitted by Email in PDF format.

Style
- Font Size: 12 pt
- Line Spread: 1.5pt
- Alignment: justified
- border: 2.5cm

Length
The seminar papers should not exceed 12 pages excluding references, tables and title page.

Organization
- Cover (Include name, student number, title)
- Table of Contents: Number headings in the table of contents and the text identically.
- Table of Figures: List all figures (if any) with number and heading.
- List of Tables: List all tables with number and heading.
- (Table of Symbols: List all symbols and variables (if any) with their definitions.)
- Content: The introduction leads to and defines the subject, the body deals with the subject and the summary sums up the results in a critical manner. Number content, table of contents, table of figures, the list of tables, and the table of symbols. Reduce the number of footnotes to a minimum. Abbreviations have to be explained. Number only important equations that you refer to. Within the text argue in economic terms and not with variables. Orthography, grammar, and style are taken into account. Refrain from excessive bulleting and numbering.
- References
- (Appendix)

Quotations, References and Plagiarism

Quotations: use Harvard style, i.e. quote within the text and not in footnotes (e.g., as has been shown by Sturm (2006)…).

References: all studies that you have quoted in the text have to appear in the reference list. Anything that you have only read, but that is not quoted in the text, must NOT appear in the list of references. There are no restrictions on the reference style. However, consistency is required.

Plagiarism: any text parts (of more than two words) or ideas that are not strictly your own have to be marked. That means that the text has to be phrased in a way that makes unambiguously clear which parts are your own thoughts and which part repeats ideas from other persons. Failure to do so will result in the rejection of your paper, i.e., you fail the course, and possible further disciplinary measures by the Ruprecht Karl University of Heidelberg. Don't even think about copy/pasting your paper from the internet. Each paper will be tested in that respect.

Finding Literature

The references that you get from us are only a starting point (and we will not provide these articles). You are supposed to do your own literature research. The first step in the search for relevant literature is to check the reference lists of the literature that we gave you. Good sources for economic literature, among others, are:

-http://ideas.repec.org
-http://www.jstor.org
-Business Source Premier and EconLit (via the university library website)
-http://www.nber.org
-http://www.cepr.org

A rule of thumb is that the list of references should have about as many entries as there are pages in the seminar paper, e.g., 20 pages, 15-25 references. Be prepared to read about the double amount of papers that finally make it into the list of references. Wikipedia is not a scientific source.

Deadlines

Make sure that you hand in your paper *exactly* on time. If you miss the deadline, the rules are strict and you will not pass the course.

Interaction with your supervisor

It is recommended that you discuss with your supervisor (at least once, but better regularly) in order to discuss the progress of your paper. The first contact should happen within about two weeks after you started working on the paper (during the shutdown, these contacts will be on skype or similar software). Supervisors are:

Zain Chaudhry (zain.chaudhry@awi.uni-heidelberg.de)
Johannes Matzat (johannes.matzat@uni-goettingen.de)
Robin Möllerherm (robin.moellerherm@awi.uni-heidelberg.de)
Jingke Pan (jingke.pan@awi.uni-heidelberg.de)
Charlotte Robert (charlotte.robert@awi.uni-heidelberg.de)
Lukas Wellner (lukas.wellner@uni-goettingen.de)

Suggestions for topics by supervisor

Inter-group contact and economic outcomes	Zain Chaudhry
Team work in factories	Zain Chaudhry
Local judicial efficiency and the environment in India (www.devdatalab.org/shrug)	Johannes Matzat
Who welcomes refugees? Individual-level analysis with large data (www.refugeeresettlementdata.com)	Johannes Matzat
Skilled migration and language barrier	Charlotte Robert
Ethnic favoritism and elections	Charlotte Robert
Media and migration	Charlotte Robert
An empirical analysis of the impact of development finance projects	Lukas Wellner
Predicting economic outcomes in Developing Countries using Machine Learning Methods	Robin Möllerherm
Terrorism in Developing Countries	Robin Möllerherm
Belt and Road Initiative and Chinese development aid	Jingke Pan
Natural resources and conflict in Africa	Jingke Pan