



**Seminar on the Economics of the European Union
Winter semester 2019/20
Master seminar**

Lecturer

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Course Design

The seminar can be credited as Module M.WIWI-VWL.0139. Students of the following degree programs can apply: VWL MA, BWL MSc, WiPäd MEd and WiInf MSc. The maximal number of participants is 14.

Objectives

The seminar is designed for Master students and deals with topics in the Economics of the European Union. By attending the seminar students will receive an overview upon developments in the field. They will learn how to identify, analyze and discuss the relevant literature. Moreover, students will practice their scientific writing and oral presentation skills.

Contents

The seminar covers several topics in European Economics. We will deal with the consequences of the Brexit, populist and protectionist tendencies in the European Union as well as European Monetary and Regional Policy. Aspects of the European Union's Trade Policy, Chinese FDI and impacts of migration and refugees to the European Union will be investigated. Moreover, recent issues covering inequality in the European Union, robots and labor market effects, environmental issues as well as aspects of gender inequality in the European Union will be examined.

Time and Location

The seminar will be held on the 31st of January and the 1st of February 2020. An introductory meeting will be held on the 20th of November 2019 at 11:45. I will inform you about the room for the respective meetings in case of acceptance via email, please make sure that you check your emails accordingly.

Application and Registration in FlexNow

The application for the seminar has to be done (only) between the 1st and 15th (until 12:00 o'clock) of November 2019. In order to apply you have to send me an email at astrid.krenz@wiwi.uni-goettingen.de mentioning the following:

1. Your name, enrollment number, field of study, semester and email-address
2. The first, second and third choice of a seminar topic
3. If you participated in a course of international trade and the respective grade
4. Other Master seminars you took part in and the respective grade (also mention if you applied for a seminar but did not receive a spot or if you failed a seminar)

Please note that I can only consider your application if all of this information is given in your email. Applications lacking this information will not be considered. If there are more applicants than

available spots, the participants will be selected according to the study regulation of 2013/03/27, §10. You will be informed by me per Email whether you have been successful and been chosen for a spot in the seminar until November 18th. The last date for registration or withdrawing from the course in FlexNow will be the 27th of November 2019. There is no prolongation possible. Note that the online application system for this course in FlexNow is only open from the 18th of November until the 27th of November 2019.

Seminar thesis

The written seminar thesis has to be submitted (in electronic form, either pdf or doc, and as two printed versions) by the 24th of January 2020 at 12:00. I will give you further information on how to write a seminar paper (and also for the oral presentations) during the introductory meeting which will be held on the 20th of November 2019. After the introductory meeting I will also arrange individual appointments with the students, where we will discuss the planned structure and focus of your written work.

Prerequisites

Although there are no prerequisites for this seminar, a good knowledge of International Trade Theory, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics and Econometrics is advised.

Requirements

The credits are given for the presentation and for the written paper on the same subject. In the presentation, the students demonstrate their ability to present complex theoretical models and empirical studies. In the paper, students demonstrate their ability to develop a sound research question based on the literature, to synthesize important findings from both theoretical models and empirical studies and to write a scientific paper that motivates the topic, presents and discusses the main arguments from the relevant theoretical and empirical literature in a concise and structured way, and conclude with a critical assessment of the state of the literature. The written paper should have max. 15 pages +/-10%. The students have to prepare for a presentation of approximately 20 minutes.

Please note that all meetings are mandatory!

Your written seminar paper will be checked for plagiarism with a special software. Please make sure that you properly control for correct citation, as a detection of plagiarism will lead to expulsion from the course.

Grading

The grade is made up by the seminar paper for 50% and by the oral presentation and seminar discussion for another 50%. Students have to pass both the written seminar paper and the presentation and seminar discussion in order to gain the credit points.

Credits

Upon successful completion of the seminar 6 credit points can be gained.

Seminar Topics

When sending your application by email, please make sure that you tell me your first, second and third choice of a seminar topic. I will allocate the topic to you as best as I can, but of course I cannot guarantee that everyone will receive his or her first choice topic. If two people are choosing the same topic, I will randomly assign the topic to either one of you. Then the second choice topics will be assigned randomly, and so on. Your assigned topic will be communicated during the introductory meeting. If some of you have a desire to change the topic, you might do so with another student in mutual agreement. Note that the mentioned literature in the following is just serving as a starting point for your own literature research.

1. The Brexit and its consequences

- Sampson, T. (2017). Brexit: The Economics of International Disintegration, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 31, 4, 163-184.

- Portes, J., Forte, G. (2017). The Economic Impact of Brexit-induced Reductions in Migration, *Oxford Review of Economic Policy*, 33 (Supplement 1): 31 - 44.

2. Populist and protectionist tendencies in the European Union

- Berman, S., Snegovaya, M. (2019). Populism and the Decline of Social Democracy. *Journal of Democracy*, 3, 5-19.
- Alabrese, E., Becker, S O, Fetzer, T., Novy, D., (2019). Who voted for Brexit? Individual and regional data combined, *European Journal of Political Economy*, 56, 132-150.

3. Inequality in the European Union

- Blanchet, T., Chancel, L., Gethin, A., (2019). How unequal is Europe? Evidence from distributional national accounts 1980-2017, WID.world Working Paper No. 2019/06.
- Beblo, M., Knaus, T. (2001). Measuring income inequality in Euroland, *Review of Income and Wealth*, 47, 3.

4. Trade Policy in the European Union

- Ferdi de Ville, F. (2019). Understanding EU trade politics after TTIP, Trump and Brexit, *Comparative European Politics*, 17, 3, 447–459.
- Felbermayr, G. J. , Syropoulos, C., Yalcin, E., Yotov, Y. (2019). On the Effects of Sanctions on Trade and Welfare: New Evidence Based on Structural Gravity and a New Database, CESifo Working Paper No. 7728.

5. Chinese FDI in the European Union

- Bickenbach, F., Liu, W H (2018). Chinese Direct Investment in Europe – Challenges for EU FDI Policy, CESifo Forum, 19, 4, 15-22.
- Meunier, S. (2014). Beggars can't be Choosers: The European Crisis and Chinese Direct Investment in the European Union, *Journal of European Integration*, 36, 3, 283-302.

6. Refugees in EU member states

- Martin, I et al. (2016). From Refugees to Workers – Mapping Labour-Market Integration Support Measures for Asylum Seekers and Refugees in EU Member States, Volume I, European University Institute and Bertelsmann Stiftung.
- Aiyar, S. et al. (2016). The Refugee Surge in Europe: Economic Challenges, IMF Staff Discussion Note, SDN 16/02.

7. Robots and labor market effects in the European Union

- Gregory, T., Salomons, A., Zierahn, U. (2016). Racing With or Against the Machine? Evidence from Europe, ZEW Discussion Paper No. 16-053.
- Chiacchio, F., Petropoulos, G., Pichler, D. (2018). The impact of industrial robots on EU employment and wages: A local labour market approach, Bruegel Working paper, Issue 02.

8. Environmental policy in the European Union

- Calel, R., Dechezlepretre, A. (2016). Environmental Policy and Directed Technological Change: Evidence from the European Carbon Market, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 98, 1, 173-191.
- Jaenicke, M. (2012). Green Growth: From a growing eco-industry to economic sustainability, *Energy Policy*, 48, 13-21.

9. Gender inequality issues in the EU

- European Commission, 2018 report on equality between women and men in the EU
- Bertrand, M., Black, S E, Jensen, S., Lleras-Muney, A. (2019). Breaking the Glass Ceiling? The Effect of Board Quotas on Female Labour Market Outcomes in Norway, *Review of Economic Studies*, 86, 1, 191–239.

10. European Monetary Policy

- Hayo, B., Hofmann, B. (2006). Comparing monetary policy reaction functions: ECB versus Bundesbank, *Empirical Economics*, 31, 3, 645-662.
- Beck, G W., Wieland, V. (2007). Money in Monetary Policy Design: A Formal Characterization of Ecb-Style Cross-Checking, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 5, 524–533.

11. Europe during the Financial Crisis

- Lenza, M., Pill, H., Reichlin, L. Monetary policy in exceptional times (2010), *Economic Policy*, 62, 295-339.
- Taylor, J. B. (2009), The Financial Crisis and the Policy Responses: An Empirical Analysis of What Went Wrong, NBER Working paper 14631.

12. Europe during the Sovereign Debt Crisis

- Ane, P. The European Sovereign Debt Crisis (2012), *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 26, 3, 49-67
- Bluwstein, K., Canova, F. (2016). Beggar-thy-neighbor? The international effects of ECB unconventional monetary policy measures, *International Journal of Central Banking*, 69-120.

13. European Regional Policy

- Becker, S O., Egger, P H., von Ehrlich, M. (2018). Effects of EU Regional Policy: 1989-2013, *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 69, 143-152.
- Rodriguez-Pose, A.; Fratesi, U. (2004). Between development and social policies: The impact of European Structural Funds in Objective 1 regions, *Regional Studies*, 38, 1, 97-113

14. Innovation and R&D activities in the European Union

- Riccardo, C.; Rodriguez-Pose, A.; Storper, M. (2007). The territorial dynamics of innovation: a Europe-United States comparative analysis, *Journal of Economic Geography*, 7, 6, 673-709.
- Heidenreich, M. (2009). Innovation patterns and location of European low-and medium-technology industries, *Research Policy*, 38, 3, 483-494.