

**Seminar on the Economics of the European Union**  
**Winter semester 2016/17**  
**Master seminar**

**Lecturer**

Dr. Astrid Krenz

**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 practise their scientific writing and oral presentation skills.

**Contents**

The seminar covers several topics in European Economics. We will deal with the history and institutions of the European Union, growth aspects, European Monetary and Regional Policy, as well as Trade, Science and Technology, Competition and Agricultural Policy. Moreover, the European Labor Market and Environmental Issues will be investigated. Recent issues covering the European Union and its standing in International Relations, the challenges of European Enlargement, the demands during the Financial Crisis as well as recent developments due to the Migration towards the European Union will be examined.

**Time and Location**

The seminar will be held on the 15th and 16th of December 2016. An introductory meeting will be held on the 24th of October 2016 at 10:00. 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 between the 1st and 14th (until 12:00 o'clock) of October 2016. In order to apply you have to send me an email at [astrid.krenz@wiwi.uni-goettingen.de](mailto: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 October 17th. The last date for registration or withdrawing from the course in FlexNow will be the 28th of October 2016. There is no prolongation possible. Note that the online application system for this course in FlexNow is only open from the 17th of October until the 28th of October 2016.

**Seminar thesis**

The written seminar thesis has to be submitted (in electronic form, either pdf or doc, and as two printed versions) by the 9th of December 2016 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 24th of October 2016. 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. Growth aspects in Europe**

- Acemoglu, D.; Johnson, S.; Robinson, J. The rise of Europe: Atlantic trade, institutional change, and economic growth (2005), *American Economic Review*, 95, 3, pages 546-579.
- Tabellini, G. Culture and institutions: economic development in the regions of Europe, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 8, 4, pages 677-716.
- Aghion, P.; Howitt, P. Joseph Schumpeter Lecture - Appropriate growth policy: A unifying framework (2006), *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 4, 2-3, pages 269-314.

#### **2. The European Labor Market**

- Nickell, S. Unemployment and labor market rigidities: Europe versus North America (1997), *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 11, 3, pages 55-74.
- Blanchard, O.; Bean, C.; Munchau, W. European unemployment: the evolution of facts and ideas (2006), *Economic Policy*, 45, pages 5-59.

#### **3. European Monetary Policy**

- Gali, J.; Perotti, R. Fiscal policy and monetary integration in Europe (2003), *Economic Policy*, 37, pages 533-572.

- Hall, P.; Franzese, R. Mixed signals: Central bank independence, coordinated wage bargaining, and European Monetary Union (1998), *International Organization*, 52, 3, pages 505.
- Taylor, J. The robustness and efficiency of monetary policy rules as guidelines for interest rate setting by the European central banks (1999), *Journal of Monetary Economics*, 43, 3, pages 655-679.
- Dolado, J.; Maria-Dolores, R.; Naveira, M. Are monetary-policy reaction functions asymmetric?: The role of nonlinearity in the Phillips curve (2005), *European Economic Review*, 49, 2, pages 485-503.

#### **4. European Regional Policy**

- Puga, D. European regional policies in light of recent location theories (2002), *Journal of Economic Geography*, 2, 4, pages 373-406.
- Sala-i-Martin, X. Regional cohesion: Evidence and theories of regional growth and convergence (1996), *European Economic Review*, 40, 6, pages 1325-1352.
- Rodriguez-Pose, A.; Fratesi, U. Between development and social policies: The impact of European Structural Funds in Objective 1 regions (2004), *Regional Studies*, 38, 1, pages 97-113.

#### **5. Trade Policy of the European Union**

- Meunier, S.; Kalypso, N. The European Union as a conflicted trade power (2006), *Journal of European Public Policy*, 13, 6, pages 906-925.
- Fernandez, R., Portes, J. Returns to regionalism: An analysis of nontraditional gains from regional trade agreements (1998), *World Bank Economic Review*, 12, 2, pages 197-220.

#### **6. Science and Technology in Europe**

- Rodriguez-Pose, A.; Riccardo, C. Research and development, spillovers, innovation systems, and the genesis of regional growth in Europe (2008), *Regional Studies*, 42, 1, pages 51-67.
- Riccardo, C.; Rodriguez-Pose, A.; Storper, M. The territorial dynamics of innovation: a Europe-United States comparative analysis (2007), *Journal of Economic Geography*, 7, 6, pages 673-709.
- Heidenreich, M. Innovation patterns and location of European low- and medium-technology industries (2009), *Research Policy*, 38, 3, pages 483-494.

#### **7. Competition Policy of the European Union**

- Nicoletti, G.; Scarpetta, S.; Lane, P. Regulation, productivity and growth - OECD evidence (2003), *Economic Policy*, 36, pages 9-72.
- Tarullo, D. Norms and institutions in global competition policy (2000), *American Journal of International Law*, 94, 3, pages 478.
- Ivaldi, M.; Verboven, F. Quantifying the effects from horizontal mergers in European competition policy (2005), *International Journal of Industrial Organization*, 23, 9-10, pages 669-691.

#### **8. Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union**

- Potter, C.; Burney, J. Agricultural multifunctionality in the WTO - legitimate non-trade concern or disguised protectionism? (2002), *Journal of Rural Studies*, 18, 1, pages 35-47.
- Olesen, J.; Bindi, M. Consequences of climate change for European agricultural productivity, land use and policy (2002), *European Journal of Agronomy*, 16, 4, pages 239-262.

#### **9. Environmental Issues in the European Union**

- Costantini, V.; Mazzanti, M. On the green and innovative side of trade competitiveness? The impact of environmental policies and innovation on EU exports (2012), *Research Policy*, 41, 1, pages 132-153.
- Rehfeld, K.; Rennings, K.; Ziegler, A. Integrated product policy and environmental product innovations: An empirical analysis (2007), *Ecological Economics*, 61, 1, pages 91-100.

## **10. The European Union in International Relations**

- Schimmelfennig, F. International socialization in the New Europe: Rational action in an institutional environment (2000), *European Journal of International Relations*, 6, 1, pages 109-139.
- Princen, S. Agenda-setting in the European Union: a theoretical exploration and agenda for research(2007), *Journal of European Public Policy*, 14, 1, pages 21-38.

## **11. Challenges of European Enlargement**

- Schimmelfennig, F, Sedelmeier, U. Governance by conditionality: EU rule transfer to the candidate countries of Central and Eastern Europe (2004), *Journal of European Public Policy*, 11, 4, pages 661-679.
- Favell, A. The new face of East-West migration in Europe (2008), *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 34, 5, pages 701-716.
- Sjursen, H. Why expand? The question of legitimacy and justification in the EU's enlargement policy (2002), *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 40, 3, pages 491-513.

## **12. Europe during the Financial and Sovereign Debt Crisis**

- Ane, P. The European Sovereign Debt Crisis (2012), *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 26, 3, pages 49-67.
- Popov, A, Udell, G. Cross-border banking, credit access, and the financial crisis (2012), *Journal of International Economics*, 87, 1, pages 147-161.
- Lenza, M., Pill, H., Reichlin, L. Monetary policy in exceptional times (2010), *Economic Policy*, 62, pages 295-339.

## **13. The Challenges of Migration to the European Union**

- Neumayer, E. Bogus refugees? The determinants of asylum migration to Western Europe (2005), *International Studies Quarterly*, 49, 3, pages 389-409.
- Huysmans, J. The European Union and the securitization of migration (2000), *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 38, 5, pages 751-777.
- Guiraudon, V. European integration and migration policy: Vertical policy-making as venue shopping (2000), *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 38, 2, pages 251-271.
- Razin, A, Sadka, E, Swagel, P. Tax burden and migration: a political economy theory and evidence (2002), *Journal of Public Economics*, 85, 2, pages 167-190.

## **14. The Brexit and its consequences**

- Boulanger, P.; Philippidis, G. The End of a Romance? A Note on the Quantitative Impacts of a 'Brexit' from the EU (2015), *Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 66, 3, pages 832-842.
- Olivier, T.; Williams, M. Special relationships in flux: Brexit and the future of the US-EU and US-UK relationships (2016), *International Affairs*, 92, 3, pages 547.