

Current Topics in Empirical Research in Economics

Summer term 2025

Overview

This course offers an in-depth exploration of key topics in empirical research within economics. Students will develop a foundation in data analysis techniques using Stata, with an emphasis on both theoretical concepts and practical econometric models commonly applied in economic research. The course covers key empirical analysis techniques, including cross-sectional linear regression, instrumental variable models, and panel data analysis. Throughout the course, students will engage with a variety of empirical research topics, including economic models related to the marriage market, the scarring effects of unemployment, and the economics of well-being. The course also delves into critical health economics issues, such as the determinants of healthcare demand and the financing of health systems. Special attention is devoted to analyzing the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Interactive student presentations will encourage peer learning and promote deeper engagement with the course material.

Content

1. Introduction to data analysis using Stata/ Different types of (panel) data.
2. Analysis “beyond the mean” and instrumental variable models.
3. Theoretical aspects and economic models of the marriage market
4. Theoretical aspects and econometric models of unemployment scarring effects
5. Demand for Health and Health Care – Determinants, (Health) Policy Considerations
6. Economic Development and Health care systems – financing and equity
7. Theoretical aspects and econometric models of (subjective) well-being outcomes
8. The Economics of the COVID-19 pandemic

Prerequisites: Solid knowledge of microeconometrics and regression analysis is required.

Registration

Please send an email to Prof. Daniel Kühnle daniel.kuehnle@uni-due.de to register.

Dates

Lectures take place on Thursdays, 8.15 – 9.45 (room tba). The introductory event takes place on 17.4.2025.

Degree program eligibility

Students from the following master degree programs can enroll in the seminar: Gesundheitsökonomik, Märkte und Unternehmen, and Volkswirtschaftslehre.

Grading and ECTS

Course grades will be based on a term paper (max. 15 pages, 70% of grade) and a presentation (30 minutes, 30% of grade). Topics, content and submission date for the term paper and presentation will be announced during the module. 6 ECTS points are granted for this course, meaning you have to invest approximately 180 hours of workload into this course. A substantial part is for your individual reading of the required literature and for thoroughly preparing your term paper.