



Fachbereich VWL / Department of Economics

EconNewsletter

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OCTOBER 24 – OCTOBER 28, 2016

NEWSLETTER 2016-19

SEMINAR CALENDAR

Research Seminar “Labour Economics”

Matias Cortes, University of Manchester:
*The End of Men? Gender Differences in the High-Skill Labor
Market since 1980*

Monday October 24
16:30-18:00
R. 0029 (VMP 5)

Forschungsseminar “Quantitative Wirtschaftsforschung“

Junior Maih, Norges Bank:
Oil and Macroeconomic (In)stability

Tuesday October 25
12:15–13:45
R. 0029 (VMP 5)

Hamburg Lectures on Law & Economics

Prof. Stefan Oeter, Universität Hamburg:
*Laws of Counter - Terrorism in a Perspective of
Economic Analysis*

Wednesday October 26
18:15–19:45
R. 1083a (VMP 5)

PhD Seminar

Phoebe Wasfy, University of Hamburg:
*The impact of fiscal policy on inequality: evidence from the
MENA region*

Thursday October 27
12:15–13:15
R. 0029 (VMP 5)

Research Seminar “Microeconomics”

Stefan Napel, Universität Bayreuth:
*Borda vs. Condorcet vs. Plurality: The Power, Success and Size
of Voter Groups*

Thursday October 27
17:00–19:00
R. 0029 (VMP 5)

HCHE Research Seminar

- no seminar -

ABSTRACTS

Research Seminar “Labour Economics”

Matias Cortes, University of Manchester:

The End of Men? Gender Differences in the High-Skill Labor Market since 1980

Abstract:

We document a new finding regarding the deterioration of labor market outcomes for men in the US: Since 1980, the probability that a college-educated man was employed in a cognitive/high-wage occupation fell. This contrasts starkly with the experience of college-educated women: their probability of working in these types of jobs rose, despite a much larger increase in the supply of educated women relative to men during this period. We study a flexible neoclassical model of the labor market that allows us to shed light on the key forces capable of rationalizing these findings. The model indicates that one key channel is a greater increase in the demand for female-oriented skills in cognitive/high-wage occupations relative to other occupations. Using occupational task-level data, we find evidence that this relative increase in the demand for female skills is due to an increasing importance of social skills within such occupations. We find a strong and robust relationship between the change in the female share of employment and the importance of social skills in an occupation over time.

Forschungsseminar “Quantitative Wirtschaftsforschung“

Junior Maih, Norges Bank:

Oil and Macroeconomic (In)stability

Abstract:

We analyze the role of oil price volatility in reducing U.S. macroeconomic instability. Using a Markov Switching Rational Expectation New-Keynesian model we revisit the timing of the Great Moderation and the sources of changes in the volatility of macroeconomic variables. We find that smaller or fewer oil price shocks did not play a major role in explaining the Great Moderation. Instead oil price shocks are recurrent sources of economic fluctuations. The most important factor reducing overall variability is a decline in the volatility of structural macroeconomic shocks. A change to a more responsive (hawkish) monetary policy regime also played a role.

PhD Seminar

Phoebe Wasfy, University of Hamburg:

The impact of fiscal policy on inequality: evidence from the MENA region

Abstract:

In this paper, we investigate the impact of the adopted fiscal policy on income inequality in the MENA region. Using a panel dataset of 127 countries during the period 1990-2011, the obtained results suggest that region's taxation system and composition of expenditures don't exhibit a significant effect in lowering income inequality while non-tax revenues exacerbate it. In contrast, the world sample gives additional evidence that direct taxation and distributive expenditure can reduce income inequality. It also shows that non-tax revenues can improve income distribution conditioning upon the sources of such revenues (i.e. social contribution, fees or resource rent) and the presence of transparency systems and monitoring institutions for tracking state spending.

Research Seminar "Microeconomics"

Stefan Napel, Universität Bayreuth:

Borda vs. Condorcet vs. Plurality: The Power, Success and Size of Voter Groups

Abstract:

The talk considers collective decisions between more than two options by a fixed number of shareholders or homogenous voter groups. The respective voting weights or sizes of the groups differ. Collective outcomes are then known to be highly sensitive to the adopted collective choice rule. We seek to clarify the extent to which adoption of a particular rule can be said to benefit a given group ex ante, assuming that voting weights and the number of alternatives are known while the specific alternatives and hence individual preference rankings are still open. This task is complicated by big differences in the numbers of structurally distinct weight configurations across decision rules. The corresponding equivalence classes are identified and compared for the first time.

ACTIVITIES OF DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

Miscellaneous

- Wir begrüßen Frau Phoebe Wasfy, die am 04.10.2016 eine Stelle als wissenschaftliche Mitarbeiterin mit dem Ziel der Promotion angetreten hat (Professor Posch, Methoden der VWL, Raum 2052, VMP 5).

New Publications

- Perino, G., and Willner, M. (2016): *Procrastinating reform: The impact of the market stability reserve on the EU ETS*, in: Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, DOI: 10.1016/j.jeem.2016.09.006.
- Langer, V. C. (2016): *News shocks, nonseparable preferences, and optimal monetary policy*, in: Journal of Macroeconomics, 49, 237-246.

The next EconNewsletter will be published on Monday, October 31, 2016.

*Editorial deadline: **Friday, November 4, 2016.***

EconNewsletter

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