

## **Bachelor's seminar "Empirical economic research"**

(Module number BA-WW-ERG-3802, D-WW-ERG-3802, BA-WW-BS)

Summer term 2025

### **Brief description**

In the summer term of 2025, the seminar "Empirical Economic Research" will focus on the topic of "Gender Differences in the Labor Market." The existing gender-specific differences in the labor market are a relevant and politically much-discussed topic. The aim of the seminar is, on the one hand, to examine the possible reasons and mechanisms for the existing gender differences in the labor market. On the other hand, students will be given a basic understanding of common quantitative methods for investigating possible causes of gender inequalities in the labor market (e.g., multiple linear regression, Oaxaca-Blinder decomposition, randomized studies, difference-in-differences approach, instrumental variable estimation).

As part of the seminar papers, the students deal with the economic literature on one of the following topics in the field of education:

- 1) Gender-specific educational and career decisions
- 2) Role of personality traits
- 3) Role of children/starting a family
- 4) Effects of family policy measures
- 5) Role of employer characteristics
- 6) Effects of statutory quotas for women
- 7) Influence of social norms and stereotypes

Two key research papers from renowned journals are given for each sub-aspect (see list of topics on OPAL). Depending on the number of participating students, these papers are worked on in groups of up to two people. Each group or individual will write a seminar paper on one of the proposed papers and present it in the seminar. The aim of both performances is to critically examine the selected paper and to understand the intuition of the method used (see below). An independent empirical analysis is not planned. The seminar is a good preparation for your own empirical thesis.

### **Dates**

Kick-off including assignment of topics: 16.04.2025, 9:20-10:50 a.m., Room SCH-A-104

Seminar lectures: 18.06.2025, 9:20-10:50 a.m., Room SCH-A-104

Submission of the seminar papers: by 04.06.2025, 23:59 at the latest, by e-mail to the lecturer. Also, as an identical print version in the chair's mailbox on the next working day.

### **Crediting**

Compulsory elective module in economics and business education (Bachelor) and in the main course of studies in business informatics and industrial engineering (Diplom).

**Prerequisites**

Knowledge and skills as taught in the modules Statistics, Introduction to Economics and Econometrics - Fundamentals. In addition, English language skills at level B2 are required.

**Registration and assignment of topics**

Registration is possible until April 15, 2025, by e-mail to [andreas.leibing@tu-dresden.de](mailto:andreas.leibing@tu-dresden.de). When registering, please state your name, matriculation number, degree program, and three topics of your choice (in order of preference). The topics will be allocated in the order of registration (first come, first served). Depending on the number of participants, the topics will be worked on individually or in groups of up to two people. If desired, please register together with your group partner (one e-mail per group). The final allocation of topics will be announced at the introductory event.

You can also take part in the seminar if you have not the introductory event. Please ask by e-mail if there are still topics available. All participants must register for the seminar in HISQIS within the applicable registration period. The number of participants is limited to 16 students.

**Lecturer**

Dr. Andreas Leibing; consultation hours by appointment ([andreas.leibing@tu-dresden.de](mailto:andreas.leibing@tu-dresden.de))

**Resources**

The detailed list of topics, including the research papers available for selection, as well as information on the preparation of seminar papers (guidelines for scientific work) can be found on the respective seminar page in OPAL.

**Services to be provided**

(a) Presentation (pass/fail, in English)

The main aim of the seminar presentation is to present the content and methodology of the selected research paper and the planned seminar paper in a way that is understandable for fellow students. Each group is allotted 30 minutes (20 minutes presentation and 10 minutes discussion).

(b) Seminar paper (graded, in English)

The starting point of the seminar paper is the selected research paper. The main focus is on two aspects: i) a comprehensible reproduction of the paper in your own words (especially the empirical method and the data basis used) and ii) the critical classification of the original paper in broader literature and the previous empirical evidence on the topic. A mere summary of the original article is not sufficient. The maximum length of the individual seminar paper is 15 pages. For group work, 20 pages (Times New Roman, 12pt, 1.5 lines).