

## **Empirical Labor Economics**

(Winter Term 2025/26)

### **Outline**

This lecture discusses selected topics in empirical labor economics, such as rising wage inequality and the college wage premium, covering both the underlying supply side (e.g., human capital investments) and the demand side factors (e.g., skill-biased technical change). We will discuss empirical research papers that tackle related topics and focus on their state-of-the-art identification strategies. Students are encouraged to review a list of selected readings on their own before relevant sessions and actively participate in the discussion. The student also gives a refresher on the underlying methods, focusing on their interpretation.

By the end of the course, students will:

- Have an overview of some of the frontier literature in empirical labor economics.
- Be able to critically read and evaluate papers in empirical labor economics.
- Be familiar with the central assumptions and challenges of the applied methods
- Be able to propose appropriate empirical designs for their own research questions.

The course provides a strong foundation for an empirical Master's thesis in a topic related to applied microeconomics at the chair.

### **Instructor**

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

### **Modules**

WW-D-205-ELEC | WW-MA-205-ELEC | WW-MA-PIE-ELEC

### **Schedule:**

- Lecture: Wednesdays, 2:50 – 4:20 pm (5th DS). Room tba
- Exam: The exam will take place during the regular exam period. The exact date and location will be communicated as soon as possible.

### **Requirements**

Basic knowledge of causal inference methods, as taught, e.g., in the module “Empirical Economics,” is highly recommended. This course complements the “Advanced Topics in Applied Econometrics” module, which students can take separately. The course language is English.

### **Resources**

The lecture slides, a detailed reading list, and additional resources will be provided via OPAL. For access, please log in to OPAL via your TU Dresden account and register for this course.

### **Assessment**

Written exam (90 minutes, in English) in the regular exam period.