



July 16, 2024

Profile Seminar “Topics in International Economics” (Bachelor) in the Winter term 2023/24: Empirical Trade Data Analysis

Objectives

This seminar provides an introduction to the empirical analysis of international trade data with a strong emphasis on hands-on training. Building on the theoretical concepts developed in the module “International Trade”, students will explore key empirical methodologies used in international trade, including (i) data collection, (ii) data processing, (iii) descriptive and simple regression analysis, as well as (iv) visualization and interpretation of results.

Topics covered will include the analysis of trade flows and trade policies. Participants will learn how to use statistical software (Stata and/or R), assisted by generative AI, to analyze real-world trade data. The seminar aims to bridge theoretical knowledge and practical skills in data analysis, fostering a deeper understanding of global trade dynamics.

Students gain experience in conducting their own empirical research projects in the area of international trade. Empirical skills in the analysis of trade data are important to inform decision makers in internationally operating companies or industry associations, as well as policy makers at national and supranational levels.

Previous knowledge of Stata and/or R is an asset, but not required.

Software

The econometric software Stata is available under a campus license. You can download the software from the ILIAS course “STATA Campus”:

https://ilias.uni-hohenheim.de/goto.php?target=crs_1140142&client_id=UHOH).

For information about R and RStudio, a popular coding environment for R, see <https://www.r-project.org/> and <https://posit.co/downloads/>.

Curriculum/Requirements - B.Sc. Program

This seminar is eligible as a seminar module in the major (*Profilfach*) “*International Business and Economics*” and in the majors (*Profilbereiche*) “*Competition, Market Failure, and the Government*” (*Wettbewerb, Marktversagen und Staat*); and “*Empirical Economic Research (Empirische Wirtschaftsforschung)*”.

Students are expected to have prior knowledge about international trade issues at the level of the course *International Trade* (Aufbaumodul *International Business and Economics*).

Credits: 6 LP (‘Leistungspunkte’)

Language: English

Assessment

To receive the credits, the following requirements have to be fulfilled: (i) presence in the seminar meetings, (ii) a one-page written proposal and a handout, (iii) a presentation, and (iv) a seminar paper. The final grade in the seminar will be based on the proposal, the presentation and participation in the seminar meeting, and the seminar paper. Students should demonstrate their ability to conduct an empirical project and to interpret the results in a theory-informed way in their own words.

Timing

There will be two kick-off sessions in which we will introduce you to the topic, the data, and the program code: **October 18, 2024 from 10am to 2pm**, and **October 25, 2024 from 10am to 2pm**. If available, please bring your own device (with Stata and/or R already installed; see above). There will be a proposal session where students present their research questions and their agenda on **November 22, 2024 from 10 am to 2pm**. Presentations of final papers will take place on **January 17, 2025 from 10am to 2pm**. Attendance to all of these meetings is mandatory. Moreover, we offer voluntary tutorial sessions on (i) November 8, 2024 and (ii) December 6, 2024 (10 am to noon). All sessions will take place in room S04 (<https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/s-04>).

Registration and admission

Registration for the seminar involves two steps: (i) Join the following course on ILIAS: https://ilias.uni-hohenheim.de/goto.php?target=crs_1614349&client_id=UHOH. (ii) Enter the group “Registration”. You are automatically admitted to the seminar. If you are for some reason no longer interested in the seminar but have already registered, please leave the group “Registration”.

The number of participants is restricted. If the seminar is full, you end up on a waiting list. You are automatically admitted if someone leaves the seminar. Registration deadline is **October 14, 2024, 11 am**.