UNIVERSITY OF HOHENHEIM

200 YEARS 1818–2018

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Seminar "Topics in International Economics" (Bachelor) in the winter term 2018/19

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*) International Business and Economics; 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

Objectives

The aim of this seminar is to gain a deeper understanding of important economic channels related to globalization. We revisit theoretical channels and discuss their empirical relevance. We do so by studying academic research papers.

Students learn how to work with academic research papers published by leading scholars in the field of International Trade. They gain experience in writing up scientific papers and in presenting their papers to a critical audience. Students acquire tools required to complete a Bachelor thesis under our supervision.

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 (10%), the presentation and participation in the seminar meeting (30%), and the seminar paper (60%). Students should demonstrate their ability to explain the topics in their own words and their understanding of the economics of the arguments.

Timing

There will be a kick-off meeting on **October 18, 2018**, at 10am. Proposal sessions will take place on **November 16, 2018** (2pm-5pm). Presentations will take place in blocked form on **January 18, 2018** (2pm-6pm). Seminar papers and presentation slides will be due one week in advance. Attendance in these meetings is mandatory.

Registration

In order to register for the seminar, please join the course in ILIAS by clicking on the following link: https://ilias.uni-hohenheim.de/goto.php?target=crs_422988&client_id=UHOH.
Registration deadline is **October 12, 2018, 11am.** If demand exceeds capacity, we come back to you and give preference to more advanced students. If necessary, we will draw lots.

You will be informed about acceptance by means of an email after the registration deadline. *Please make sure that you regularly check the email address associated to your ILIAS account.*

Tentative list of topics

[1] Market power and trade policy

Main reference: Broda, C., N. Limao, and D.E. Weinstein (2008). Optimal Tariffs and Market Power: The Evidence. American Economic Review 98(5): 2032-65.

[2] Are domestic institutions a source of comparative advantage?

Main reference: Nunn, N. (2007). Relationship-Specificy, Incomplete Contracts, and the Pattern of Trade. Quarterly Journal of Economics 122(2): 569-600.

[3] Do distributional consequences of trade drive individuals' attitudes towards trade?

Main reference: Jäkel, I. and M. Smolka (2012). Individual attitudes towards trade: Stolper-Samuelson revisited. Open Economies Review 24(4): 731-61.

[4] How does trade liberalization affect firm-level productivity?

Pavcnik, N. (2002): Trade Liberalization, Exit, and Productivity Improvements: Evidence from Chilean Plants. Review of Economic Studies 69: 245-276.

[5] What are the short-run costs and long-run gains of trade liberalization?

Main reference: Trefler, D. (2004): The Long and Short of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement. American Economic Review 94(4): 870-95.