

Workshop

“Paper Presentation and Discussion”

Organizational details

Instructor: *Jun.-Prof. Dr. Peter Limbach (University of Cologne and Centre for Financial Research)*
Date: 8th & 9th June 2017, 10.30h-17.30h (+ after-class meetings) and 9h-16h, respectively
Location: Licher Str. 68, HS 020, 35394 Gießen
ECTS: 6

Objectives

- Improve presentation techniques (e.g., the structure of a presentation, framing, slide design and English language, body language, answering questions the right way)
- Learn how to discuss a paper (e.g., the structure of a discussion, which aspects of a paper should be emphasized/criticized, how to assess data sets and their empirical results)
- Comprehend why presenting and discussing papers is important and what you should and should not do
- Further improve your economic and econometric understanding and reasoning, your skills of assessing empirical studies, and thereby also learn more about the importance of alternative explanations, counterfactuals and “p-hacking”
- Understand how successful scholars write their papers and present their results
- Recognize that more or less every paper can be criticized and what that means for your own paper write-up and selection of topics to work on

Content

- 1.) The seminar starts with an introduction to important aspects of presentations and paper discussions including an overview of presentation and discussion techniques, the reasons why PhDs/postdocs should present and discuss academic work, and a short summary of the instructor’s personal experience.
- 2.) On each of the two seminar days, three papers will be presented and discussed by seminar participants. While each paper will be presented by one single PhD, the paper discussions are group work (allowing for insightful and productive group discussion about the relevant papers before the seminar). The instructor will provide dynamic feedback to each presenter and (group of) discussant(s) either during the presentation or after that. In this regard, the instructor’s feedback will address both presentation techniques as well as the content of the presentations and discussions. In addition, all seminar participants are encouraged to provide their own feedback on their colleagues’ presentations and discussions.
- 3.) The instructor will present his own discussions of each of the relevant papers (as a blueprint) and elaborate on important economic and econometric aspects of each paper. These

presentations serve to highlight i) discussion techniques, ii) economic reasoning and theory, iii) how to (and not to) apply econometric techniques, understand data sets and their results.

- 4.) As an in-class exercise, a working paper which is not on the reading list will be discussed by the seminar participants (if time is left).
- 5.) After the regular program of day 1, the instructor provides the chance for 1-on-1 meetings with PhDs who want to discuss specific topics of the seminar or their own working papers.

Methods

See also Content.

Use presentation methods (i.e., slides on the one hand, language on the other hand), discuss with the audience, use econometric methods and sound economic reasoning to analyze and criticize academic papers, develop and justify alternative explanations and explain counterfactuals

To gain the ECTS credit points participants have to:

- Participate in the seminar
- Read the relevant papers they have to present and/or discuss and prepare the respective presentations (which must not take longer than ca. 20-22min) and/or discussions (ca. 10min)
- Understand the econometric methods applied in the discussed papers
- Present their work, i.e., present or discuss the assigned academic papers during the seminar
- Students either have to present one paper and discuss another or they have to discuss two papers (papers and tasks will be assigned to seminar participants asap)

Target group

The workshop primarily targets doctoral candidates (but, in general, postdocs can participate)

Prerequisites:

The papers relate to finance, governance, and accounting – while participants should be familiar with the basic methods applied in these research areas (e.g., OLS, panel data, event studies, and basic aspects of endogeneity and identification), in-depth knowledge is not required; participants do not have to possess expert knowledge of the underlying literature

Course language

Papers and discussions should be presented in English (on a voluntary basis), the rest can be done in German

Registration

By 18th May via e-mail at info@ggs.uni-giessen.de.