Bachelor Thesis Seminar WS 2022/2023 by Profs. R. Luetticke and G. Müller on

# New Macroeconomic Realities (E332)

**Participation**

The seminar is open only to students who have been admitted to the seminar by the Studiendekan. Please register for this course on Ilias by October 10, 2022, or earlier.

**General orientation and background reading**

Students work on one of the specific papers listed below. These papers will be assigned during the introductory session. There will be one paper per student. While students are encouraged to interact, they will be held responsible for their own thesis only. Your thesis should demonstrate that you

* have full understanding of what is going on in the paper (by explaining it clearly and efficiently)
* can place the issue in a broader (policy) context.

Note: a good thesis starts with a well-defined research/policy question. It may also present some small modification to the treatment that you find in the original articles. This is, however, not necessary to obtain an excellent grade.

**Mandatory tutorial: How to write a Bachelor thesis (Instructor: Susanne Wellmann)**

This tutorial will take place as a blocked course at the beginning of the semester (04.11. /05.11. 9am ct – 16 pm, PC lab Nauklerstr. 47). The aim of this tutorial is to provide you with some useful tools and information how to work on and write your Bachelor thesis as well as how to set up a good presentation. We will discuss

* how to find literature or other papers that are related to your paper or research question
* how to find and work with databases that may help you answering your research question
* how to set up a Bachelor thesis properly; what belongs to the introduction, what belongs to the main body of the thesis? How should you structure the different aspects you want to discuss in your thesis?
* a short introduction to LaTeX (scientific text editor)
* how to set up a good presentation

*Participation in the tutorial is mandatory* for students who were admitted to the seminar by the Studiendekan. However, the tutorial will neither earn you additional ECTS nor will it be graded by any kind of examination. It simply serves as a preparation for successfully writing a Bachelor thesis.

As part of the tutorial, during the semester, you may also attend office hours of Susanne Wellmann to discuss possible issues that arise with respect to the topics that we dealt with in the tutorial but also with respect to the progress of your thesis. This is an individual coaching offer which we strongly recommend to you.

**Time Schedule**

**Introductory session (October 21, 2022, 12ct in Seminarraum 207, Nauklerstraße 50):**

In this session, we allocate the papers and discuss organizational details. Allocation of topics well be based on students’ preferences.Two to four weeks after the introductory session, you will have to submit a preliminary outline of your thesis.

**Presentation sessions (Mid-January)**

Your presentations will be based on a first and preliminary draft of your thesis. You will have to turn in both, the presentation and the preliminary draft of your thesis before the presentation sessions. During and after the presentation sessions, you will receive feedback. You will subsequently be given further time to take this feedback into account when finalizing your thesis.

Notes regarding the presentation

Duration of presentation is 30 minutes, including time for clarification questions

Style: you may use PowerPoint or PDF format (LaTeX)

Note: your presentation should not be longer than 20 slides, it may well be shorter

Time for discussion of results: 10 minutes

Submit your slides in PDF format by January 12, 2022, 11 pm via email to your supervisor (also include your preliminary draft).

The presentation is not graded, but depending on its quality you may receive valuable feedback.

**Deadline for the final version: Monday, January 31, 2023,** **10 pm** via email to your supervisor.

This adds up to a total of 14 weeks to work on your thesis, which is explained as follows. The thesis earns you **12 ECTS**, which is 2/5 of a semester workload (30 ECTS). Our regulation requires that you are given 10 weeks to work on your thesis. The additional time reflects the fact that you will have to do another 3/5 of the semester workload in other courses at the same time.

**Style of thesis**

* Length of the thesis must not exceed 20 pages (excluding references and appendix)
* Font: 12-point serif font (e.g. Times New Roman), 1.5 spacing
* Language: English
* Title page must include your name, student ID (Matrikelnummer) and your email.
* Citation: please apply consistent rules and be sure to cite all sources that you use.
* Figures: Key figures should be placed in the main part of the paper; supplementary figures may be placed in the appendix.
* Your introduction should state as well as motivate the research question that you pursue in your thesis.
* Be explicit on what is your own view compared to the view of the paper you are discussing.
* The conclusion section should offer a brief summary of what you have done and the results you have obtained; it should not bring new subjects.

**Topics (Preliminary; new papers will be added)**

* Jonathon Hazell, Juan Herreño, Emi Nakamura, Jón Steinsson (2022), The Slope of the Phillips Curve: Evidence from U.S. States, The Quarterly Journal of Economics, <https://doi.org/10.1093/qje/qjac010>
* Bianchi, Javier, Pablo Ottonello and Ignacio Presno (2021), Fiscal Stimulus under Sovereign Risk, NBER working paper 26307, <https://www.nber.org/papers/w26307>
* Coibion, Olivier, Yuriy Gorodnichenko and Michael Weber (2022), Monetary Policy Communications and the Their Effects in Household Inflation Expectations, *Journal of Political Economy*, <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/full/10.1086/718982>
* D’Acunto Francesco, Malmendier Ulrike, Ospina Juan and Michael Weber (2021), Exposure to Grocery Prices and Inflation Expectations, *Journal of Political Economy*, <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/full/10.1086/713192>
* Andre, Peter, Haaland, Ingar, Roth, Christopher and Johannes Wohlfahrt (2022), Narratives about the Macroeconomy, *working paper,* <https://econtribute.de/RePEc/ajk/ajkdps/ECONtribute_127_2021.pdf>