



B500 Seminar Advanced Topics on Finance

Summer term 2025

Modern financial challenges and developments

Organization

The seminar is directed to master students who are interested in writing their thesis in the research area of Finance. It is particularly suited for students who participated in at least one course in the field of Finance and/or Financial Econometrics. Still, this is not a formal prerequisite.

Students have to register by sending an email with a one-page CV and current grade transcript to fin-education@wiwi.uni-tuebingen.de until **April 9 (end of day)**.

The kick-off event takes place on Wednesday, **April 16 at 10 AM (Room U006, Nauklerstraße 47)**. The attendance of all participants at the kick-off event is compulsory. At the kick-off, the topics will be shortly introduced and assigned to groups of 2 or 3 students (depending on the total number of participants), who will collaborate on the respective topic.

The final papers have to be submitted via ILIAS by Wednesday, **June 11 (end of day)**. The presentations will take place on Tuesday, **June 17**. The slides and research highlights have to be submitted on Monday, **June 16**. Each group member is expected to present a portion of the joint work. Each group has a net presentation time of 30 minutes. Great importance is attached to an interactive discussion between all participants and presenters to treat the topics from different perspectives and respond to questions intensely. Therefore, the total time available per group is about 90 minutes.

Topics:

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Explore the applications of AI in the financial sector, considering its transformative potential, associated challenges, and opportunities for innovation.

2. Cryptocurrency

Analyze the role of cryptocurrencies compared to traditional assets and commodities, highlighting key differences, commonalities, and future prospects.

3. Decentralized finance

Evaluate the role of decentralized finance in reshaping traditional financial systems, focusing on use cases, benefits, and inherent risks.

4. Financial Inclusion

Examine how innovations such as neo-brokers are driving financial inclusion, and assess the implications for the finance industry, including challenges and transformative potential.

5. Illiquid alternative investments

Explore the role of illiquid alternative investments in asset management. Focus areas can be real estate / infrastructure, private equity or private debt.

6. Liquid alternative investments

Explore the role of liquid alternative investments in asset management. Focus areas can be hedge funds.

7. Sustainable finance

Investigate the integration of sustainability principles into financial practices and their impact on investment strategies and corporate policies.

If you have different topic suggestions, which are in line with the overarching topic of this years seminar, feel free to discuss your ideas with us. Additionally, students may want to familiarize themselves with advanced academic software packages like LaTeX to prepare for their final thesis.