

Macro Brown Bag Seminar

Economics – Master's programme

Instructor: JProf. Dr. Lukas Hack

Term: WS 2026/27 | Course: E434K | ECTS: 3

Course description

This interactive seminar features presentations by PhD students, postdoctoral researchers, professors, and external researchers. It connects the MSc economics curriculum with current academic research and topical economic problems. Participants become familiar with current research topics and methods, learn to make new research accessible to academic audiences, and develop their ability to write constructive referee reports.

Organisation

- Seminar: Thursday, 12:15–13:15, room E02, Mohlstr. 36.
- Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/9100259878> | Meeting ID: 910 025 9878.
- Presentation schedule: <https://uni-tuebingen.de/fakultaeten/wirtschafts-und-sozialwissenschaftliche-fakultaet/faecher/fachbereich-wirtschaftswissenschaft/wirtschaftswissenschaft/forschung/research-seminars/macro-brown-bag/>
- Contact: lukas.hack@uni-tuebingen.de.

Credits and attendance

Students obtain 3 ECTS credits by successfully completing two reports and attending the seminar regularly in person. Up to two absences are permitted. Online participation does not count as participation unless an exception is granted by the instructor. There is no written exam and no presentation requirement for participants.

Assessment and submission

Write two referee reports on presentations you attended. Each report must be no longer than three pages, excluding references. Quality matters more than length. The highest marks are awarded to reports that help improve the research presented.

Submit each report through the Assignments box on ILIAS within two weeks of the presentation, before 12:00 noon on the deadline day. Slides will be uploaded after the presentation.

Report structure

Each report should summarise the contribution, critically discuss the research in the context of the literature where possible, and offer new ideas for improving the paper. Organise the report into three sections:

1. **Summary.** Briefly explain the paper's contribution as you understand it.
2. **Essential Points.** Identify at most three issues, preferably fewer, that the authors must address for publication in a top journal. If you recommend rejection, explain the main problems.
3. **Suggestions.** Provide other constructive recommendations that would help improve the paper.

Grading and materials

The final grade is the average of the two report grades. Active participation in the seminar (at least once) can resolve a tie in favour of the better grade.

All relevant material will be available on ILIAS, which you should join before the first presentation.