

Seminar on Labor and Education Economics Winter Term 2023/2024

Prof. Nagler/Prof. Oberfichtner

Course Description

During the seminar, participants will discuss a broad range of current topics in labor economics and economics of innovation. This term, we will focus on the economics of imperfect labor markets. The list of topics below provides references.

The seminar has two consecutive parts. **In the first part, students write a thesis (15 pages)** under the guidance of their advisor. In an introductory session, students learn about the principles of scientific work and the scope of analysis that is expected. The thesis elaborates on the literature (see the list of topics for the main article(s) to be covered). Students are expected to search for additional literature and then work independently on their topic. Advisors provide close guidance during this process. **The second part consists of a blocked seminar (December 7th and 8th) of students' presentations.** Before preparing their presentations, supervisors will provide students with detailed feedback on their thesis.

Organizational details and grading

- The seminar is jointly organized by Prof. Nagler and Prof. Oberfichtner.
- Students who want to participate should submit a participation form (available on the website of the Assistant Professorship in Labor & Innovation Economics) indicating their preferred topics to markus.nagler@fau.de until **October 6th, 2023**.
- Topics will be assigned to students by **October 13th, 2023**. Please note that the maximum number of participants is 8 students. After being assigned to a specific topic, students can repeal their participation within a week's time. After that deadline has passed, participation in the seminar is mandatory. Students not handing in a thesis in time will fail the seminar.
- The deadline for submitting the thesis is **November 27th, 2023**.
- Additional information on how to write a seminar paper, how to search for literature, etc. will be provided in an introductory session on **October 24th, 2023, at 9.45am**. The room will be announced shortly before the session via StudOn.
- The seminar will take place in Nuremberg, both at FAU and at IAB. The rooms will be announced soon.
- Grading: The overall grade will reflect the quality of the thesis (50%), the presentation in the seminar (30%), and the student's contributions to the discussion following each of the presentations (20%). To pass the seminar, students must obtain at least a grade of 4.0 in each of the parts.

List of Topics

Topic 1: Labor supply elasticities

Bassier, Ihsaan, Arindrajit Dube, and Suresh Naidu. 2022. "Monopsony in Movers: The Elasticity of Labor Supply to Firm Wage Policies." Journal of Human Resources 57, Supplement 2022, pp. S50-S86

Topic 2: The wage elasticity of recruitment

Hirsch, Boris, Elke J. Jahn, Alan Manning, Michael Oberfichtner. 2022. „The Wage Elasticity of Recruitment.“ IZA Discussion Paper No. 15675

Topic 3: Labor market concentration and wages

Prager, Elena and Matt Schmitt. 2021. "Employer Consolidation and Wages: Evidence from Hospitals." American Economic Review, 111 (2): 397-427.

Topic 4: Labor market concentration and inequality

Rinz, Kevin. 2023. „Labor Market Concentration, Earnings, and Inequality.“ Journal of Human Resources, forthcoming.

Topic 5: Labor market concentration and minimum wages

Azar, Jose, Emiliano Huet-Vaughn, Ioana Marinescu, Bledi Taska, and Till von Wachter. 2023. "Minimum Wage Employment Effects and Labor Market Concentration." Review of Economic Studies, accepted.

Topic 6: Outside option and wages

Caldwell, Sydnee and Oren Danieli. 2023. "Outside Options in the Labor Market." Review of Economic Studies, accepted.

Topic 7: Worker beliefs about outside options

Jaeger, Simon, Christopher Roth, Nina Roussille, and Benjamin Schoefer. 2023. „Worker Beliefs About Outside Options.“, Quarterly Journal of Economics, conditionally accepted.

Topic 8: Working conditions

Maestas, Nicole, Kathleen J. Mullen, David Powell, Till von Wachter, and Jeffrey B. Wenger. 2023. "The Value of Working Conditions in the United States and the Implications for the Structure of Wages." American Economic Review, 113 (7): 2007-47.