

Seminar on Labor and Education Economics Winter Term 2026/2027

Prof. Nagler / Prof. Oberfichtner

Course Description

The seminar will cover a broad range of current topics in labor economics and economics of innovation. This term, we will focus on the reproducibility of empirical studies and each student will reproduce and extend one recently published paper of their choice using the AEA Data and Code Repository at ICPSR.

In an introductory session, students learn about the principles of scientific work and the scope of analysis that is expected. The remaining seminar then has two consecutive parts. **In the first part, students engage with the paper of their choice and reproduce its results** under the guidance of their advisor. At the end of this part, they present the papers' empirical analysis and their reproduction efforts. **In the second part, students extend the original analysis.** For example, they can add robustness checks or explore hypotheses not covered in the original paper. At the end of this part, they again present their findings. For both presentations, students also have to submit executable Stata code. **Note that students may have to work at the CIP pool or alternatively buy a license at own cost to work with Stata.**

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 Chair of Labor & Innovation Economics) to markus.nagler@fau.de until **October 7th, 2026**. Please note that the maximum number of participants is 8 students.
- Information on how to reproduce a paper will be provided in an introductory session on **October 15th, 11.30am-1pm, room LG 3.155**.
- Students choose a suitable paper and submit their choice by **November 5th**. Topics will be confirmed by **November 12th**.
- The first presentation is on **December 18th, 2026, from 9am, room LG 5.152**.
- All Stata code must be submitted by **January 18th, 2027**.
- The second presentation is on **February 5th, 2027, from 9am, room LG 5.152**.
- Grading: The overall grade will reflect the quality of the first presentation (50%), of the second presentation in the seminar (40%), and of the Stata code (10%). To pass the seminar, students must obtain at least a grade of 4.0 in each of the parts.
- Presentations should last 20 minutes and we reserve an additional 10 minutes for questions and discussion.
- **NOTE:** Students must also register for the seminar on the **special registration days (October 26th/27th 2026)** so they can receive a grade.

Resources on Replications

Papers:

Ankel-Peters, J., Fiala, N., & Neubauer, F. (2023). Do economists replicate?. *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, 212, 219-232.

Brodeur, A., Dreber, A., Hoces de la Guardia, F., & Miguel, E. (2023). Replication games: how to make reproducibility research more systematic. *Nature*, 621(7980), 684-686.

Brodeur, A., Dreber, A., Hoces de la Guardia, F., & Miguel, E. (2024). Reproduction and replication at scale. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 8(1), 2-3.

Duvendack, M., Palmer-Jones, R., & Reed, W. R. (2017). What is meant by “replication” and why does it encounter resistance in economics?. *American Economic Review*, 107(5), 46-51.

Hamermesh, D. S. (2017). Replication in labor economics: Evidence from data and what it suggests. *American Economic Review*, 107(5), 37-40.

Websites:

AEA Data and Code Repository at ICPSR: <https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/sites/aea/home>

Institute for Replication: <https://i4replication.org/>