

IWH-DPE/CGDE

Michael Lechner

(Swiss Institute for Empirical Economic Research; University of St. Gallen)

www.michael-lechner.eu

7 October to 9 October 2013

Special Course MICROECONOMETRICS

Course Outline

Modern microeconometrics has the goal of empirically establishing and quantifying causal relations between relevant economic variables. In this course we discuss the most relevant methods that are used in practice, such as matching, instrumental variables, regression discontinuity designs as well as difference-in-difference estimation based on cross-sectional and panel data.

Below is a tentative outline of the course. Some additional topics may be added or some may be subtracted depending on the time constraints.

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mo, 7.10., 9:00-10:30: | Introduction, social experiments |
| Mo, 7.10., 11:00-12:30: | Matching |
| Tue, 8.10., 9:00-10:30: | Matching |
| Tue, 8.10., 11:00-12:30: | Instrumental variables |
| Wed, 9.10., 9:00-10:30: | Regression discontinuity design |
| Wed, 9.10., 11:00-12:30: | Difference-in-difference estimation, fixed effects estimation, Conclusion |

In the afternoon of Monday and Tuesday (13:30- 15:00, 15:30-17:00) students have the option to present their own work.

Required Readings

Participating PhD students are expected to have an econometric background at the level of standard econometrics textbooks. In preparation of the course it will be useful to read:

- Imbens, G.W., and J.M. Wooldridge (2009): "Recent Developments in the Econometrics of Program Evaluation", *Journal of Economic Literature*, 47 (1), 5-86 (pdf).
- Heckman, J.J. (2000): "Causal Parameters and Policy Analysis in Economics: A Twentieth Century Retrospective", *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 115, 45-97.
- Wooldridge, J.M. (2002): *Econometric Analysis of Cross Section and Panel Data*, 2nd edition, MIT Press 2010.

In addition, the chapters that correspond to the topics above of the book by Angrist, Pischke, *Mostly Harmless Econometrics*, are a good preparation for this course. Participants will receive an extensive list of references during the course.

Venue

Halle Institute for Economic Research (IWH)
Kleine Maerkerstrasse 8
06108 Halle (Saale)
conference room (ground floor)

Registration

Please contact Annett Hartung, Phone: +49 345 7753 751, E-mail: annett.hartung@iwh-halle.de, until 1 August 2013. Students are encouraged to present own work (in progress) during the course (afternoon sessions). If you wish to do so please submit an extended abstract of about two pages.

IWH Doctoral Programme
in Economics