Seminar „Econometric Policy Evaluation – Labor Market"
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Questions about causality are important issues raised by politics and the public towards economic research? What effect do class size reductions have on learning outcomes? Does hiring more police officers reduce crime? Do monetary incentives actually help obese people lose weight?

The core methods from the empirical-econometric toolkit used to provide an answer to questions aiming at causality will be discussed in this course – instrumental variables, difference-in-differences, but also more recent methods like propensity score matching and regression discontinuity designs.

Examination & final grade:

1/3 Presentation of a published paper
2/3 Quiz on mandatory readings on LearnWeb

Alternatively, students who do not wish to be largely graded on a presentation (e.g. due to stage fright), can hand in a written report about the presented paper. The final grade then consists of 1/3 presentation, 1/3 written report, 1/3 LearnWeb quiz on mandatory readings

Mandatory readings:

Experiments	Angrist & Pischke (2009): Mostly Harmless Econometrics, Princeton, New Jersey, chapter 2
Instrumentenvariablen	Angrist & Pischke (2009), chapter 4
Difference-in-Differences	Angrist & Pischke (2009), chapter 5.1 and 5.2
Propensity Score Matching	Angrist & Pischke (2009), chapter 3.3
Regression Discontinuity	Angrist & Pischke (2009), chapter 6

Exemplary Presentation Papers:

- The Effect of Attending a Small Class in the Early Grades on College-Test Taking and Middle School Test Results: Evidence from Project STAR
- Using Electoral Cycles in Police Hiring to Estimate the Effect of Police on Crime
- Minimum Wages and Employment: A Case Study of the Fast Food Industry in New Jersey and Pennsylvania

The full list of papers is available in LearnWeb. Suggestions for other papers for presentation are welcome (upon consultation)!

Introductory session & dates:

In the introductory session we would like to introduce us, the papers you can choose for your presentation and the concept of the course. The allocation of topics takes place after the intro session via LearnWeb.

Introduction session:	Mo, 7th October 2019, 12:15-13:15, Room CAWM 3
Registration with examination office	Mo, 7th October 2019 – Mo, 21st October 2019
Five (voluntary) Q&A sessions	Mo, 13-14, CAWM 3 (dates in LearnWeb)
Seminar presentations:	Fr, 17th January 2020, CAWM 2

LearnWeb Course:

All information can be found in the LearnWeb course „Econometric Policy Evaluation, WS 19/20"
https://t1p.de/policyevaluation