Replication Seminar Guidelines

Writing and replication period: 10 weeks

Submission of first draft: after 6 weeks

Grade components:

- Written Components:
    - 40% seminar paper
    - 10% formalities test
- Additional Components:
    - 20% replication analysis (The code used for the analysis is part of the grading process (this includes the correctness of the code, its structure as well as your own comments/explanations included in the files))
    - 20% presentation
    - 10% general discussion
- Students must pass each part of the seminar - the overall grade results from the weighted sum of the grades for the individual parts. Due to the changing of the main topics of the seminar, already passed parts must be repeated if the seminar is retaken.

Seminar paper: length of 10 pages (+/- 10%), written in English (check the guidelines on the chair's website)

Content: In this seminar, students conduct their own empirical statistical analyses based on research papers on current issues in economic inequality, the economics of education, and the economics of migration. Students will have the opportunity to analyze data sets used in published papers in order to replicate (and possibly extend) the results shown in the literature. By conducting their own empirical analyses, they can gain practical experience in working with data sets and applying empirical methods to study relevant economic policy issues. The focus of this seminar is on conducting your own empirical replication analysis of existing research and discussing STATA and/or R code to achieve these results.

Requirements: It is recommended (but not required) that students have basic experience using software such as STATA and/or R. In addition, you will have to read and understand original empirical research papers as part of this course. We therefore recommend taking "Empirical Methods" (MW24.1) before this seminar.

Important remarks: The Chair of Public Finance follows a zero-tolerance policy with respect to plagiarism. In previous seminars, up to 20% of the students failed because of plagiarism in their seminar papers. Please read again carefully the slides about plagiarism and conduct the test on "How to Cite/ How to Avoid Plagiarism" available in the Moodle-course "Approaches to Economic Science" ("WS2022-Approaches"). (If you do not have access to this Moodle-course, contact Julia Peter.)

Replication Guideline:

- Software: You can choose between Stata and R for your empirical analysis
    o Stata is available via the PC pool (in addition, student licenses can be purchased online)
- Purpose: To arrive at the same empirical results as (parts) of the paper included in your starting literature and explain how you arrive at them using your code
- Process:
    o 1) We will assign you your topic and your supervisor
    o 2) Meet with your supervisor to discuss which parts of the paper to replicate
    o 3) The data and code for your assigned paper are available online. Download them and see if the code runs on your device. If the code doesn't run, try to find out why. If you can't get the code to run, ask your supervisor for advice.
    o 4) Try to replicate the results presented by the author(s) using their code. Make sure you comment on their code and explain each step they take. This includes the regressions they run, the variables they create etc.
    o 5) Check and discuss with your supervisor whether you can add something to the authors' analysis, e.g. by adding another dimension of heterogeneity or by analyzing a specific sub-sample.