

Seminar: Firm performance, market selection, and employment

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General Structure

Applications for the seminar should be sent to daniel.fackler@iwh-halle.de by April 10th 2016. In this email you should state your preferences for three of the topics on the literature list (descending from most to least preferred). The seminar will begin with an introductory session on April 15 2016. If you do not come to this session you will lose permission to take part in the seminar. In this first session, each student will be assigned one of the papers and is expected to write a short seminar paper (max. 8 pages) about this paper. Moreover, students will be assigned a second paper from the literature list, which should be discussed in the presentation session. Seminar papers are expected to be submitted by May 22 (before midnight of that day) to daniel.fackler@iwh-halle.de. We will meet again on June 10 for our presentation session (depending on the number of participants there may be a second meeting for presentations, probably on June 11). For the presentation session, each student should prepare **two** presentations: One presentation about the own paper (max. 25 min., mainly discussing what the seminar paper was about); a second presentation critically discussing the paper presented by the other student (max. 10 min.). The final grade will comprise two separately graded parts: the seminar paper (2/3) and the two presentations (1/3)

Details on presentation and seminar paper

The seminar paper consists of max. 8 pages (times new roman, 12ppt, 1.5 line spacing, 2cm margins), is written in full sentences (i.e. not bullet points), and should generally contain the following aspects:

- Motivation of the topic (why do we care?) and its contribution to the respective literature
- Empirical/econometric approach (including a short description of the data as well as measurement and identification issues)
- Summary of the main results and implications (what can we learn from the paper?)
- Limitations/shortcomings of the paper and directions for future research

Please write in a stringent and logically consistent way. Express your thoughts as concise as possible and be unambiguous and take care of a good structure of your writings. E.g. one paragraph is one thought and should have at least three sentences and at most two thirds of a page. If you feel unsure, read e.g. “The Elements of Style” by William Strunk. The final seminar paper has to be submitted in pdf format via email to daniel.fackler@iwh-halle.de by May 22.

The presentation follows mainly the structure of your seminar paper, should last no more than 25min (binding constraint!) and is followed by the discussion of the second student assigned to that topic (max. 10 minutes). After that, there will be space for discussion with all seminar participants. We will organize a beamer and a laptop, so you are expected to send both your presentations to daniel.fackler@iwh-halle.de by June 9, 6pm.