

Seminar in Environmental Economics (M.Sc.)

Course requirements	Students should have knowledge of intermediate level mathematics, microeconomics, and empirical methods.
Short comment	<p>The seminar in environmental economics will focus on the following topic: The Economics of Environmental Regulation: Experimental Evidence</p> <p>TIMING The preparatory meeting for the seminar is on Thursday, April 21 from 1.00 to 2.30 PM. The seminar event is currently scheduled for July 14 & 15, 2016. The venue is always the seminar room #215, Bergheimer Str. 20.</p>
Comment	There is a significant literature on the theory of environmental regulation. This theoretical literature has in some areas considerable empirical support based on econometric evidence. In many settings, however, suitable empirical evidence is difficult or even impossible to obtain. Also, the cost of gathering evidence on possible regulatory variations through actual variation in the field may be prohibitive. In such circumstances, experiments come in and can provide important evidence-based guidance.
Content	Every participant will study a general background reading. In addition, each participant will write and present a research paper on a specific topic from a list of topics, reviewing and critiquing the assigned specific readings. Reviewing means (i) summarizing and (ii) contextualizing the key points of the reading's argument so as to make its content understandable to a person who has not studied the reading. Critiquing means engaging with the substance of the reading's argument, trying to point out weakness of logical consistency, coherence, or empirical factuality, and ideally, offering an alternative perspective based on logic, theory, and/or evidence.
Examination rules	<p>Your performance will be evaluated based on the following assignments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research paper ("Seminararbeit") on the topic assigned. Maximum length: 4000 words. Weighting: 50 percent. 2. Seminar presentation. Duration: 20 minutes. Weighting: 30 percent. 3. Written referee report constructively critiquing the research paper of a fellow participating student and 3 minute presentation thereof. Maximum length: 1000 words. Weighting: 20 percent
Language	This course runs in English.