



Göttingen, den 2. Februar 2021

Bachelor-Seminar (Sommersemester 2021)  
**Health and Development**

If you need further information regarding the seminar please contact Dr. Katharina Werner (kwerner@uni-goettingen.de).

## Dates

- 20.04.21, 9:00-10:00, room tba: introductory meeting
- 29.04.2021: submission of the application form by email (kwerner@uni-goettingen.de)
- 30.04.2021–15.05.2021: binding registration or cancellation by FlexNow  
**Attention: In case that there are more potential participants than available places we will distribute the places according to the study regulation of 22.11.2019, §12**
- starting from 30.04.2021: publication of the list of participants and the list of topics
- 6.05.2021, 16:00-17:00, room tba: extra class on “How to write a Seminar Paper”
- 30.05.2021: submission of seminar papers. A PDF version is to be sent to Katharina Werner (kwerner@uni-goettingen.de)
- 8.06.2021, 9.00-10.00, room tba: final meeting concerning the seminar
- 18.06. & 19.06.2021: blocked seminar (rooms tba)

**Attendance is compulsory at all these dates.**

## Grading

Grading will be based upon the following:

- 1) Seminar paper (15 pages, in English or German)
- 2) Presentation (20 minutes, English)
- 3) Discussion of another topic (5 minutes, English)

The seminar paper accounts for 50% of the final grade. Presentation and discussion accounts for the other 50% of the final grade. Students need to pass both of these requirements in order to pass the seminar.

**Please notice that due to organizational constraints, the submission deadline of the seminar paper cannot be extended by any circumstance (e.g. illness).**

## Required background knowledge

Necessary: BA-courses in Econometrics, Macro- and Microeconomics

Recommended: B.A.-courses in Economic Growth, Mathematics

# Topics

## **1. Pandemics, Places, and Populations: Evidence from the Black Death**

Jedwab, R., Johnson, N.D., and Koyama, M., 2019, Pandemics, places, and populations: evidence from the Black Death. Ifo Discussion Paper.

## **2. Microbes and Markets: Was the Black Death an Economic Revolution?**

Clark, G., 2016, Microbes and Markets: Was the Black Death an Economic Revolution?. *Journal of Demographic Economics*, 82(2), 139–165.

## **3. The Spanish Flu Pandemic**

Barro, R.J., Ursúa, J.F., and Weng, J., 2020, The coronavirus and the great influenza pandemic: Lessons from the “spanish flu” for the coronavirus’s potential effects on mortality and economic activity. No. w26866, National Bureau of Economic Research.

## **4. Health and the Economy in the United States from 1750 to the Present**

Costa, D.L., 2015, Health and the Economy in the United States from 1750 to the Present. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 53(3), 503–70.

## **5. Death and Development**

Lorentzen, P., McMillan, J., and Wacziarg, R., 2008, Death and Development, *Journal of Economic Growth* 13, 81–124.

## **6. Health and Economic Growth: Reconciling the Micro and Macro Evidence**

Bloom, D.E., Canning, D., Kotschy, R., Prettnner, K., and Schünemann, J.J., 2019, Health and economic growth: reconciling the micro and macro evidence. No. w26003, National Bureau of Economic Research.

## **7. The Rise in Life Expectancy and Economic Growth in the 20th Century**

Hansen, C.W. and Lønstrup, L., 2015, The rise in life expectancy and economic growth in the 20th century. *The Economic Journal*, 125(584), 838–852.

## **8. The International Epidemiological Transition and the Education Gender Gap**

Klasing, M.J. and Milionis, P., 2020, The international epidemiological transition and the education gender gap. *Journal of Economic Growth*, 25(1), 37–86.

## **9. Health and Economic Development – Evidence from the Introduction of Public Health Care**

Strittmatter, A., and Sunde, U., 2013, Health and economic development – evidence from the introduction of public health care. *Journal of Population Economics*, 26(4), 1549–1584.

## **10. Bismarck’s Health Insurance and the Mortality Decline**

Bauernschuster, S., Driva, A., and Hornung, E., 2020, Bismarck’s health insurance and the mortality decline. *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 18(5), 2561–2607.

## **11. Climate and the Emergence of Global Income Differences**

Andersen, T.B., Dalgaard, C.J., and Selaya, P., 2016, Climate and the emergence of global income differences. *The Review of Economic Studies*, 83(4), 1334–1363.

## **12. Limited Life Expectancy, Human Capital and Health Investments**

Oster, E., Shoulson, I., and Dorsey, E., 2013, Limited life expectancy, human capital and health investments. *American Economic Review*, 103(5), 1977–2002.

## **13. Worms at Work: Long-Run Impacts of a Child Health Investment**

Baird, S., Hicks, J.H., Kremer, M., and Miguel, E., 2016, Worms at work: long-run impacts of a child health investment. *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 131(4), 1637–1680.

**14. Mortality Risk and Human Capital Investment: The Impact of HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa**

Fortson, J.G., 2011, Mortality risk and human capital investment: the impact of HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa. *Review of Economics and Statistics* 93(1), 1–15.

**15. The Effect of the Tsetse Fly on African Development**

Alsan, M., 2015, The effect of the tsetse fly on African development. *American Economic Review*, 105(1), 382–410.

**16. International Medical Technology Diffusion**

Papageorgiou, C., Savvides, A., and Zachariadis, M., 2007, International medical technology diffusion. *Journal of International Economics*, 72(2), 409–427.

## The seminar paper

In your seminar paper you should present the idea and the central mechanisms of the underlying journal article in your own words. The objective of the seminar paper is that a reader unfamiliar with the original journal article is thoroughly familiarized with the topic. The seminar paper must not be longer than **15 pages** (excluding appendices and the list of references). Please use the following layout:

**type size 12, spacing 2.0, indention 2.5 cm**

The seminar paper and the presentation are an optimal opportunity to familiarize yourselves with the open-source typesetting software Latex that is used nowadays in science. If you choose to prepare the paper in Word please use the typeface “Times New Roman”.

Advices for preparing a seminar paper:

- use as few footnotes as possible.
- attach a bibliography to your paper.
- do not include lists of figures, tables or abbreviations. They are not necessary in such a short seminar paper.
- properly cite all sources that you refer to.
- for references in the text follow the practice of international journals. Example: If you want to refer to an article written by Hazan in 2009 cite it in the text as [...] (Hazan, 2009). Please do not use footnotes for citation.

**Students who copy-paste from any source will automatically be expelled from the course. They are graded with 5.0 and are furthermore reported to the registrar’s office (“Prüfungsamt”). Notice that also one-for-one translations from another language account as plagiarism. Be aware: We are extremely ambitious to uncover any attempt of fraud and also use specialized software to detect plagiarism.**

## The presentation

Every participant of the seminar acts as a presenter of his **own topic (20 minutes)** as well as a **“first participant in discussion” (around 5 minutes)** of another topic of the seminar. **The slides have to be sent to Katharina Werner (kwerner@uni-goettingen.de) as a PDF file (no ppt files!) until the day before the seminar.**

If you are uncertain about the composition of your presentation the following advices might be helpful.

- The first 3 minutes of a presentation are crucial because you have the full attention of the audience. Use them to deliver the main point/the takeaway of your talk
- The available speaking time of 20 minutes is not sufficient to say everything that could be said about the topic.
- Practice the presentation several times beforehand to get a feeling for the time constraints etc.

You should pay attention to the following advices when preparing your slides:

- No more than 1 slide per minute
- Every slide should be equipped with a title
- The title should be self-explanatory
- No footnotes, detailed bibliographic information, long formulas, big tables or long sentences
- A slide with too little text is preferable to a slide with too much text, optimal are 20 - 40 words per slide
- A figure or a formula is worth a 1000 words
- Do not use fancy layouts (or other fancy Powerpoint options)

## Plagiarism Statement

- Name
- Enrollment Number

The seminar paper on the topic for the Seminar “Health and Development” in Spring 2021 was written by me and in my own words, except for quotations from published and unpublished sources which are clearly indicated and acknowledged as such. I am conscious that the incorporation of material from other works or a paraphrase of such material without acknowledgement will be treated as plagiarism, according to the regulations of the University of Goettingen.

I also agree that my seminar paper will be checked with a specialized software.

(Date and Signature)