



Göttingen, den 6. November 2017

Master-Seminar (Winter 2017/8)

The Past and Future of Work

If you need further information regarding the seminar please contact Ana Abeliansky (aabelia@uni-goettingen.de) or Matthias Beulmann (matthias.beulmann@uni-goettingen.de).

Dates

- 01.11.2017: introductory meeting 1pm (Oec. 0.168):
- 12.11.2017: submission of the application form (see last page) in room oec 2.139 or via email (aabelia@uni-goettingen.de)
- 13.11.–20.11.2017: binding registration or cancellation via FlexNow
Attention: In case that there are more potential participants than available places we will distribute the places according to the study regulation of 2012/03/30, §8
- starting from 13.11.2017: publication of the list of participants and the list of topics
- 22.12.2017: submission of seminar papers, no later than 9am. A PDF version is to be sent to Ana Abeliansky (aabelia@uni-goettingen.de) and Matthias Beulmann (matthias.beulmann@uni-goettingen.de).
- 26.-27.01.2018, 9-18 : blocked seminar (26.01.18 in VG. 1.103 and 27.01.18 Oec 1.165)

Attendance is compulsory at all these dates.

Grading

Grading will be based upon the following:

- 1) Seminar paper (15 pages, in English)
- 2) Presentation (30 minutes, in English)
- 3) Discussion of another topic (5 minutes, in 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: Mathematics, **Econometrics**, Macro- and Microeconomics

Topics

1. The Race between Education and Technology

Reference: Acemoglu, D., and Autor, D. (2012). What Does Human Capital Do? A Review of Goldin and Katz's The Race between Education and Technology. *Journal of Economic Literature* 50(2), 426-463.

2. The Skill Content of Recent Technological Change

Reference: Autor, D. H., Levy, F., and Murnane, R. (2003) The Skill Content of Recent Technological Change: An Empirical Exploration, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 118(4): 1279–1333.

3. Explaining Job Polarization

Reference: Goos, M, A. Manning and A. Salomons (2014). Explaining job polarization: Routine-biased technological change and offshoring. *American Economic Review*, 104(8): 2509-25.

4. Untangling Trade and Technology: Evidence from Local Labor Markets

Reference: Autor, D.H., Dorn, D. and Hanson, G.H. (2015) Untangling Trade and Technology: Evidence from Local Labor Markets, *Economic Journal*, 125(584): 621-646.

5. Do Recessions Accelerate Routine-Biased Technological Change?

Reference: Hershbein, B., and Kahn, L. B. (2016). Do Recessions Accelerate Routine-Biased Technological Change?. NBER Working Paper, 22762.

6. Has ICT Polarized Skill Demand?

Reference: Michaels, G., Natraj, A., and Van Reenen, J. (2014). Has ICT polarized skill demand? Evidence from eleven countries over twenty-five years. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 96(1), 60-77.

7. The Decline of the Labor Share

Reference: Elsby, M.W., Hobijn, B., and Sahin, A. (2013). The decline of the US labor share. *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, 2013(2), 1-63.

8. Robots at Work

Reference: Graetz, G. and Michaels, G. (2015) Robots at Work, CEP Discussion Paper No 1335.

9. Robots and Jobs: Evidence from US Labor Markets

Reference: Acemoglu, D., and Restrepo, P. (2017). Robots and Jobs: Evidence from US Labor Markets (No. w23285). National Bureau of Economic Research.

10. The Risk of Automation for Jobs in OECD Countries:

Reference: Arntz, M., Gregory, T., and Zierahn, U. (2016). The risk of automation for jobs in OECD countries: A comparative analysis. *OECD Social, Employment, and Migration Working Papers*, (189).

11. The Great Reversal in the Demand for Skill and Cognitive Tasks

Reference: Beaudry, P., Green, D. A., and Sand, B. M. (2016). The great reversal in the demand for skill and cognitive tasks. *Journal of Labor Economics*, 34(S1), S199-S247.

12. Performance Pay and Wage Inequality

Reference: Lemieux, T., MacLeod, W. B., and Parent, D. (2009). Performance pay and wage inequality. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 124(1), 1-49.

13. Top Incomes in the Long Run of History

Reference: Atkinson, A. B., Piketty, T., and Saez, E. (2011). Top incomes in the long run of history. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 49(1), 3-71.

14. Why Has CEO Pay Increased so Much?

Reference: Gabaix, X., and Landier, A. (2008). Why has CEO pay increased so much?. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 123(1), 49-100.

15. Revisiting the German Wage Structure

Reference: Dustmann, C., Ludsteck, J., and Schönberg, U. (2009). Revisiting the German wage structure. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 124(2), 843-881.

16. The Rise of West German Wage Inequality

Reference: Card, D., Heining, J., and Kline, P. (2013). Workplace heterogeneity and the rise of West German wage inequality. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 128(3), 967-1015.

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, indentation 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”). Note 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 (30 minutes) as well as a “first participant in discussion” (around 5 minutes) of another topic of the seminar. The technical equipment for the presentation (laptop, beamer, laser-pointer) will be provided by the institute. **The slides have to be sent to Ana Abeliatsky (aabelia@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 30 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)

Application Seminar The Past and Future of Work, Winter 2017/8

Please hand in the Application form at room oec 2.139 or via email (aabelia@uni-goettingen.de) until 07.11.2017.

Name: _____

Enrollment Number: _____

Subject: _____

Semester: _____

E-Mail: _____

Credits passed: _____

Grade in Bachelor Studies: _____

Have you passed any seminar before? (Yes/no)_____

If yes, which ones? Please write the grade_____

Preferred Topics: 1.: _____

2.: _____

3.: _____

I would like to apply for a place in the seminar "The Past and Future of Work", Winter 2017/8.

(Signature)