



Göttingen, 30. August 2017

Bachelor-Seminar (Fall 2017)

Economics of the Very Long Run – Economic Development in the Very Long Run

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

Dates

- 26.10.2017, 13:00-14:00, room ZHG 1.142: introductory meeting
- 05.11.2017: submission of the application form (see last page) in room oec 2.138 or via email (kwerner@uni-goettingen.de)
- 06.11.2017–15.11.2017: 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 06.11.2017: publication of the list of participants and the list of topics
- 23.11.2017, 16:00-17:00, room VG 2.105: extra class on “How to write a Seminar Paper”
- 17.12.2017: submission of seminar papers. A PDF version is to be sent to Katharina Werner (kwerner@uni-goettingen.de)
- 11.01.2018, 11:00-12:00, room T0.132: final meeting concerning the seminar
- 19.01.2018, room oec 2.157 (Friday), 20.01.2018, room oec 1.164 (Saturday): blocked seminar

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, presumably in English)
- 3) Discussion of another topic (5 minutes, presumably 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: BA-courses in Econometrics, Econometrics, Macro- and Microeconomics

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

Topics

1. Dynamics and Stagnation in the Malthusian Epoch

Ashraf, Q., Galor, O., 2011, Dynamics and Stagnation in the Malthusian Epoch: Theory and Evidence. *American Economic Review* 101, 2003–2041

2. Long-Run Cultural Divergence

Olsson, O., Paik, C., 2016, Long-run cultural divergence: Evidence from the Neolithic Revolution. *Journal of Development Economics*, 122, 197–213

3. Long-Run Social Mobility

Clark, G., Cummins, N., 2014, Surnames and social mobility in England, 1170–2012. *Human Nature*, 25(4), 517–537

Clark, G., Cummins, N., 2014, Intergenerational wealth mobility in England, 1858–2012: Surnames and social mobility. *The Economic Journal*, 125(582), 61–85

4. The European Origins of Economic Development

Easterly, W., Levine, R., 2016, The European origins of economic development. *Journal of Economic Growth*, 21(3), 225–257

5. Human Capital and Industrialization

Squicciarini, M.P., Voigtländer, N., 2015, Human Capital and Industrialization: Evidence from the Age of Enlightenment. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 130(4), 1825–1883.

6. Human Capital and Innovation

Cinnirella, F., Streb, J., 2017, The role of human capital and innovation in economic development: evidence from post-Malthusian Prussia. *Journal of Economic Growth*, 1–35.

7. The Longevity of Famous People

De la Croix, D., Licandro, O., 2015, The longevity of famous people from Hammurabi to Einstein. *Journal of Economic Growth*, 20(3), 263–303

8. Climate and the Emergence of Global Income Differences

Andersen, T.B., Dalgaard, C.J., Selaya, P., 2016, Climate and the Emergence of Global Income Differences. *Review of Economic Studies*, 83(4), 1334–1363

9. The Global Spatial Distribution of Economic Activity

Henderson, J.V., Squires, T.L., Storeygard, A., Weil, D.N., 2016, The Global Spatial Distribution of Economic Activity: Nature, History, and the Role of Trade. Working Paper No. 22145, National Bureau of Economic Research

10. Agriculture, Transportation and the Timing of Urbanization

Motamed, M.J., Florax, R.J., Masters, W.A., 2014, Agriculture, transportation and the timing of urbanization: Global analysis at the grid cell level. *Journal of Economic Growth*, 19(3), 339–368

11. Path Dependence of Economic Activity

Bleakley, H., Lin, J., 2012, Portage and Path Dependence. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 127(2), 587–644

12. The Bounty of the Sea and Long-Run Development

Dalgaard, C.J., Knudsen, A.S.B., Selaya, P., 2015, The Bounty of the Sea and Long-run Development, Discussion Paper, University of Copenhagen

13. Modern Gender Roles and Agricultural History

Hansen, C.W., Jensen, P.S., and Skovsgaard, C.V., 2015, Modern gender roles and agricultural history: the Neolithic inheritance. *Journal of Economic Growth*, 20(4), 365–404

14. Cross-Country Heterogeneity in Risk Preferences

Becker, A., Dohmen, T., Enke, B., Falk, A., 2014, The ancient origins of the cross-country heterogeneity in risk preferences. Discussion Paper

15. The Nature of Conflict

Arbatli, C.E., Ashraf, Q.H., Galor, O., 2015, The nature of conflict. Working Paper No. 21079, National Bureau of Economic Research

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”). 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 (20 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 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 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 form “Economic Development in the Very Long Run”, Fall 2017

Please hand this application form at room Oec 2.138 before 5.11.2017 (or send the scanned version by e-mail to kwerner@uni-goettingen.de).

Name:

Enrollment Number:

EMail:

Subject:

Semester:

Exchange: (Yes/No)

Credits passed:

Courses passed at at the chair “Macroeconomics and Development”:

Preferred Topics:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

**I would like to apply for a place in the seminar “Economic Development in the Very Long Run”,
Fall 2017**

(Signature)