



Göttingen, den 20. September 2016

Bachelor Seminar (Winter 2016/2017)

Economics of Terrorism

If you need further informations regarding the seminar please contact Viacheslav Yakubenko (vyakube@gwdg.de) or Johannes Schünemann (johannes.schuenemann@wiwi.uni-goettingen.de).

Dates

- 31.10.2016, 13:00, Oec 0.169: introductory meeting
- 6.11.2016: submission of the applications
- 7.11.–15.11.2016: binding registration or cancellation via FlexNow
Attention: In case that there are more potential participants than available spots we will distribute the places according to the study regulation of 2012/03/30, §8
- starting from 7.11.2016: publication of the list of participants and the list of topics
- 10.11.2016, 16:00, VG 1.103: preparatory meeting “How to write a seminar paper”
- 18.12.2016: submission of seminar papers no later than 00:00. A PDF version is to be sent to Johannes Schünemann (johannes.schuenemann@wiwi.uni-goettingen.de) or Viacheslav Yakubenko (vyakube@gwdg.de).
- 9.01.2017, 10:00, Oec 1.164: final meeting concerning the seminar
- 20.-21.01.2017, block seminar, KWZ 0.607 on 20.01 and Oec 1.163 on 21.01

Attendance is compulsory at all dates.

Grading

Grading will be based upon the following:

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

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

Required background knowledge

Necessary: BA–courses in Econometrics, Macro- and Microeconomics or equivalent

Application

To apply for the course, please, send a scanned version of the application form (see next page) to Viacheslav Yakubenko (vyakube@gwdg.de) or bring the paper version to the room Oec 2.201.

Application form for the seminar “Economics of Terrorism”, Winter 2016/2017

Please hand this Application form at room Oec 2.201 before 6.11.2016 (or send the scanned version by e-mail to vyakube@gwdg.de).

Name:

Enrollment Number:

Subject:

Semester:

Exchange: (YES/NO)

Credits passed:

Grade in Econometrics:

Grade in Growth and Development:

Hauptseminar I passed (Yes/No):

if yes: **Topic:**

Grade:

Hauptseminar II passed (Yes/No):

Preferred Topics:

1.:

2.:

3.:

I would like to apply for a place in the seminar “Economics of Terrorism”, Winter 2016/2017.

(Signature)

Topics

- 1) **The Mind of the Terrorist**
Reference: Jeff Victoroff, 2005, The Mind of the Terrorist: A Review and Critique of Psychological Approaches, *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 49, 3-42.
- 2) **Education, Poverty and Terrorism**
Reference: Alan B. Krueger and Jitka Maleckova, Education, Poverty and Terrorism: Is there a Causal Connection? *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 17, 119-144.
- 3) **Poverty, Political Freedom, and the Roots of Terrorism**
Reference: Abadie, A. (2006). Poverty, Political Freedom, and the Roots of Terrorism. *American Economic Review* 96, 50-56. Bandyopadhyay, S., and Younas, J. (2011). Poverty, political freedom, and the roots of terrorism in developing countries: An empirical assessment. *Economics Letters*, 112(2), 171-175.
- 4) **Does Terrorism Work?**
Reference: Gould, Eric D. and Esteban F. Klor. 2010. Does Terrorism Work? *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 1459-1510
- 5) **The Costs of Terrorism**
Reference: Tavares, J. (2004). The open society assesses its enemies: shocks, disasters and terrorist attacks. *Journal of Monetary Economics*, 51(5), 1039-1070.
- 6) **The Long-Run Effect of 9/11**
Reference: Gould, Eric D, and Esteban F Klor. 2016. The Long-Run Effect of 9/11: Terrorism, Backlash, and the Assimilation of Muslim Immigrants in the West. *Economic Journal* forthcoming.
- 7) **The Economics of Counterinsurgency in Iraq**
Reference: Berman, E., Shapiro, J. N., and Felter, J. H. (2011). Can hearts and minds be bought? The economics of counterinsurgency in Iraq. *Journal of Political Economy*, 119(4), 766-819.
- 8) **The Effect of Political Violence on Religiosity**
Reference: Zussman, A. (2014). The effect of political violence on religiosity. *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, 104, 64-83.
- 9) **What Drives Foreigners to Join Jihad?**
Reference: Benmelech, Efraim, and Esteban F Klor. 2016. What Explains the Flow of Foreign Fighters to ISIS?. NBER Working Paper 22190.
Hegghammer, T. (2013). Should I Stay or Should I Go? Explaining Variation in Western Jihadists' Choice between Domestic and Foreign Fighting. *American Political Science Review*, 107(01), 1-15.
- 10) **The Cycle of Violence?**
Reference: Jaeger, D. A., and Paserman, M. D. (2008). The cycle of violence? An empirical analysis of fatalities in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. *American Economic Review*, 98(4), 1591-1604.
- 11) **Ethnicity, Insurgency and Civil War**
Reference: Fearon, J. D. and D. D. Laitin (2003). Ethnicity, Insurgency and Civil War. *American Political Science Review* 97(1), 75-90.
- 12) **Greed and Grievance in Civil War**
Reference: Collier, P. and A. Hoeffler (2004). Greed and Grievance in Civil War. *Oxford Economic Papers* 56(4), 563-595.
- 13) **The Geography of Civil Conflicts**
Reference: Berman, N., and Couttenier, M. (2015). External shocks, internal shots: the geography of civil conflicts. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 97(4), 758-776.
- 14) **The Effect of US Military Aid on Political Conflict in Colombia**
Reference: Dube, O., and Naidu, S. (2014). Bases, Bullets and Ballots: The Effect of US Military Aid on Political Conflict in Colombia (No. w20213). National Bureau of Economic Research.
- 15) **Conflict and Foreign Aid**
Reference: Nunn N, Qian N. (2014). U.S. Food Aid and Civil Conflict. *American Economic Review* 104(6), 1630-1666.

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 (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 Viacheslav Yakubenko (vyakube@gwdg.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)