

Lecture

Basic Readings in Accounting and Finance

General Information

Lecturers: **Prof. Dr. Johannes Jaspersen (e-mail: jaspersen@lmu.de)**

Time & Location: 16.04.2026 – 02.07.2026

Credits: MBR course (A/I module or B modules), counts as 2 contact hours. Grades will be based on discussion participation and a presentation assignment.

Course Description

This course is meant to serve as an introduction to research in Accounting and Finance. The students will read a list of fundamental works in the field and discuss them in the group. The basic concepts of economic decision-making, incentives and agency conflicts will provide a basis for the discussion of more topic specific papers.

Assignment/Grades

Students are expected to actively participate in the discussions, as well as to prepare a presentation about one of the papers. The reading list is comprised of some fundamental as well as some more recent papers in accounting and finance. Students will be assigned one of these papers and will prepare a 30-minute presentation for it. Students are also expected to read all papers which will be presented in class. The presentation will be followed by 15 to 30 minutes of discussion on the paper. Students can give a preference ordering over the papers and papers are going to be assigned accordingly. The deadline for handing in the presentation is June 30th, 2026, 12:00. Please submit an electronic copy (.pdf) of the presentation to jaspersen@lmu.de.

Schedule

The class sessions will be on the dates listed below. Room 314 is located on the third floor of Schackstr. 4, 80539 Munich. Classes are carried out in person. Attendance to all scheduled meetings of the course is mandatory.

Date	Time	Place	Content
16.04.2026	10:00 – 11:30	314	Kick-Off
30.06.2026	12:00	Email	Submission deadline presentations
01.07.2026	10:00 – 17:00	314	Presentations and Discussions
02.07.2026	10:00 – 17:00	314	Presentations and Discussions

Reading List

Abdellaoui, M., Baillon, A., Placido, L., & Wakker, P. P. (2011). The rich domain of uncertainty: Source functions and their experimental implementation. *American Economic Review*, 101(2), 695-723.

Arrow, K. J. (1963). Uncertainty and the welfare economics of medical care. *The American Economic Review*, 53(5), 941-973.

Bhargava, S., Loewenstein, G., & Sydnor, J. (2017). Choose to lose: Health plan choices from a menu with dominated option. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 132(3), 1319-1372.

Bierbrauer, F. J., Boyer, P. C., & Peichl, A. (2021). Politically feasible reforms of nonlinear tax systems. *American Economic Review*, 111(1), 153-191.

Calvano, E., Calzolari, G., Denicolo, V., & Pastorello, S. (2020). Artificial intelligence, algorithmic pricing, and collusion. *American Economic Review*, 110(10), 3267-3297.

Demski, J. S., & Feltham, G. A. (1978). Economic incentives in budgetary control systems. *The Accounting Review*, 53(2), 336-359.

Finkelstein, A., Taubman, S., Wright, B., Bernstein, M., Gruber, J., Newhouse, J. P., Allen, H., Baicker, K. & Oregon Health Study Group, T. (2012). The Oregon health insurance experiment: evidence from the first year. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 127(3), 1057-1106.

Frydman, C., & Wang, B. (2020). The impact of salience on investor behavior: Evidence from a natural experiment. *The Journal of Finance*, 75(1), 229-276.

Hanlon, M. & Heitzman, S. (2010). A review of tax research. *Journal of Accounting and Economics*, 50(2-3), 127-178

Hendershott, T., Jones, C. M., & Menkveld, A. J. (2011). Does algorithmic trading improve liquidity?. *The Journal of Finance*, 66(1), 1-33.

Kahneman, D., & Tversky, A. (1979). Prospect Theory: An Analysis of Decision under Risk. *Econometrica*, 47(2), 263-292.

Koijen, R. S., & Yogo, M. (2016). Shadow insurance. *Econometrica*, 84(3), 1265-1287.

Malmendier, U., & Tate, G. (2005). CEO overconfidence and corporate investment. *The Journal of Finance*, 60(6), 2661-2700.

Martin, I. (2017). What is the Expected Return on the Market? *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 132(1), 367-433.

Shleifer, A., & Vishny, R. W. (1997). The limits of arbitrage. *The Journal of Finance*, 52(1), 35-55.

Watts, R. L., & Zimmerman, J. L. (1978). Towards a positive theory of the determination of accounting standards. *The Accounting Review*, 53(1), 112-134.