

Empirical Research on Inequality and Redistribution

Prof. Dr. Andreas Peichl

LS (Seminar)

Sommersemester/summer semester 2026

This course is set at the intersection of inequality research and applied econometrics. The course content is organized around the following thematic blocks: (i) income inequality, (ii) wealth inequality, (iii) inequality of opportunity and (iv) redistribution. Topics of the seminar theses will cover the fields inequality, gender, distributional aspects in energy & climate economics, redistributive systems.

The main objective of the course is twofold:

1. Provide a structured introduction into state-of-the art empirical research on inequality and redistribution in economics.
2. Enhance the applied econometric tool-kit of participants.

The lectures will give a structured introduction into each of the thematic blocks with a particular focus on empirical problems and methods. Students are then assigned a topic or a scientific paper for an empirical replication project. Depending on the topic this means to (i) critically examine and deepen the analysis of an existing scientific paper, or (ii) to transfer the methodology of a scientific paper onto a new dataset, or (iii) to work on an own research question based on a given data set. Students will present their work in a block seminar at the end of the semester and hand in a seminar paper.

The course will give students the opportunity to apply the methods learned in econometrics classes in own empirical analyses. Note that knowledge of Master-level econometrics and good command of at least one statistical software package (e.g. R, Stata, Python) is strongly recommended.

Studiengang: <i>Program:</i>	MSc
Termin Vorbesprechung (tt.mm.jjjj): <i>Date of preliminary meeting (dd.mm.yyyy):</i>	12. January 2026 14:00-16:00 at ifo Institute
*Bearbeitungszeitraum für die Hausarbeit: <i>*Working period for term paper:</i>	submission: 27. June 2026
*Seminartermin: <i>*Seminar date:</i>	Lectures: 04. & 18. May 2026 13:00-18:00h Blocked seminar: 13.-14. July 2026 participation becomes binding on 22. May 2026
Veranstaltungsort: <i>Venue:</i>	ifo Institute
falls außerhalb: Kostenschätzung: <i>if out of Munich: estimated costs:</i>	- €
Sprache: <i>Language:</i>	English
Empfohlene Vorkenntnisse: <i>Recommended courses:</i>	B.Sc.: Statistics I and II, Empirical Economics Research

	M.Sc.: Econometrics (strongly recommended), Public Economics Good command of at least one statistical software package (e.g. R, Stata, Python) is strongly recommended. Past work experience with the software, e.g. in a Bachelor's thesis/seminar thesis, is recommended.
Methodischer Schwerpunkt: <i>Methodological background:</i>	Applied Econometrics: Descriptive Statistics, Ordinary Least Squares, Decomposition Analyses, Machine Learning
*Grundlagenliteratur: <i>*Basic references:</i>	Relevant literature will be discussed at the preliminary meeting
*Kontakt: <i>Contact:</i>	Lilly Fischer (fischer.l@ifo.de) Carina Haller (haller@ifo.de)

* Optional (falls schon bekannt) / optionally (if already known)