

Topics in Capital Taxation

Dr. Karl Schulz

LS (Seminar) Economic Policy

Sommersemester/summer semester 2026

Savings and capital income are more concentrated than labor income. The rise in wealth inequality has renewed interest in the design of capital taxation in both academic and policy debates. This seminar examines recent advances in the study of wealth distribution, behavioral responses to taxation, and the optimal design of capital taxes.

The course focuses on theoretical research on the optimal taxation of savings, capital income, and inheritances. It covers modern approaches based on sufficient-statistics, mechanism-design, and structural models that connect key determinants of observed savings behavior, such as return heterogeneity and precautionary-savings motives, to policy design. Selected empirical studies on wealth inequality and behavioral responses to capital taxation complement the theoretical perspective.

Studiengang: <i>Program:</i>	MSc
Termin Vorbesprechung (tt.mm.jjjj): <i>Date of preliminary meeting (dd.mm.yyyy):</i>	17.04.2026
*Bearbeitungszeitraum für die Hausarbeit: <i>*Working period for term paper:</i>	May-June 2026
*Seminartermin: <i>*Seminar date:</i>	17 - 18 July 2026
Veranstaltungsort: <i>Venue:</i>	LMU Munich
falls außerhalb: Kostenschätzung: <i>if out of Munich: estimated costs:</i>	€
Sprache: <i>Language:</i>	English
Empfohlene Vorkenntnisse: <i>Recommended courses:</i>	Public Economics
Methodischer Schwerpunkt: <i>Methodological background:</i>	Theory
*Grundlagenliteratur: <i>*Basic references:</i>	Zucman, G. (2019). Global wealth inequality. Annual Review of Economics, 11(1), 109-138. Stantcheva, S. (2020). Dynamic taxation. Annual Review of Economics, 12(1), 801-831. Scheuer, F., & Slemrod, J. (2021). Taxing our wealth. Journal of Economic Perspectives, 35(1), 207-230.
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* Optional (falls schon bekannt) / optionally (if already known)