**Module title**

Applied Regional and Urban Economics

**Abbreviation**

12-ARS-152-m01

**Module coordinator**

holder of the Chair of International Macroeconomics

**Module offered by**

Faculty of Business Management and Economics

**ECTS**

5

**Method of grading**

numerical grade

**Duration**

1 semester

**Module level**

undergraduate

**Other prerequisites**

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**Contents**

I A brief revision of econometrics: OLS and fixed effects regression

II Geographical agglomeration of economic activity

III Firm heterogeneity and the exporter wage premium

IV A brief revision of econometrics: Instrumental variables regression

V German local labour markets and "the Rise of the East"

**Intended learning outcomes**

This course focuses on the empirical analysis of current topics in international and regional economics. After reviewing some theoretical background and empirical methods, students learn to comprehend empirical studies, recognize possible pitfalls and conduct their own analyses using statistical software packages and authentic datasets. A strong focus is put on the identification of causal effects. Students should already have basic knowledge in econometric analysis and international trade theory.

The lecture starts with a revision of basic empirical methods. The first application is to analyse if and why (and to what magnitude) firms benefit from being located in agglomerations such as the Silicon Valley. Next, we analyse the role of firms in international trade. What distinguishes exporters from non-exporters and are employees of exporters better off? Returning to a regional perspective, we then discuss several recent research papers on the adjustment of local labor markets to increasing trade with China and Eastern Europe.

In a complementary lab tutorial (Übung) students learn to conduct empirical analyses by themselves. In hands-on exercises, they first practice how to obtain and prepare datasets and how to use summary statistics to find general patterns in the data. We then apply our theoretical knowledge from the lecture to devise empirical strategies and to interpret our results.

**Courses** (type, number of weekly contact hours, language — if other than German)

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**Method of assessment** (type, scope, language — if other than German, examination offered — if not every semester, information on whether module is creditable for bonus)

- a) written examination (approx. 60 minutes) or b) term paper (approx. 10 pages) including empirical analysis prepared by candidates

Language of assessment: German and/or English

**Allocation of places**

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**Additional information**

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**Referred to in LPO I** (examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)

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**Module appears in**

- Bachelor’ degree (1 major) Business Management and Economics (2015)
- Bachelor’ degree (1 major) Economathematics (2015)
- Bachelor’ degree (1 major) Business Information Systems (2015)
- Bachelor’s degree (1 major, 1 minor) Business Management and Economics (Minor, 2015)
- Master’s degree (1 major) China Business and Economics (2016)
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