



University of Zurich
Institute for Strategy and Business Economics
Prof. Dr. Uschi Backes-Gellner

Course for Doctoral Students in Economics of Education

Empirical Analysis of Rates of Return to Education: Research problems and recent answers

**Instructor: Prof. Dr. Uschi Backes-Gellner
Assistant: Simone Tuor**

**Winter Term 2006/07
Lecture: Mon. 18:00-19:30, Plattenstrasse 14, PLM 103/104**

Target audience:

This seminar is intended for Ph.D. students who are interested in economics of education. The aim is to discuss recent articles published in the field and to present and discuss the individual dissertation projects of the students.

Credits:

Students are required to attend all sessions, to prepare a presentation on one of the required readings and comment on one other paper as discussant upon request. Moreover, active participation in the seminar discussions as well as a presentation of their own dissertation project is expected. Students who meet all the requirements will be granted a doctoral seminar certificate (Doktorandenschein).

Procedure:

On Monday, October 23th, 2006, the seminar literature will be briefly introduced and the individual assignments (text, date for presentation of text and dissertation project) will be fixed.

Literature:

A reader including the full literature will be provided for all participants for a small fee.

Course Outline:

	DATE	TOPIC/TEXT
1	Mon., Oct. 23, 2006	<i>Introduction</i> <i>Assignment of Dates for Presentation of Paper and Dissertation</i>
2	Mon., Oct. 30, 2006	<i>Literature:</i> "New Technology in Schools: Is There a Payoff?" Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA). By Stephen Machin, Sandra McNally and Olmo Silva. http://ideas.repec.org/p/iza/izadps/dp2234.html . <i>Discussant:</i> <i>Dissertation Project:</i>
3	Mon., Nov. 06, 2006	<i>Cancelled.</i>

4	Mon., Nov. 13, 2006	<p><i>Literature:</i> "Is apprenticeship better? a review of the economic evidence." <i>Journal of Vocational Education and Training</i>: Routledge, part of the Taylor & Francis Group, 50(1988)2: 289-329. By Paul Ryan. http://www.econ.cam.ac.uk/faculty/ryan/jvet98.pdf.</p> <p><i>Discussant:</i></p> <p><i>Literature:</i> "School-to-work transition: apprenticeship versus vocational school in France." <i>International Journal of Manpower</i>, 23(2002)5: 426-442. By Liliane Bonnal, Sylvie Mendes and Catherine Sofer.</p> <p><i>Discussant:</i></p>
5	Mon., Nov. 20, 2006	<p>No classes due to the intensive course of Prof. Wössmann for Doctoral Students in Economics of Education</p>
6	Mon., Nov. 27, 2006	<p><i>Literature:</i> "The Risk-Return Trade-Off in Human Capital Investment." Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA). By Charlotte Christiansen and Juanna Schröter Joensen. http://ideas.repec.org/p/aah/aarhec/2006-02.html.</p> <p><i>Discussant:</i></p> <p><i>Dissertation Project:</i></p>
7	Mon., Dec. 04, 2006	<p><i>Literature:</i> "Is there a risk-return trade-off across educations? Evidence from Spain." <i>Investigaciones Economicas</i>, 30(2006)2: 353-380. By Luis Diaz-Serrano and Joop Hartog. ftp://ftp.funep.es/InvEcon/paperArchive/May2006/v30i2a6.pdf.</p> <p><i>Discussant:</i></p> <p><i>Dissertation Project:</i></p>
8	Mon., Dec. 11, 2006	<p><i>Literature:</i> "The Returns to Academic and Vocational Qualifications in Britain." <i>Bulletin of Economic Research</i>. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, 54(2002)3: 249-274. By Lorraine Dearden, Steven McIntosh, Michal Myck and Anna Vignoles. http://ideas.repec.org/p/cep/ceedps/0004.html.</p> <p><i>Discussant:</i></p> <p><i>Dissertation Project:</i></p>
9	Mon., Dec. 18, 2006	<p><i>Literature:</i> "Why the Apple Doesn't Fall Far: Understanding Intergenerational Transmission of Human Capital." <i>The American Economic Review</i>. Nashville: American Economic Association, 95(2005)1: 437-449. By Sandra Black, E., Paul Devereux, J. and Kjell Salvanes, G. http://ideas.repec.org/p/ifs/cemmap/16-03.html.</p> <p><i>Discussant:</i></p> <p><i>Dissertation Project:</i></p>
10	Mon., Jan. 08, 2007	<p><i>Literature:</i> "Training Systems and Labor Mobility: A Comparison between Germany and Sweden." <i>Scandinavian Journal of Economics</i>: Blackwell Publishing, 105(2003)4: 597-617. By Tomas Korpi and Antje Mertens. http://ideas.repec.org/a/bla/scandj/v105y2003i4p597-617.html.</p> <p><i>Discussant:</i></p> <p><i>Dissertation Project:</i></p>
11	Mon., Jan. 15, 2007	<p><i>Literature:</i> "Career Progression and Formal versus On-the-Job Training." Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA). By Christian Dustmann, Jérôme Adda, Costas Meghir and Jean-Marc Robin.</p> <p><i>Discussant:</i></p> <p><i>Dissertation Project:</i></p>
12	Mon., Jan. 22, 2007	<p>No classes due to the intensive course of Prof. Winkelmann for Doctoral Students in Economics of Education</p>

13	Mon., Jan. 29, 2007	<i>Dissertation Project:</i> <i>Dissertation Project:</i>
14	Mon., Feb. 05, 2007	<i>Literature:</i> "Do Men and Women-Economists Choose the Same Research Fields? Evidence from Top-50 Departments." Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA). By Juan Dolado, J., Florentino Felgueroso and Miguel Almunia. http://ideas.repec.org/p/iza/izadps/dp1859.html . <i>Discussant:</i> <i>Dissertation Project:</i>