Georg-August-Universität Göttingen Module M.WIWI-VWL.0184: Empirical Analysis of Conflict and Development 6 C 2 WLH

Learning outcome, core skills:

- Students learn about the most recent empirical literature on conflict and development,
- students get exposed to the econometric toolkit used to run simple regression analyses,
- students will also learn how to best present quantitative results and how to relate them to the most recent literature by writing a seminar paper on their own findings,
- moreover, students practice to present and discuss research in front of an academic audience.

Workload:

Attendance time: 28 h

Self-study time: 152 h

2 WLH

Course: M.WIWI-VWL.0184.Sem **Empirical Analysis of Conflict and Development** (Seminar)

Contents:

The course provides an overview over the most recent literature on conflict and development. Students are introduced to state-of-the-art empirical methods used in this field. They will learn how to critically reflect on data quality and methods. The seminar focus varies depending on current developments in the academic debate, but will always be related to the literature strands on the determinants and consequences of conflict, mostly from a micro-level perspective. Students will elaborate on a newly identified relationship or new theoretical claim from the most recent literature. Students will test the same pre-defined hypotheses, though each student does so for a different country or region. Students will practice to work with data in Stata by running simple regression models. The results of their regression analyses will be used to confirm or falsify the pre-defined hypotheses. The term paper consists of presenting these findings and discussing them with respect to the recent literature. Students will also learn how to critically assess the simple regression models they used and discuss which methods would be more appropriate to identify causal effects.

Examination: Term Paper (max. 15 pages) and presentation (approx. 20 minutes)

M.WIWI-VWL.0184.Mp: Empirical Analysis of Conflict and Development

Examination prerequisites:

Regular attendance, written research proposal.

6 C

Examination requirements:

- By doing regression analyses of a pre-defined topic within the field of conflict and development, students demonstrate their ability to apply econometric methods and to go beyond the results of previous research, which they critically reflect in a term paper,
- in presenting the term paper, they show their ability to concisely present complex empirical concepts,
- moreover, during oral discussions, students demonstrate their ability to defend, but also to critically reflect upon, arguments from the empirical literature.

Admission requirements: none	Recommended previous knowledge: M.WIWI-QMW.0004 Econometrics I, M.WIWI-VWL.0008 Development Economics I
Language: English	Person responsible for module: Dr. Sarah Langlotz
Course frequency: irregular	Duration: 1 semester[s]
Number of repeat examinations permitted: twice	Recommended semester: 2 - 4
Maximum number of students: 10	