



Workshop

Empirical Methods and Applications in Archival Data Research

Organizational details

Instructor: Prof. Dr. Peter Limbach (University of Bielefeld and CFR)

Dates: March 5–7, 2025, 9.00 am to 5.00 pm

Location: Room 001, Licher Strasse 68, 35394 Giessen

Max. number of participants: 10

ECTS: 4 ECTS

To gain the ECTS, participants have to:

• Participate in the course (read slides, ask questions, discuss)

• Read and discuss a paper (prepare a few slides)

Objectives

Scholars who work empirically must develop a sound understanding of data, empirical methods, and the potential flaws that come with applying these methods. This is especially true for research that is based on archival data, i.e., data that are collected prior to the beginning of the research study (e.g., public company data). In this course, participants will improve their knowledge of the main econometric methods used to analyze archival data and how to apply and assess those methods. The focus is on endogeneity problems as well as applications and flaws of standard estimation techniques (e.g., fixed effects) as well as identification strategies (e.g., difference-in-difference and instrumental variable estimation). Various research papers that apply the main econometric methods or use specific natural experiments will be analyzed and discussed in class. Participants will also become familiar with databases and the STATA software. A STATA manual will be provided.

Content & Methods

Methods: Discussing slides and research papers, presenting research, using software

Content:

Day 1:

Chapter 1: Motivation, recap of linear and binary choice regression models, and test statistics

Chapter 2: Causality and statistical inference

+ Analyzing research papers

+ Overview of databases





Day 2:

Chapter 3: Panel estimation with fixed effects, difference-in-differences, and natural experiments Chapter 4: Event studies

- + Analyzing research papers
- + Discussions of research papers (short presentations) by course participants

Day 3:

Recap Chapters 1-4 + Q&A

Chapter 5: RDD and two-stage estimators (instrumental variables, Heckman correction)

- + Analyzing research papers
- + Discussions of research papers (short presentations) by course participants

Target group & Course Language

Target group: Doctoral candidates and postdoctoral researchers. The course is not restricted to certain disciplines but is geared towards scholars who work or want to work with archival data (in accounting, economics, finance, governance, law, and management/strategy).

Course language: English and/or German

About the instructor

Peter Limbach is Professor of Finance and Corporate Governance at the University of Bielefeld and a research fellow of the Centre for Financial Research (CFR), Cologne. He holds a German Diploma (equivalent to MSc) in economics from the University of Bonn and a PhD (Dr. rer. pol.) in finance from the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT). Peter spent several months at the Rotterdam School of Management as a visiting PhD. After his PhD, Peter was a postdoctoral researcher at the KIT before joining the University of Cologne as the CFR Junior-Professor of Investments in 2016. In 2020, he substituted the Professorship Financial Economics (Prof. Dr. Isabel Schnabel) at the University of Bonn. Peter has taught numerous PhD courses at several universities, such as the Universities of Bielefeld, Dortmund, Giessen, Göttingen, and Wuppertal. Peter conducts empirical research concerned with issues of corporate finance and governance/ESG, financial accounting, and financial markets. His papers have been published in leading scientific journals – including Management Science, the Accounting Review, and the Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis – and have been accepted for presentation at top academic conferences, such as the annual meetings of the Western Finance Association and the European Finance Association. Peter also organizes one of Europe's leading virtual research seminars and serves as co-editor of Management Review Quarterly.

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Registration

By **February 06, 2025** via e-mail at info@ggs.uni-giessen.de.