Prof. Dr. Christian Conrad

Heidelberg University

Summer Term 2021

Seminar Survey Expectations (Master)

The seminar will be held online via Zoom. The first meeting will take place on April 22 from 10:00 to 11:00. Seminar presentations are scheduled for July 8 and 9.

Deadline for registration is April 15, 2021. The registration form is available on the webpage of the Chair of Empirical Economics. A maximum of 15 students can participate in the seminar.

Description

Economic agents such as central banks, governments, financial institutions and households base many of their decisions on expectations of economic variables. In this seminar, we will discuss recent research on the formation and determinants of economic expectations:

- What kind of models are used to form expectations?
- Are survey expectations theory-consistent?
- How do experiences and socioeconomic status affect expectations?
- Do survey respondents act on their beliefs?
- Do expectations of equity returns explain portfolio choice?
- How well can professional forecasters quantify their uncertainty?

Students will read and discuss recent research papers published in international journals and get familiar with new econometric methods and datasets on survey expectations.

Certificates

Your grade will be based on the following: seminar paper (60%), seminar presentation (30%) and active participation (10%) in the seminar discussion.

Language

English

Topics

Household Expectations

- Armantier, O., W. Bruine de Bruin, G. Topa, W. van der Klaauw, and B. Zafar (2015). Inflation Expectations and Behavior: Do Survey Respondents Act on Their Beliefs? International Economic Review, 56, 505-536.
- 2. Coibion, O., Gorodnichenko. Y., and M. Weber (2020). How Did U.S. Consumers Use Their Stimulus Payments? CESifo Working Paper Series 8510.
- 3. Coibion, O., Georgarakos, D., Gorodnichenko, Y., and M. Weber (2020). Forward Guidance and Household Expectations. CESifo Working Paper Series 8118.
- 4. Coibion, O., Gorodnichenko, Y. and M. Weber (2019). Monetary Policy Communications and their Effects on Household Inflation Expectations," CESifo Working Paper Series 7464.
- 5. Conrad, C., Enders, Z. and A. Glas (2021). The Role of Information and Experience for Households' Inflation Expectations. Deutsche Bundesbank, Discussion Paper No 07/2021.
- 6. D'Acunto, F., Hoang, D., Paloviita, M. and M. Weber (2021). Effective Policy Communication: Targets Versus Instruments. Becker Friedman Institute for Research in Economics, Working Papers 2020-148.
- 7. Giglio, S., Maggiori, M., Stroebel, J., and S.P. Utkus (2021). Five Facts About Beliefs and Portfolios. American Economic Review, forthcoming.
- 8. Roth, C., Settele, S., and J. Wohlfart (2020). Risk Exposure and Acquisition of Macroeconomic Information. CESifo Working Paper Series 8634.

Firm Expectations

- 9. Altig, D., Barrero, J.M., Bloom, N., Davis, S.J., Meyer, B., and N. Parker (2020). Surveying Business Uncertainty. Journal of Econometrics, forthcoming.
- 10. Coibion, O., Gautier E. and Y. Gorodnichenko (2020). No Firm is an Island? How Industry Conditions Shape Firms' Aggregate Expectations. Journal of Monetary Economics, forthcoming.
- 11. Tanaka, M., Bloom, N., David, J.M. and M. Koga (2020). Firm Performance and Macro Forecast Accuracy. Journal of Monetary Economics, 114, 26-41.

Professional Forecasters

- 12. Abel, J., Rich, R., Song, J. and J. Tracy (2016). The Measurement and Behavior of Uncertainty: Evidence from the ECB Survey of Professional Forecasters, Journal of Applied Econometrics, 31, 533-550.
- 13. Boumans, D., Gründler, K., Potrafke, N. and F. Ruthardt (2021). The Global Economic Impact of Politicians: Evidence from an International Survey RCT. ifo Institute, EconPol Working Paper 56.
- 14. Clements, M. P. (2014). Forecast Uncertainty Ex Ante and Ex Post: U.S. Inflation and Output Growth, Journal of Business & Economic Statistics, 21, 206-216.
- 15. Dräger, L., M. J. Lamla, and D. Pfajfar (2016). Are Survey Expectations Theory-consistent? The Role of Central Bank Communication and News, European Economic Review, 85, 84-111.