

## Seminar Themen | Master | Research Topics in Finance

Hello and welcome to our seminar,

In this research seminar we will solely focus on one goal: Making you ready for quantitative research in the area of financial economics. The way we planned the seminar is in several steps all of them focusing on improving your training. Personalized!

### 1. You choose a topic you would like to work on

Concretely:

#### 1.1. You choose any paper from a high ranked journal (A+), i.e. from

<https://www.aeaweb.org/journals/aer>

Choose a paper which sounds interesting from the abstract or title. Do not read the full paper when making your choice. Ensure that the dataset for this paper is available (found on the website)

#### 1.2. Submit your choice to us:

Send an email with Subject "[RS18] Topic selection" and the link to the article in the body of the email to [timotheos.paraskevopoulos@tu-dortmund.de](mailto:timotheos.paraskevopoulos@tu-dortmund.de). Do not include any comments in that email.

### 2. Familiarize yourself with the topic

Now it is time to work on the paper, read it from front to end, research and read the relevant literature around it and get to know the technicalities. After you have done this, it is time to see us during office hours to discuss any questions you have. Feel free to come by during our announced hours (see internet) or sent an email.

Your goal in this step is to be able to present the paper you have chosen, i.e. know what it does, why it does it and what the outcome and shortcomings are.

### 3. Work on the data

After you know what the paper is all about it is time to look at the data an econometrics. Start looking at the dataset and re-run the main regressions.

When you have questions or need to know more on some econometric topics, send us an email to [timotheos.paraskevopoulos@tu-dortmund.de](mailto:timotheos.paraskevopoulos@tu-dortmund.de) we will collect your needs and set up a session (see calendar) to help you with these topics.

Your goal in this step is to be able to replicate the papers technicalities.

#### **4. Extend the paper**

This is the hard part. Here you start doing your own research. Exiting isn't it. You extend the paper in any direction. For example: Do the analysis with other data (e.g. paper did it for the US, you try EU etc.), include new variables or even apply the methodology to a new problem or idea.

This part really has to come from you and in order for you to be as free as possible we will \*not\* cap the outcome of this part in your grade (see below regarding grading).

Your goal in this step is to be creative, do real research and this includes that you might fail with your idea. Do not worry; it is rather the best opportunity to learn.

#### **5. Wrap things up**

Now you are done with the seminar and ready to wrap things up. This means you prepare a 10 min ( i.e. 600 seconds) presentation. In that time you can present 4 slides (+ title page):

Slide 1: Your research paper's main findings and main assumptions

Slide 2: Your research paper's dataset and main shortcomings in your view

Slide 3: Your extension idea

Slide 4: Your results and/or your suggestions for future research in that area

Now send a ZIP file containing (a) your presentation (PPT/X or tex), (b) your own data file, (c) your program code and (d) your article and article's data file to [timotheos.paraskevopoulos@tu-dortmund.de](mailto:timotheos.paraskevopoulos@tu-dortmund.de) stating "[RS18] Presentation" in the subject line, no comments in that mail please.

We will set a date for the presentation.

#### **6. And then? / Grading**

After finishing this seminar you are able to conduct own research based on A+ papers. A very good step for a master student. We can discuss how this knowledge helps you in your master thesis or how you can possibly extend the topic towards your thesis. Just see us at the office hours.

We will base the final grade of the seminar on the quality of your presentation and your progress in understanding the research you are dealing with. Thus your attitude and improvement are the major parts of our grade and not your success (or failure) in doing your own analysis.

Stand: 2018-07-05

Centre for Finance, Risk- & Resource Management  
Prof. Dr. Peter N. Posch

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This seminar seeks to provide you with a safe environment to learn and improve your skills!

If you have any questions feel free to contact us at  
[timotheos.paraskevopoulos@tu-dortmund.de](mailto:timotheos.paraskevopoulos@tu-dortmund.de) or individually.

We at FiRRM are looking forward to working with you.