



NEWSLETTER 2023|1

CALENDAR

Departmental Seminar

Davide Cantoni (LMU Munich)

“Identifying the Effect of Election Closeness on Voter Turnout: Evidence from Swiss Referenda”

Lunch Seminar

Johannes Huber (University of Regensburg)

“Hone the Neoclassical Lens and Zoom in on Germany’s Fiscal Stimulus Program 2008-2009”

Economic and Social History Seminar

Roman Smolorz (Regensburg)

“Der Rechnungshof des Generalgouvernements. Aufbau, Funktion, Tradition und Verwaltungspraktiken”

Mon, Jan 16

16:00 - 17:30

H 26

Wed, Jan 18

12:00 - 13:00

H 26

Wed, Jan 18

18:00 - 20:15

VG 1.30 and
Zoom-Meeting



ABSTRACTS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

Departmental Seminar

Davide Cantoni (LMU Munich)

“Identifying the Effect of Election Closeness on Voter Turnout: Evidence from Swiss Referenda”

Joint work with L. Bursztyn, P. Funk, F. Schönenberger and N. Yuchtman.

We provide evidence of a causal effect of anticipated election closeness on voter turnout, exploiting the precise day-level timing of the release of Swiss national poll results for high-stakes federal referenda, and a novel dataset on daily mail-in voting for the canton of Geneva. Using an event study design, we find that the release of a closer poll causes voter turnout to sharply rise immediately after poll release, with no differential pre-release turnout levels or trends. We provide evidence that polls affect turnout by providing information shaping beliefs about closeness: first, the introduction of Swiss polls had significantly larger effects in politically unrepresentative municipalities, where locally available signals of closeness are less correlated with national closeness. Second, the effects of close polls are largest where newspapers report on them most. Counterfactual exercises suggest the importance of polls and reporting on polls in shaping election outcomes.

Info:

In person



Lunch Seminar

Johannes Huber (University of Regensburg)

“Hone the Neoclassical Lens and Zoom in on Germany’s Fiscal Stimulus Program 2008-2009”

Business Cycle Accounting (BCA) by Chari, Kehoe, and McGrattan (2007, *Econometrica*) completes the “...through the lens of a neoclassical model”-approach. This paper refines and extends the methodology in four primary dimensions, creating a manual. i) the choice of the level of aggregation is critical and thus must be case-dependent. ii) a strict distinction between growth and cycle is beneficial. iii) BCA requires Maximum-Likelihood, even if it is difficult. Given these difficulties, we introduce a procedure that reliably and quickly locates the maximum and enables a detailed evaluation of the likelihood function and robustness checks. iv) it is revealing to discuss the results in the context of economic and political events. To illustrate the necessity and benefits of the refinements, we apply BCA to the Great Recession in Germany. The main driver was efficiency, followed by net exports and distortions in the markets for business investments. Government consumption and durable consumption acted counter-cyclically. We attribute the latter to a high subsidy for new cars or, more generally, for durables.

Info:

in person

Economic and Social History Seminar

Roman Smolorz (Regensburg)

“Der Rechnungshof des Generalgouvernements. Aufbau, Funktion, Tradition und Verwaltungspraktiken”

Die Grundsätze der öffentlichen Verwaltung stellen Rechtmäßigkeit, Schriftlichkeit und Transparenz dar, weshalb der Finanzkontrolle eine wesentliche Bedeutung zukommt. Obwohl diese Grundsätze im Nationalsozialismus unterminiert wurden, fehlt es heute nicht an historischen Quellen. Im hier vorzustellenden Projekt wird gefragt, welche Rolle dem Rechnungshof des Generalgouvernements in der Ausgestaltung der „Neuen NS-Staatlichkeit“ (Hachtmann) im besetzten Polen zukam. Ferner ist von Interesse, wie das nationalistische Besatzungsregime auf dem Gebiet der Rechnungsprüfung aufgebaut wurde und wie es funktioniert hat. Gab es Traditionen der Besatzung im Bereich der Finanzkontrolle im Polen der Jahre 1939-1945, die aus der Zeit der polnischen Teilungen (1795-1918) rührten, etwa österreichische Traditionen? War letztlich die Finanzkontrolle ein Mittel der Okkupation?

Info:

In person and via <https://uni-regensburg.zoom.us/j/99496312592>



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Wednesday, Jan 18 | 11 am

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