

## **Seminar: European Topics in Economics**

The Chair of Macroeconomics organizes a seminar “European Topics in Economics” that will be held at the Visitor Center of the European Commission in Brussels on **24 May 2019**. This Master seminar (Master of Science in Economics at FAU) aims at tackling policy-relevant macroeconomic topics that are of interest to the European Commission. For this purpose, we will specify seminar topics in coordination with the DG EcFin (Directorate F: Economies of the member states). Students will address selected issues empirically using either microeconomic (e.g. Amadeus, SOEP, IAB data) or macroeconomic data (e.g. National Accounts).

This format allows students to research on a broad range of macroeconomic issues that are currently discussed at the EU level. They will use rich datasets to address these issues. Finally, they obtain the opportunity to present their results at the Visitor Center at the European Commission in Brussels. Economists from the EU Commission will attend the seminar and discuss the results.

The following broad topics will be covered in the seminar (more specific topics will be assigned depending on the number of participants):

- Determinants of Firms’ Investment Decisions
- Structural Reforms (e.g. Labor Market Reforms)
- (Missing) Wage Growth
- Global Imbalances

### **Time Frame:**

#### **Step 1:**

Please send an expression of interest to [christian.merkel@fau.de](mailto:christian.merkel@fau.de) if you would like to participate in the seminar. Please include your CV, grade list, information on your technical skills (software, experience).

**Deadline: 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2019**

#### **Step 2:**

We will inform you by 6 February 2019 whether you can participate or not.

#### **Step 3:**

We will have a first coordination meeting for the seminar on **Thursday, 7 February 2019, at 1315** (room will be announced in due time). During this meeting, we will tell you more about the schedule, assign topics, and supervisors. If you cannot make it yourself, please send somebody for you.

#### **Step 4:**

We will potentially have to collect a participation fee (most likely not more than € 50). This participation fee will cover the travel to Brussels and one night there (the rest will be funded from other sources). You will have to pay the fee until 14 February 2019. This is the point where your seminar registration becomes binding.

#### **Step 5:**

You will have time until mid-May to write your seminar thesis. You will present in Brussels on 24 May 2019. Afterwards, you obtain 5 ECTS for the seminar.