Masters Literature Seminar in Malta SS2024 at Lst.
Immobilienökonomie

by Prof. Gabriel S. Lee
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January 5, 2024

• Objective: This block seminar brings students in direct contact with the current real estate/macro economics literature. Candid and critical discussion of current literature and industry issues is followed by a question-and-answer period. Moreover, there is a possibility to visit the Central Bank of Malta.

General Comments about the seminar paper

• Registration:
  – Who can register?
    * Anyone who is (PLANNING to take) taking (took) my Topics in Macro and Housing Economics and/or Immobilienökonomie II and/or who is PLANNING to write their MASTERARBEIT under my chair will get the first priority in being in the seminar.
    * For those of you who are taking the seminar, you can use the same topic for your Masterarbeit: that is, you have the option to write on the same topic on your Masterarbeit as in your seminar paper, BUT the depth and material need to be extended for the Masterarbeit (e.g. about 40-50 percent more than in the seminar paper).
  – Registration and Final Decision Dates
    * Can register in FlexNow starting January 10, 2024.
    * Please send an email to Sekretariat.Lee@ur.de by February 16th, 2024 if you would like to officially register for the seminar. The final participant list will be decided on February 19th, 2024.
    * We are planning for a Minimum of 3 and Maximum of 6 students so that there are 2 students per supervisor.

• Seminar Place, costs, and time
  – June 6-9, 2024
– Place: Malta.
– Costs: Approximate cost per person per 4 days (from our previous experience).
  * flight: €150-250. People can decide how long they would like to stay in Malta
  * accommodation: €100-€150
  * food: €100-125
  * whatever extra that each person spends

• Due date for the seminar paper:
  – June 3rd, 2024 by 14:00 to VG 216/217
  – 2 hard copies to me, plus electronic version.

• Written Work:
  – Maximum of 15 pages without the title, figures, tables, appendix, and references (20 pages, including everything).
  – A4 size with 1.5 spacing and 11 font size. Margins: follow the "usual" Masterarbeit regulation.
  – Seminar paper can be one of the following:
    1. Literature summary of the general topic.
    2. Detail explanation of the paper that is suggested under the general topic OR a similar paper that falls under that general topic.
    3. Combination of 1 and 2.
  – If you want to bring in some empirical support (using different data set) for the topic then that is more than welcome!!!
  – Structure of your seminar paper:
    1. Introduction: I want to see clearly
      * Objective of the paper/topic. (e.g. "The purpose of this paper/topic is......")
      * Why this topic is relevant, or why did the author(s) wrote this paper.
      * What was the previous literature.
      * What was the method that the authors used to achieve their goal?
      * What were the results.
      * (2-3 pages)
    2. Previous Literature:
      * You can discuss 2 or 3 relevant papers that were discussed in the introduction section in a bit more detail (3-4 pages)
    3. Go detail about the paper/topic
      * Summarize the topic, but no directly copying of words. Try to formulate ideas into your own words.
* In this section, you can talk about the (i) Data (if the paper is empirical) (ii) Methods or theory used and (iii) results.
* Here you can "copy and paste" some of the figures and tables from the reference paper, OR bring in your own dataset to support / replicate some of the facts in the reference paper.
* (4 - 6 pages)

4. Some Final Remarks / Conclusion
* Summarize the paper or the topic:
* State the objective of the paper/topic again.
* State the main results
* State your OWN opinion about the results, and possibly your OWN thoughts on what the future extension of the topic or the implications to the results.
* (2-3 pages).

5. References: please follow the reference format of the paper that is assigned for your topic. Each journal has a different reference format, but anyone of the journal is ok! This also goes for quote or citing a reference: follow the assigned paper’s format.
* If you follow what I wrote then you should have at least 11 pages of concise and informative seminar paper!
* One must use at LEAST one of the papers that are assigned for each topic: Feel free to use other relevant papers to the topic.
* If one could replicate some parts of the results with different data sets, one could expect EXTRA points.

– Presentation:
* 30 minutes is assigned for each student: 20 Minutes (+/- 2 mins) presentation with 5 - 10 minutes general discussion: Make sure your presentation lies within this time limit!!!!
* One could present either in powerpoint or in pdf.
* Presentation should be structured more or less in the following way:
  1. Title and other relevant information of the presentation (presenter’s name, etc)
  2. Outline of the talk
  3. Objective of the talk
  4. Motivation of the paper/talk
  5. Methods used to deliver the results
  6. Results
  7. Concluding Remarks

– Grading:
* The grades will be assigned according to the seminar participation, presentation and a written work which is based on the assigned articles for the seminar.
* Presentation: 50%, Seminar paper: 50%, and Participation in Seminar Discussion: x %
* One of (or both) the presentation and seminar work can be either in English / German.
* You are guaranteed an

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Seminar Topics

- The new updated list of topics will be up by the end of Feb. 2024.