Seminar on “China and the World Economy”

Lecturer:  Dr. Hans-Jörg Schmerer
Email:   hans-joerg.schmerer@iab.de

“Are our wages set in Beijing?” is one of the questions that sparked off an emerging literature on China’s role in shaping global labor market conditions. China has done a tremendous job in raising economic growth, which led to significant increase in per-capita income of hundred millions of people. However, these astonishing growth rates can be associated with rising inequality and soaring inflation. Moreover, this “growth miracle” builds on China’s huge imbalanced export success, which paved the way to structural imbalances. Whether this huge export reliance is a sustainable model for China is still an open question. Moreover, it is not yet fully understood how those structural imbalances in both the product and the labor market may feedback into labor markets in the rest of the world. In this seminar, we tackle several of these issues and discuss in detail how recent studies in international trade have changed our understanding of how trade affects product and labor markets in both China and the rest of the world.

Requirements

- Active participation in the seminar
- Seminar presentation and moderation of the discussion afterwards
- Written work of about 10 pages (main text)

Economics and IWE/IWG students can acquire 5 CP in their Bachelor program and 6 CP in their Master program (only in the area “Individueller Schwerpunkt”/ “Individuelle Spezialisierung”). P&E Bachelor students can acquire 8/10 CP (depending on their program regulations) if the course is selected as Verzahnungsseminar. For the additional points, these students have to participate in a “final discussion” on the course. (This course cannot be selected as “Electives” course in the new P&E Master program). There is no necessity of preparing written work or participating in the “final discussion” if P&E Bachelor students would like to acquire 2 CP (kleiner Schein).

Organization

There will be an introductory lecture at the beginning of the semester: 17. Mai, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The main part of the seminar is organized as block seminar (scheduled for 05./06. July).

Application and deadlines

Applications including an academic transcript should be sent until April 1st 2013 (by e-mail to heidi.frohnhoefer@uni-bayreuth.de); late applications can be considered as long as there is free capacity.