

Chair of Economics and Social Policy
Prof. Dr. Matthias Wrede

Bachelor Thesis Topics for Summer Semester 2026

Empirical Analyses (with Stata or R)

The prerequisite for working on an **empirical** thesis topic is proof of appropriate prior knowledge (e.g., good experience with Stata or R and multivariate regression analysis). The thesis can be written in either German or English. Students who are interested in one of the following **empirical** topics should **directly contact the topic supervisor** for a short conversation **before** submitting their application to our administrative office. The conversation is meant to clarify the student's existing knowledge and interest, and to possibly reserve the empirical topic for the student.

Individual proposed topics in the areas of housing policy, cooperatives, urban and regional economics, retirement pensions, and political economy can also be discussed.

Additional information about completing a Bachelor thesis at our chair, including the application form, can be found on our homepage:

in English: www.sozialpolitik.rw.fau.eu/studium-lehre/bachelorarbeiten/

in German: www.sozialpolitik.rw.fau.de/studium-lehre/bachelorarbeiten/

Empirical Topics for Summer Semester 2026

- **Auswirkungen von Gemeindezusammenschlüssen auf Wahlverhalten** (Ansprechperson: Ramona Müller)
 - Einführend: Blesse, S., & Roesel, F. (2019). Merging County Administrations – Cross-national Evidence of Fiscal and Political Effects. *Local Government Studies*, 45(5), 611-631.
 - Datenbasis: Statistische Ämter des Bundes und der Länder
- **Einfluss der Arbeitslosenquote auf kommunale Wahlergebnisse** (Ansprechperson: Ramona Müller)
 - Einführend: Algan, Y., Guriev, S., Papaioannou, E., & Passari, E. (2017). The European Trust Crisis and the Rise of Populism. *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, 309-382.
 - Datenbasis: Inkar, Statistische Ämter des Bundes und der Länder
- **How did Industrialization Influence Voting Behavior in Early 1920s Italy?** (Ansprechperson: Elisa Poletto)
 - Einführend: Albanese G., & de Blasio, G. (2021). Industrialization, turnout, and left-wing vote, *Economics Letters*, Volume 206.

- Datenbasis: Acemoglu D., De Feo G., De Luca G. & G. Russo (2022). War, Socialism, and the Rise of Fascism: An Empirical Exploration. Quarterly Journal of Economics, 137 (2), 1233–1296.
- **Does Human Capital have an Effect on Employment Growth?** (Ansprechperson: Elisa Poletto)
 - Einführend: Poelhekke, S. (2013). Human Capital and Employment Growth in German Metropolitan Areas: New Evidence. Regional Studies, 47 (2), 245-263.
 - Datenbasis: Penn World Table
- **PKV oder freiwillige GKV? Eine empirische Analyse der Wechselentscheidung nach Überschreiten der Jahresarbeitsentgeltgrenze** (Ansprechperson: Michael Göschl)
 - Einführend: Bünnings, C., & Tauchmann, H. (2015). Who Opts out of the Statutory Health Insurance? A Discrete Time Hazard Model for Germany. Health Economics, 24(10), 1331–1347.
 - Datenbasis: SOEP
- **Auswirkungen von Homeoffice auf Wohlbefinden** (Ansprechperson: Michael Göschl)
 - Einführend: Yang, D., Kelly, E. L., Kubzansky, L. D., & Berkman, L. (2023). Working from Home and Worker Well-being: New Evidence from Germany. ILR Review, 76(3), 504-531.
 - Datenbasis: SOEP
- **Einfluss der internen und internationalen Migration auf Mieten und Immobilienpreise** (Ansprechperson: Prof. Dr. Matthias Wrede)
 - Einführend: Unal, U., Hayo, B. & Erol, I. (2024). The Effect of Immigration on Housing Prices: Evidence from 382 German Districts. Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics, 1-39. 10.1007/s11146-024-09988-x.
 - Datenbasis: RWI-GEO-RED und Regionalstatistik
- **Wohnungsangebot privatwirtschaftlicher Unternehmen in Deutschland** (Ansprechperson: Prof. Dr. Matthias Wrede)
 - Einführend: Krapp, M.-C., Cischinsky, H., Daub, N., Eisfeld, R., Lohmann, G., Nuss, G., Schäfer, H., & Deschermeier, P., Vaché, M. (2025). Privatwirtschaftliche Unternehmen und ihre Wohnungsbestände in Deutschland. Hrsg: Bundesinstitut für Bau-, Stadt-, und Raumforschung (BBSR). BBSR-Online-Publikation 30/2025. Bonn.
<https://doi.org/10.58007/0epc-4258>
 - Datenbasis: Zensus 2022, 2011